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About the type

The A-Z of this dictionary is typeset in CollinsFedra, a special version of the Fedra family of types designed by Peter Bil'ak. CollinsFedra has been customized specially for Collins dictionaries; it includes both sans serif (for headwords) and serif (entries) versions, in several different weights. Its large x-height, its open 'eye', and its basis in the tradition of humanist letterforms make CollinsFedra both familiar and easy to read at small sizes. It has been designed to use the minimum space without sacrificing legibility, as well as including a number of characters and signs that are specific to dictionary typography. Its companion phonetic type is the first of its kind to be drawn according to the same principles as the regular typeface, rather than assembled from rotated and reflected characters from other types. Peter Bil'ak (born 1973, Slovakia) is a graphic and type designer living in the Netherlands. As well as the Fedra family, he has designed several other typefaces including Eureka. His typotheque.com website has become a focal point for research and debate around contemporary type design.

form (words) with movements of the lips but without speaking **24** (tr) to accustom (a horse) to wearing a bit **25** (tr) to take (something) into the mouth or to move (something) around inside the mouth **26** (intr; usually foll by *at*) to make a grimace [Old English *mūth*; compare Old Norse *múthr*, Gothic *munths*, Dutch *mond*] **> moulder** ('maʊdə) *n* ■ **mouthable** ('maʊðəbəl) *adj* able to be recited or spoken well ■ **mouthbreather** ('maʊθbri:ðə) *n* 1 a person who breathes through the mouth instead of through the nose **2** US slang a stupid or dim person ■ **mouthbrooder** ('maʊθbru:ðə) or **mouthbreeder** ('maʊθbri:ðə) *n* any of various African cichlid fishes of the genera *Tilapia* *Haplochromis* that carry their eggs and young around in the mouth ■ **-mouthed** *adj* (in combination) having a mouth as specified: wide-mouthed ■ **mouthfeel** ('maʊθfi:l) *n* the texture of a substance as it is perceived in the mouth; the wine has a good mouthfeel ■ **mouthful** ('maʊθfʊl) *n*, *pl* -fuls 1 as much as is held in the mouth at one time **2** a small quantity, as of food **3** a long word or phrase that is difficult to say **4** Brit informal an abusive response **5** informal, chiefly US and Canadian an impressive remark (esp in the phrase *say a mouthful*) ■ **mouthily** ('maʊθli) *adv* in a mouthy or bombastic manner ■ **mouthless** ('maʊθlis) *adj* without a mouth ■ **mouthlike** ('maʊθlaɪk) *adj* pertaining to an opening that looks like a mouth ■ **mouth off** *vb* (intr, adv) Brit informal to give an opinion or speak emotionally, often without much care or consideration ■ **mouth organ** *n* another name for *harmonica* (1) ■ **mouthpart** ('maʊθpɑ:t) *n* any of the paired appendages in arthropods that surround the mouth and are specialized for feeding ■ **mouthpiece** ('maʊθpi:s) *n* 1 the part of a wind instrument into which the player blows **2** the part of a telephone receiver into which a person speaks **3** the part of a container forming its mouth **4** a person who acts as a spokesman, as for an organization **5** a publication, esp a periodical, expressing the official views of an organization **6** boxing another name for *gumshield* ■ **mouth-to-mouth** *adj* designating a method of artificial respiration involving blowing air rhythmically into the mouth of a person who has stopped breathing, to stimulate return of spontaneous breathing ■ **mouthwash** ('maʊθwɒʃ) *n* a medicated aqueous solution, used for gargling and for cleansing the mouth ■ **mouthwatering** ('maʊθwɔ:tərɪŋ) *adj* whetting the appetite, as from smell, appearance, or description ■ **mouthwateringly** ('maʊθwɔ:tərɪŋli) *adv* in a mouthwatering manner ■ **mouthy** ('maʊði) *adj* mouthier, **mouthiest** bombastic; excessively talkative

mouton ('mu:tʌn) *n* sheepskin processed to resemble the fur of another animal, esp beaver or seal [from French: sheep. See *MUTTON*]

moutonnee ('mu:tʌneɪ) *adj* pertaining to a rock formation that has been rounded by the action of glacier

