

# Webster's Third New International Dictionary

OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
UNABRIDGED

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MERRIAM-WEBSTER INC., *Publishers*  
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.



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WEBSTER'S THIRD NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY  
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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data  
Main entry under title:

Webster's third new international dictionary of the English language,  
unabridged: a Merriam-Webster/editor in chief, Philip Babcock Gove  
and the Merriam-Webster editorial staff.

p. cm.

ISBN 978-0-87779-201-7 (buckram)

I. English language—Dictionaries. I. Gove, Philip Babcock,  
1902–1972. II. Merriam-Webster, Inc.

PE1625.W36 1993

423-dc20

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reading matter

**read-able** \ˈredəbl̩\ *adj.* 1 : that can be read with ease  
LEIGIBLE (~ handwriting) b : pleasing, interesting, or offering no great difficulty to read c : novel (a treatise on physics)  
**read-aloud** \ˈrɛd ə laʊd\ *n*: map : clear in detail and the significance of symbols 2 : that can be read throughout a novel (~ at a sitting)  
**read-ableness** *n*-ES : READABILITY  
**read-ably** \-əbli\ *adv* : in a readable manner : in such a way as to be readily again  
**re-adapt** \riː + vb [re- + adapt] *vt* : to adapt again ~ *vi* re-adapted  
**re-adaptable** \riː + vb [re- + adaptable] *adj* : capable of being readapted again  
**re-adaptation** \riː + vb [re- + adaptation] *n*: the quality of being adapted again  
**re-address** \riː + vb [re- + address] *vt* : to address again; esp : to put a new address on  
**read-er** \ˈrɛdər\ *n* s [ME *redere*, fr. OE *rædan*, fr. *rēdan* to read - *re-* *er*] 1 : one that reads: as (1) : one that applies himself to read (a slow~) (a good~) (2) : one who devoted time to reading (one fond of reading is a great~) (3) : one who is appointed to read to others: as (1) : one appointed to read aloud during meals (as in a monastery) (2) : lector (1) (3) : one that reads aloud selected material in a Christian Science church or society c (1) : PROOF (2) : one that reads and evaluates manuscripts (as for possible publication or for use as materials in producing motion picture or play) (3) : one that reads news, newspapers and other periodicals d : literature and indicates items to be read, or clipped, abstracted, or clipped as having special interest or value to some individual or group d : one that reads and records the indications of a meterstick or speedometer e : one that teaches by reading and marking the papers of students enrolled in a class 2 *Brit* : one who reads lectures or expounds subjects to students a : university Inns of Court chosen as a specialist in a particular field and ranking lower than a professor 3 A : READING GLASS b : a device for projecting a readable image of a transparent object (such as a self-contained or portable television screen) c : a book for instruction and practice in reading (a third-grade~) d : beginners in a subject taking selections from a French novel c : ANTHOLOGY (a G.B. Shaw ~) 5 A : READING NOTICE B : card (as in a window display) that carries a sale price, caption, or similar information C : a playing card (by gambler, conjurer) — compare STAMP 7 a worker who records a textile design (as in string or in numbers) that he reads from a card  
**read-er-ship** \ˈrɛdər-ʃɪp\ *n* : the quality or state of being a reader, L.Mott) b : the office, position, or profession of being a reader; esp, *Brit* : the position of a university teacher ranking lower than a professor (there are many chairs and posts in almost every faculty of the M.M.Postan) 2 a : the act of reading by mass of individuals actually reading or estimated to read something (as a book, magazine, newspaper, advertisement) (increasing the ~ of a magazine) distinguished from circulation b : a particular class of readers (will appeal to the ~ intelligent)  
**re-adhere** \riː + v [re- + adhere] : to adhere again  
**re-adhesion** \riː + n [re- + adhesion] : the action of re-adhering  
**readied** *past 3rd sing pres of ready, pl of ready*  
**readies** *pres 3rd sing pres of ready, pl of ready*  
**ready** *comparative of ready*  
**reader's representative of ready** \ˈrɛdər-iz-\ *adv* [ME *redily*, fr. *redy* *ad* prompt willingness : without hesitating, quibbling, or delaying ~ with alacrity ~ WILLINGLY ~ EASILY ~ my help ~ Norra ~ waiting ~ promptly ~ quickly efficiency : without needless loss of time : reasonably fast : SPEEDILY (information can when needed be ~ acquired by consulting appropriate books) — J.B.Conant) c : with a fair degree of ease or without much trouble ~ understand if plainly expressed —E.S.McCarthy)  
**read in vt** : to cause (oneself) to enter formally upon a new benefice in the Church of England after appointment to it by assenting to the statements ~ *vi* : to enter formally upon a new benefice in the Church of England by reading oneself in  
**read-iness** \ˈrɛdnəs-, -dɪn- n -ES [ME *redinesse*, fr. *redy* *ad* prompt willingness : ALACRITY (~ to welcome more co-operative relations —Current Biog.) (~ to continue discussions —Wall Street Jour.) b : fairly quick efficiency ; reasonable speed (acceptance of an instrument in writing) — Jane Austen) d : a state of preparation (putting them in ~ —H.E.Scudder) (gauging the child's ~ to begin reading)  
**reading** \ˈrɛdɪŋ-, -dɛŋ- n -S [ME *redinge*, fr. OE *reding*, fr. *redan* to read] 1 : material designed to be read : matter for reading (choose the ~ for the great books course); esp : a particular selection of such material designed to be read at one time or as a unit (the ~ of the Bible) 2 : a particular instance of the material read (in a particular field) by an individual (were discriminating in their ~) (thought he had seen the word somewhere in his ~) (2) : the extent to which an individual has (as a person or organization) read or studied (his ~ was extensive) 3 : syntax, choice of vocabulary used in a printed edition or other source of material designed to be read : a particular version (found an interesting ~ of the same passage in one of the older manuscripts) (the generally accepted ~) b : a particular interpretation, studied, or experienced (new ~s of history —James Marjorie) d : a particular performance and interpretation of literary or dramatic work (the ~ score of a musical composition) (a sensitive ~ of the principle) (a knowledgeable ~ of the sympathy)  
**reading** \ˈrɛdɪŋ- *adj* 1 : of or relating to reading (a ~ list) (a ~ lamp) (a ~ desk) b : set aside for reading (a room)  
**reading** \ˈrɛdɪŋ-, -dɛŋ- *adj*, *usu* *cap* [fr. Reading, county town in southern England; cf. *Reading*, city in southeastern Pennsylvania] : of or from the county of Reading, England : of the kind or style of Reading 2 [fr. Reading, city in southeast Pennsylvania] : of or from the city of Reading, Pa. : of the kind or style of Reading  
**reading chair** *n* : a chair with a narrow back, high short arms, a small slanted shelf attached to the top of the back, and a seat designed for straddling and for permitting one to sit facing the front  
**reading clerk** *n* : a clerk in a legislative assembly whose principal duty is the reading of bills or other formal documents  
**reading desk** *n* : a desk with a sloping top used to support a book in a convenient position for a reader standing behind it  
**reading glass** *n* : a large magnifying lens that is usually attached to a handle and that is used to facilitate reading (of letters, words, or examination (as of map details))  
**reading man** *n* : one who by choice does much reading; esp, chiefly *Brit* : a university student who is often excessively to reading and study  
**reading matter** *n* : the regular contents (as news, features) of a newspaper or other periodical exclusive of the advertising



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