



reticulated

adjective 2

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reticulate

1 of 2

adjective

re·tic·u·late (ri-'ti-kyə-lət) -lāt

1 : resembling a net or network*especially* : having veins, fibers, or lines crossing| a *reticulate* leaf**2** : being or involving evolutionary change dependent on genetic recombination involving diverse interbreeding populations• **reticulately** adverb

reticulate

2 of 2

verb

re·tic·u·late (ri-'ti-kyə-,lāt)

reticulated; reticulating

transitive verb

: to divide, mark, or construct so as to form a network

| municipalities that *reticulate* electricity to consumers

intransitive verb

: to become **reticulated**



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Did you know?

Though "reticulate" is used in many contexts, it finds particular use in the field of biology. "Reticulate" comes from the Latin word *reticulum*, meaning "small net." It first appeared in English in the mid-1600s and was used in connection with the study of plants even back then. Scientists use "reticulate" to describe a net-like formation of veins, fibers, or lines that crosses something. For example, a leaf with a pattern of veins that resembles a net would be called a "reticulate leaf."

 Examples of *reticulate* in a Sentence

Recent Examples on the Web

Adjective

Thelma, a **reticulate** python, gave birth through parthenogenesis in 2014, the first time this behavior had been documented in its species.

— Conor Murray, *Forbes*, 14 Feb. 2024

The leaves had **reticulate** venation, a web-like pattern of interconnected veins.

— Allison Futterman, *Discover Magazine*, 10 Nov. 2023

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Word History

Etymology

Adjective

Latin *reticulatus*, from *reticulum*

Verb

back-formation from *reticulated*, adjective, reticulate

First Known Use

Adjective

1658, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Verb

circa 1728, in the meaning defined at [transitive sense](#)

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Kids Definition

reticulate

 adjective

re·tic·u·late ri-'tik-yə-lət

: resembling a net

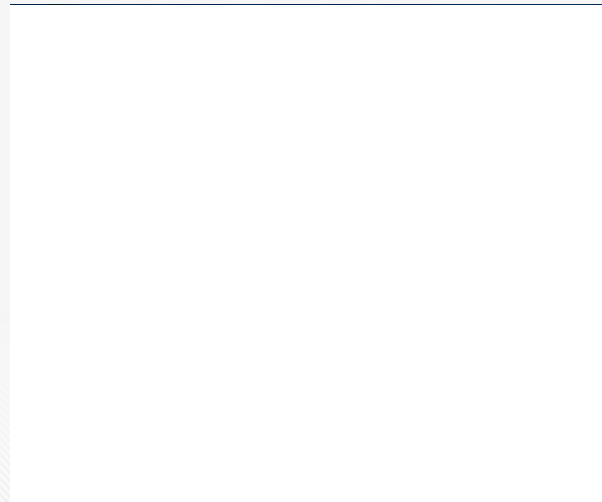
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