mouvementé ('mu:vmon'teɪ) *adj* hectic; animated

move ('mu:v) *vb* 1 to go or take from one place to another; change in location or position **2** (usually intr) to change (one's dwelling, place of business, etc) **3** to be or cause to be in motion; stir **4** (intr) (of machines, etc) to work or operate **5** (tr) to cause (to do something); prompt **6** (intr) to begin to act: *move soon or we'll lose the order* **7** (intr) to associate oneself with a specified social circle: *to move in exalted spheres* **8** (intr) to make progress **9** (tr) to arouse affection, pity, or compassion in; touch **10** (in board games) to change the position of (a piece) or (of a piece) to change position **11** (intr) (of merchandise) to be disposed of by being bought **12** (when tr, often takes a clause as object; when intr, often foll by *for*) to suggest (a proposal) formally, as in debating or parliamentary procedure **13** (intr; usually foll by *on* or *along*) to go away or to another place; leave **14** to cause (the bowels) to evacuate or (of the bowels) to be evacuated **15** (intr) informal to be exciting or active: *the party started moving at twelve* **16** move heaven and earth to take every step possible (to achieve something) **> n** **17** the act of moving; movement **18** one of a sequence of actions, usually part of a plan; manoeuvre **19** the act of moving one's residence, place of business, etc **20** (in board games) a player's turn to move his or her piece or take other permitted action **b** a permitted manoeuvre of a piece **21** get a move on informal **a** to get started **b** to hurry up **22** make a move (usually used with a negative) informal to take even the slightest action: *don't make a move without phoning me* **23** make one's move to commit oneself to a position or course of action **24** on the move **a** travelling from place to place **b** advancing; succeeding **c** very active; busy [C13; from Anglo-French *mover*, from Latin *movēre*] ■ **moveable** or **moveable** ('mu:vəbəl) *adj* 1 able to be moved or rearranged; not fixed **2** (esp of religious festivals such as Easter) varying in date from year to year **3** (usually spelt *moveable*) law denoting or relating to personal property as opposed to realty **4** printing (of type) cast singly so that each character is on a separate piece of type suitable for composition by hand, as founder's type **> n** **5** (often plural) a movable article, esp a piece of furniture **> movability** or **moveability** *n* **> movableness** or **moveableness** *n* **> movably** or **moveably** *adv* ■ **moved** ('mu:vɪd) *adj* touched; emotionally affected ■ **move in** *vb* (mainly adverb) 1 Also: (when preposition) move into (also preposition) to occupy or take possession of (a new residence, place of business, etc) or help (someone) to do this **2** (intr; often foll by *on*) informal to creep close (to), as in preparing to capture **3** (intr; often foll by *on*) informal to try to gain power or influence (over) or interfere (with) ■ **moveless** ('mu:vls) *adj* immobile; lacking movement; fixed ■ **movelessly** ('mu:vlsli) *adv* in a motionless manner ■ **movelessness** ('mu:vlsnəs) *n* the state of being without movement or motion ■ **movement** ('mu:vment) *n* 1 a the act, process, or result of moving **b** an instance of moving **2** the manner of

moving **3** a group of people with a common ideology, esp a political or religious one **b** the organized action of such a group **4** a trend or tendency in a particular sphere **5** the driving and regulating mechanism of a watch or clock **6** (often plural) a person's location and activities during a specific time **7** a the evacuation of the bowels **b** the matter evacuated **8** music a principal self-contained section of a symphony, sonata, etc, usually having its own structure **9** tempo or pace, as in music or literature **10** fine arts the appearance of motion in painting, sculpture, etc **11** prosody the rhythmic structure of verse **12** a positional change by one or a number of military units **13** a change in the market price of a security or commodity ■ **move on** *vb* (adverb) 1 to go or cause (someone) to leave somewhere **2** (intr) to progress; evolve: *football has moved on since then* **3** (intr) to put a difficult experience behind one and progress mentally or emotionally ■ **move out** *vb* (adverb) to vacate a residence, place of business, etc, or help (someone) to do this ■ **mover** ('mu:və) *n* 1 informal a person, business, idea, etc, that is advancing or progressing **2** a person who moves a proposal, as in a debate **3** US and Canadian a removal firm or a person who works for one ■ **movers and shakers** *pl* *n* informal the people with power and influence in a particular field of activity [C20; perhaps from the line "We are the movers and shakers of the world for ever" in 'Ode' by Arthur O'Shaughnessy (1844-81), British poet] ■ **moving** ('mu:vɪŋ) *adj* 1 arousing or touching the emotions **2** changing or capable of changing position **3** causing motion **> movingly** *adv* ■ **moving average** *n* statistics (of a sequence of values) a derived advance of the averages of successive subsequences of a given number of members, often used in time series to even out short-term fluctuations and make a trend clearer: *the 3-term moving average of 4, 6, 8, 7, 9, 8 is 6, 7, 8* ■ **moving coil** *adj* denoting an electromechanical device in which a suspended coil is free to move in a magnetic field. A current passing through the coil causes it to move, as in loudspeakers and electrical measuring instruments, or movement of the coil gives rise to induced currents, as in microphones and some record-player pick-ups ■ **moving picture** *n* another name for *motion picture* ■ **moving staircase** or **moving stairway** *n* less common terms for *escalator* (1)

