

# CONCISE Oxford AMERICAN Dictionary

- More than 180,000 entries and definitions
- More than a thousand word histories
- Hundreds of illustrations
- Ready Reference section with helpful information on weights and measures, chemical elements, U.S. states and presidents, and much more!

THE WORLD'S MOST TRUSTED DICTIONARIES

Valve Exhibit 1083  
Valve v. Immersion

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Oxford University Press, Inc., publishes works that further  
Oxford University's objective of excellence  
in research, scholarship, and education.

Oxford New York

Auckland Cape Town Dar es Salaam Hong Kong Karachi  
Kuala Lumpur Madrid Melbourne Mexico City Nairobi  
New Delhi Shanghai Taipei Toronto

With offices in

Argentina Austria Brazil Chile Czech Republic France Greece  
Guatemala Hungary Italy Japan Poland Portugal Singapore  
South Korea Switzerland Thailand Turkey Ukraine Vietnam

Copyright © 2006 by Oxford University Press, Inc.

Published by Oxford University Press, Inc.  
198 Madison Avenue, New York, New York, 10016  
[www.oup.com/us](http://www.oup.com/us)  
[www.askoxford.com](http://www.askoxford.com)

Oxford is a registered trademark of Oxford University Press

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or  
transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise,  
without prior permission of Oxford University Press.

**Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data**

Concise Oxford American dictionary.  
p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN-13: 978-0-19-530484-8

ISBN-10: 0-19-530484-5

1. English language—United States—Dictionaries. 2. Americanisms—  
Dictionaries.

PE1628.C676 2006

423'.1—dc22

2006001264

This book includes some words that are, or are asserted to be, proprietary names or trademarks. Their  
inclusion does not imply that they have acquired for legal purposes a nonproprietary or general  
significance, nor is any other judgment implied concerning their legal status. In cases where the editor has  
some evidence that a word is used as a proprietary name or trademark, this is indicated by the designation  
trademark, but no judgment concerning the legal status of such words is made or implied thereby.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

Printed in the United States of America on acid-free paper

**nor-mal-ize** /'nɔrmə,lɪz/ ▶ *v.* **1** [*tr.*] bring or return to a normal condition or state: *Vietnam and China agreed to normalize diplomatic relations in 1991* | [*intr.*] *the situation had normalized*. **2** [*tr.*] (often **be normalized**) *Math.* multiply (a series, function, or item of data) by a factor that makes the norm or some associated quantity such as an integral equal to a desired value (usually 1). ■ *Comput.* (in floating-point representation) express (a number) in the standard form with regard to the position of the radix point, usually immediately preceding the first nonzero digit. —**nor-mal-i-za-tion** /,nɔrmələ'zæʃən/ *n.* —**nor-mal-iz-er** *n.*

**nor-mal-ly** /'nɔrmələ/ ▶ *adv.* **1** under normal or usual conditions: *as a rule; normally, it takes three or four years to complete the training*. **2** in a normal manner; in the usual way: *try to breathe normally*. **3** *technical* at right angles to a given line or surface.

**Nor-man** ▶ *n.* **1** a member of a people of mixed Frankish and Scandinavian origin who settled in Normandy from about AD 912 and became a dominant military power in western Europe and the Mediterranean in the 11th century. ■ in particular, any of the Normans who conquered England in 1066 or their descendants. ■ a native or inhabitant of modern Normandy. ■ any of the English kings from William I to Stephen. **2** the form of French spoken by the Normans.

▶ *adj.* of, relating to, or denoting the Normans. ■ denoting, relating to, or built in the style of Romanesque architecture used in Britain under the Normans. ■ of or relating to modern Normandy. —**Nor-man-esque** /,nɔrmə'nesk/ *adj.* —**Nor-man-ism** /-,nɪzəm/ *n.* —**Nor-man-ize** /-,nɪz/ *v.*

**Nor-man Con-quest** ▶ the conquest of England by William of Normandy (William the Conqueror) after the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

**nor-ma-tive** /'nɔrmətɪv/ ▶ *adj.* formal establishing, relating to, or deriving from a standard or norm, esp. of behavior: *negative sanctions to enforce normative behavior*. —**nor-ma-tive-ly** *adv.* —**nor-ma-tive-ness** *n.*

**no-ro-vi-rus** /'nɔrə,vɪrəs/ ▶ *n.* any of various single-stranded RNA nonenveloped viruses that can cause acute gastroenteritis in humans.

**Norse** /nɔrs/ ▶ *n.* **1** the Norwegian language, esp. in its medieval form. ■ the Scandinavian language group. **2** [treated as *pl.*] Norwegians or Scandinavians, esp. in medieval times.

▶ *adj.* of or relating to medieval Norway or Scandinavia, or their inhabitants or language. —**Norse-man** /'nɔrsmən/ *n.* (*pl.* -men).

**north** /nɔrθ/ ▶ *n.* (usu. **the north**) **1** the direction in which a compass needle normally points, toward the horizon on the left side of a person facing east, or the part of the horizon lying in this direction: *a bitter wind blew from the north*. ■ the compass point corresponding to this. ■ a direction in space parallel to the earth's axis of rotation and toward the point on the celestial sphere around which the stars appear to turn counterclockwise. **2** the northern part of the world or of a specified country, region, or town: *cuisine from the north of Spain*. **3** (**North**) *Bridge* the player occupying a designated position at the table, sitting opposite and pointing toward South.

or facing the north: *the northern* the north; *northern breeds of cattle* the north or its inhabitants: *an ern-most* /-,mɔst/ *adj.*

**North-ern-er** /'nɔrθɪnər/ (also *n.* of the north, esp. of the northern) **north-ern lights** ▶ another name **north-north-east** ▶ *n.* the compass north and northeast.

**north-north-west** ▶ *n.* the compass north and northwest.

**North Pole** ▶ *n.* see **POLE**<sup>2</sup>.

**North Star** *Astron.* ▶ another term

**north-ward** /'nɔrθwərd/ ▶ *adj.* in : ▶ *adv.* (also **northwards**) toward the ▶ *n.* (**the northward**) the direction *ly adj. & adv.*

**north-west** /,nɔrθ'west/ ▶ *n.* (usu. horizon midway between north ■ the compass point corresponding to this lies. **2** the northwestern part had originally come from someplace.

▶ *adj.* **1** lying toward, near, or facing of the square. ■ (of a wind) blowing toward the northwestern part of a country: *northwest Europe*.

▶ *adv.* to or toward the northwest. —**north-west-er-ly** *adv. & adj.*

**north-west-er** /,nɔrθ'wester/ ▶ *n.* northwest.

**Nor-we-gian** /nɔr'weɪjən/ ▶ *adj.* of Norwegian language.

▶ *n.* **1** a native or national of Norway. **2** the North Germanic languages.

**nos** ▶ *abbr.* numbers.

**nose** /nɔz/ ▶ *n.* **1** the part projecting from the front of the face of a person or animal, containing the organ of smelling. ■ the sense of smell, especially by its scent: *a dog with a keen nose* for finding something: *he has a nose for a particular substance*, esp. wine. **2** the front of a vehicle. ■ a projecting part of something, esp. out of curiosity: *she wanted to be a* *like informer*.