movie ('mu:vi) *n* **a** an informal word for *film* (1) **b** (as modifier): *movie ticket* [C20; from MOV(ING PICTURE) + -IE] ■ **movie camera** *n* US and Canadian a camera in which a strip of film moves past the lens, usually to give 16 or 24 exposures per second, thus enabling moving pictures to be taken. Also called: (Brit) *ciné camera* ■ **moviedom** ('mu:vɪdəm) *n* US the film industry ■ **movie film** *n* US and Canadian photographic film, wound on a spool, usually 8, 16, or 35 millimetres wide, up to several hundred metres long, and having one or two lines of sprocket holes along its length enabling it to be used in a movie camera. Also called: (Brit) *ciné film* ■ **moviegoer** ('mu:vɪgəʊə) *n* someone who attends a movie or film at the cinema ■ **movie-going** *n* the activity of attending films at the cinema ■ **movieland** ('mu:vɪlənd) *n* 1 a place where films are made, for example, Hollywood **2** the movie or filmmaking industry ■ **moviemaker** ('mu:vɪmeɪkə) *n* someone who makes cinema films ■ **moviemaking** ('mu:vɪmeɪkɪŋ) *n* 1 the process of making or producing a movie **> adj** **2** relating to movie production ■ **Movietone** ('mu:vɪtəʊn) *n* trademark US the earliest technique of including a soundtrack on film

movieoke ('mu:vɪəʊk) *n* an entertainment in which people take it in turns, with the help of subtitles and the audience, to act out well-known scenes from movies while they are silently shown in the background [C20; from MOVIE + KARAOKE]

Moviola ('mu:vɪəʊlə) *n* trademark a viewing machine used in cutting and editing film

mow¹ ('maʊ) *vb* mows, mowing, mowed, mowed or mown 1 to cut down (grass, crops, etc) with a hand implement or machine **2** (tr) to cut the growing vegetation of (a field, lawn, etc) [Old English *māwan*; related to Old High German *māen*, Middle Dutch *maeyen* to mow, Latin *metere* to reap, Welsh *meddi*] **> mower** *n* ■ **mow down** *vb* (tr, adverb) to kill in large numbers, esp by gunfire ■ **mowing** ('maʊɪŋ) *n* 1 the act of cutting down (grass, crops, etc) with a hand implement or machine **> adj** **2** of or relating to cutting down (grass, crops, etc) with a hand implement or machine

mow² ('maʊ) *n* 1 the part of a barn where hay, straw, etc, is stored **2** the hay, straw, etc, stored [Old English *māwa*; compare Old Norse *múgr* heap, Greek *mukōn*] ■ **mowburn** ('maʊbɜ:n) *n* 1 the natural process of heating and fermenting that takes place when hay or corn is piled up when it is damp or green. Also called: *mowburning* **> vb** (intr) **2** (of hay or corn) to heat up and ferment in a mow because of being damp or green ■ **mowburnt** ('maʊbɜ:nt) *adj* (of hay, straw, etc) damaged by overheating in a mow

mow³ ('maʊ) *n*, *vb* an archaic word for *grimace* [C14; from Old French *moe* a pout, or Middle Dutch *mouwe*]

mowdie ('maʊdi), **mowdiewart** ('maʊdi,wɔ:t) or **mowdiewort** ('maʊdi,wɔ:t) *n* Scot words for *mole* [C18; a Scot variant of *MOULDWART*]

Mowlam ('maʊləm) *n* Mo, full name *Marjorie Mowlam*, 1949-2005, British Labour politician; secretary of state for Northern Ireland (1997-99) and minister for the cabinet office (1999-2001)

mown ('maʊn) *vb* a past participle of *mow*¹

MOX ('mɒks) *n* a blend of plutonium and uranium oxides, used as a nuclear fuel in breeder reactors [C20; from *m*(ixed) *ox*(ides)]

moxa ('mɒksə) *n* 1 a downy material obtained from various plants and used in Oriental medicine by being burned on the skin as a cauterizing agent or

générale et raisonnée exercised much influence

Port Said ('sɑ:ɪd, said) *n* a port in NE Egypt, at the N end of the Suez Canal: founded in 1859 when the Suez Canal was begun; became the largest coaling station in the world and later an oil-bunkering port; damaged in the Arab-Israeli wars of 1967 and 1973. Pop: 546 000 (2005 est)

Port-Salut ('pɔ: sə'lu:; French pɔrsaly) *n* a mild semihard whole-milk cheese of a round flat shape. Also called: **Port du Salut** [C19: named after the Trappist monastery at Port du Salut in NW France where it was first made]

Portsmouth ('pɔ:tsməθ) *n* 1 Informal name: **Pompey** a port in S England, in Portsmouth unitary authority, Hampshire, on the English Channel: Britain's chief naval base; university (1992). Pop: 187 056 (2001) 2 a unitary authority in S England, in Hampshire. Pop: 188 700 (2003 est). Area: 37 sq km (14 sq miles) 3 a port in SE Virginia, on the Elizabeth River: naval base; shipyards. Pop: 99 617 (2003 est)

Port Sudan *n* the chief port of Sudan, in the NE on the Red Sea. Pop: 499 000 (2005 est)

Port Talbot ('tɔ:lbət, 'tæl-) *n* a port in SE Wales, in Neath Port Talbot county borough on Swansea Bay: established as a coal port in the mid-19th century; large steelworks; ore terminal. Pop: 35 633 (2001)

Portugal ('pɔ:tʃuɡəl) *n* a republic in SW Europe, on the Atlantic: became an independent monarchy in 1139 and expelled the Moors in 1249 after more than four centuries of Muslim rule; became a republic in 1910; under the dictatorship of Salazar from 1932 until 1968, when he was succeeded by Dr Caetano, who was overthrown by a junta in 1974; constitutional government restored in 1976. Portugal is a member of the European Union. Official language: Portuguese. Religion: Roman Catholic majority. Currency: euro. Capital: Lisbon. Pop: 10 799 270 (2013 est). Area: 91 831 sq km (35 456 sq miles)

Portuguese ('pɔ:tʃuɡi:z) *n* 1 the official language of Portugal, its overseas territories, and Brazil: the native language of approximately 110 million people. It belongs to the Romance group of the Indo-European family and is derived from the Galician dialect of Vulgar Latin 2 (*pl -guese*) a native, citizen, or inhabitant of Portugal ▷ *adj* 3 relating to, denoting, or characteristic of Portugal, its inhabitants, or their language ■ **Portuguese East Africa** *n* a former name (until 1975) of **Mozambique** ■ **Portuguese Guinea** *n* the former name (until 1974) of **Guinea-Bissau** ■ **Portuguese Guinean** *adj* 1 of or relating to Portuguese Guinea, a former name for Guinea-Bissau, or its inhabitants ▷ *n* 2 a native or inhabitant of Portuguese Guinea ■ **Portuguese India** *n* a former Portuguese overseas province on the W coast of India, consisting of Goa, Daman, and Diu: established between 1505 and 1510; annexed by India in 1961 ■ **Portuguese man-of-war** *n* any of several large complex colonial hydrozoans of the genus *Physalia*, esp *P. physalis*, having an aerial float and long stinging tentacles: order *Siphonophora*. Sometimes shortened to: **man-of-war** ■ **Portuguese Timor** *n* a former name for **East Timor** ■ **Portuguese water dog** *n* a robust dog of a Portuguese breed that has a wavy coat, often with the hindquarters and tail clipped, and is an excellent swimmer and diver ■ **Portuguese West Africa** *n* a former name (until 1975) of **Angola**

portulaca ('pɔ:tʃulækə, 'leikə) *n* any portulacaceae plant of the genus *Portulaca*, such as rose moss and purslane, of tropical and subtropical America, having yellow, pink, or purple showy flowers [C16: from Latin: PURSLANE] ■ **portulacaceae** ('pɔ:tʃulək'eɪs) *adj* of, relating to, or belonging to the *Portulacaceae*, a cosmopolitan family of mainly fleshy-leaved flowering plants common in the US

porwiggle ('pɔ:'wɪɡl) *n* another name for **polliwog** (1)
POS abbreviation for 1 point of sale 2 part of speech

pos. abbreviation for 1 position 2 positive
posada Spanish ('pɔ:sada) *n*, *pl -das* (-ðas) an inn in a Spanish-speaking country [literally: place for stopping]

posauane ('pɔ:zəʊnə) *n* music 1 an organ reed with a tone resembling a trombone 2 a trombone

pose¹ ('pəʊz) *vb* 1 to assume or cause to assume a physical attitude, as for a photograph or painting 2 (*intr*; often foll by *as*) to pretend to be or present oneself (as something one is not) 3 (*intr*) to affect an attitude or play a part in order to impress others 4 (*tr*) to put forward, ask, or assert: to pose a question ▷ *n* 5 a physical attitude, esp one deliberately adopted for or represented by an artist or photographer 6 a mode of behaviour that is adopted for effect [C14: from Old French *poser* to set in place, from Late Latin *pausare* to cease, put down (influenced by Latin *pōnere* to place)] ■ **poseable** or **posable** ('pəʊzəbəl) *adj* able to be posed or manipulated into poses ■ **poser** ('pəʊzə) *n* 1 a person who poses 2 informal a person who likes to be seen in trendsetting clothes in fashionable bars, discos, etc ■ **poseur** ('pəʊzə) *n* a person who strikes an attitude or assumes a pose in order to impress others [C19: from French, from *poser* to pose¹] ■ **poseuse** ('pəʊzɜ:s) *n* a female poseur ■ **posey** ('pəʊzi) or **posierish** ('pəʊzɪrɪʃ) *adj* informal (of a place) for, characteristic of, or full of posers; affectingly trendy ■ **posingly** ('pəʊzɪŋli) *adv* in a posing manner

pose² ('pəʊz) *vb* (*tr*) 1 rare to puzzle or baffle 2 archaic to question closely [C16: from obsolete *appose*, from Latin *appōnere* to put to, set against; see *oppose*]
Poseidon ('pɔ:said'n) *n* 1 Greek myth the god of the sea and of earthquakes; brother of Zeus, Hades, and Hera. He is generally depicted in art wielding a trident. Roman counterpart: **Neptune** 2 a US submarine-launched ballistic missile

Posen ('pɔ:zən) *n* the German name for **Poznań**

poser ('pəʊzə) *n* a baffling or insoluble question

posh ('pɒʃ) informal, chiefly Brit *adj* 1 smart, elegant; or fashionable; exclusive: posh clothes 2 upper-class or genteel ▷ *adv* 3 in a manner associated with the upper class: to talk posh [C19: often said to be an acronym of the phrase *port out, starboard home*, the most desirable location for a cabin in British ships sailing to and from the East, being the north-facing or shaded side; but more likely to be a development of obsolete slang *posh* a dandy]

▷ **poshness** *n* ■ **poshly** ('pɒʃli) *adv* informal in a posh manner

posho ('pɔʃə) *n* E African 1 corn meal 2 payment of workers in foodstuffs rather than money [from Swahili]

posidrive or **pozidrive** ('pɔ:zɪdraɪv) *adj* trademark 1 having a patent screwhead that allows greater torque 2 relating to this type of screwhead

posigrade ('pɔ:zɪgreɪd) *adj* astronautics of, relating to, or designating motion in the same direction as the current or normal motion

posit ('pɔ:zɪt) *vb* (*tr*) 1 to assume or put forward as fact or the factual basis for an argument; postulate 2 to put in position ▷ *n* 3 a fact, idea, etc, that is posited; assumption [C17: from Latin *pōnere* to place, position]

positif ('pɔ:zɪtɪf) *n* (on older organs) a manual controlling soft stops [from French: *positif*]

position ('pə:zɪʃən) *n* 1 the place, situation, or location of a person or thing: he took up a position to the rear 2 the appropriate or customary location: the telescope is in position for use 3 the arrangement or disposition of the body or a part of the body: the corpse was found in a sitting position 4 the manner in which a person or thing is placed; arrangement 5 military an area or point occupied for tactical reasons 6 mental attitude; point of view; stand: what's your position on this issue? 7 social status or standing, esp high social standing 8 a post of employment; job 9 the act of positing a fact or viewpoint 10 something posited, such as an idea, proposition, etc 11 sport the part of a field or playing area where a player is placed or where he generally operates 12 music a the vertical spacing or layout of the written notes in a chord. Chords arranged with the three upper voices close together are in close position. Chords whose notes are evenly or widely distributed are in open position. See also **root position** b one of the points on the fingerboard of a stringed instrument, determining where a string is to be stopped 13 (in classical prosody) a the situation in which a short vowel may be regarded as long, that is, when it occurs before two or more consonants b make position (of a consonant, either on its own or in combination with other consonants, such as *x* in Latin) to cause a short vowel to become metrically long when placed after it 14 finance the market commitment of a dealer in securities, currencies, or commodities: a long position; a short position 15 in a position (foll by an infinitive) able (to): I'm not in a position to reveal these figures ▷ *vb* (*tr*) 16 to put in the proper or appropriate place; locate 17 sport to place (oneself or another player) in a particular part of the field or playing area 18 to put (someone or something) in a position (esp in relation to others) that confers a strategic advantage: he's trying to position himself for a leadership bid 19 marketing to promote (a product or service) by tailoring it to the needs of a specific market or by clearly differentiating it from its competitors (e.g. in terms of price or quality) 20 rare to locate or ascertain the position of [C15: from Late Latin *positiō* a positioning, affirmation, from *pōnere* to place, lay down] ▷ **positional** *adj* ■ **positionally** ('pə:zɪʃənəli) *adv* in terms of position, from a positional point of view ■ **positional notation** *n* the method of denoting numbers by the use of a finite number of digits, each digit having its value multiplied by its place value, as in $936 = (9 \times 100) + (3 \times 10) + 6$ ■ **position angle** *n* the direction in which one object lies relative to another on the celestial sphere, measured in degrees from north in an easterly direction ■ **position audit** *n* commerce a systematic assessment of the current strengths and weaknesses of an organization as a prerequisite for future strategic planning ■ **position effect** *n* the effect on the phenotype of interacting genes when their relative positions on the chromosome are altered, as by inversion ■ **positioning** ('pə:zɪʃənɪŋ) *n* the position held by a product brand in the opinion of consumers, in comparison with its competitors' brands

positive ('pɔ:zɪtɪv) *adj* 1 characterized by or expressing certainty or affirmation: a positive answer 2 composed of or possessing actual or specific qualities; real: a positive benefit 3 tending to emphasize what is good or laudable; constructive: he takes a very positive attitude when correcting pupils' mistakes 4 tending towards progress or improvement; moving in a beneficial direction 5 philosophy a constructive rather than sceptical b (of a concept) denoting the presence rather than the absence of some property 6 independent of circumstances; absolute or unqualified 7 (prenominal) informal (intensifier): a positive delight 8 maths a having a value greater than zero: a positive number b designating, consisting of, or graduated in one or more quantities greater than zero: positive direction 9 maths a measured in a direction opposite to that regarded as negative b having the same magnitude as but opposite sense to an equivalent negative quantity 10 grammar denoting the usual form of an adjective as opposed to its comparative or superlative form 11 biology indicating movement or growth towards a particular stimulus 12 physics a (of an electric charge) having an opposite polarity to the charge of an electron and the same polarity as the charge of a proton b (of a body, system, ion, etc) having a positive electric charge; having a deficiency of electrons: a positive ion c (of a point in an electric circuit) having a higher electric potential than some other point