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Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary

Eleventh Edition

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Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary

ELEVENTH EDITION

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grist \'grist\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *grīst;* akin to OE *grindan* to grind] (bef. 12c) **1 a** : grain or a batch of grain for grinding **b** : the product obtained from a grist of grain including the flour or meal and the grain offals **2** : a required or usual amount **3** : matter of interest or value forming the basis of a story or analysis **4** : something turned to advantage or profit esp. in the phrase *grist for one's mill*

gris·tle \'gri-səl, -zəl\ *n* [ME *gristil,* fr. OE *gristle;* akin to MLG *gristel* gristle] (bef. 12c) : CARTILAGE; *broadly* : tough cartilaginous, tendinous, or fibrous matter esp. in table meats

gris·tly \'gri-sə-lē, 'griz-lē, 'griz-\ *adj* **gris·tli·er; -est** (14c) : consisting of or containing gristle ⟨~ steak⟩ — **gris·tli·ness** *n*

grist·mill \'grist-ˌmil\ *n* (1602) : a mill for grinding grain

grit \'grit\ *n* [ME *grete,* fr. OE *grēot;* akin to OHG *grioz* sand] (bef. 12c) **1 a** : a hard sharp granule (as of sand); *also* : material composed of such granules **2** : any of several rocks (as many abrasives) composed of a stone that adapts it to grinding **b** : the structure of a stone that expresses as their mesh **4** : firmness of mind or spirit : unyielding courage in the face of hardship or opposition **3 a** : abrasive particles usu. expressed as their size **5** *cap* : a Liberal in Canadian politics

grit·ted; grit·ting *vi* (1762) : to give forth a grating sound ~ *vt* **1** : to cause (as one's teeth) to grind or grate **2** : to cover or spread with grit, esp : to smooth (as marble) with a coarse abrasive

grith \'grith\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. ON, security] (bef. 12c) : peace, security, sanctuary imposed or guaranteed in early medieval England under special conditions

grits \'grits\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* [perh. partly fr. ¹*grit,* partly fr. OE *grytt;* akin to OE *grēot*] (1579) : coarsely ground hominy with the germ removed

grit·ty \'gri-tē\ *adj* **grit·ti·er; -est** (1598) **1** : containing or resembling gritty grit; *esp* : ground hominy with the germ removed **2** : courageously persistent : PLUCKY ⟨a ~ heroine⟩ **3** : having the qualities of tough uncompromising realism ⟨a ~ novel⟩ — **grit·ti·ness** \'gri-tē-nəs\ *n*

grit·ty·ish \'gri-tə-ish\ *adv* — **grit·ti·ness** \'gri-tē-nəs\ *n*

grizzle \'griz-əl\ *n* [ME *grisel,* adj., gray, fr. AF, fr. *gris,* of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *grīs* gray] (1601) **1** *archaic* : gray hair **2 a** : a roan coat color **b** : a gray or roan animal

griz·zled; griz·zling \'griz-liŋ, 'gri-zə-\ *vt* (1740) : to make grayish ~ *vi* **1** : GRIPE, GRUMBLE **2** : to become grayish

griz·zled \'gri-zəld\ *adj* (15c) : sprinkled or streaked with gray : GRAYISH; *also* : having gray hair ⟨a ~ veteran⟩

griz·zly \'griz-lē\ *adj* **griz·zli·er; -est** (1594) : GRIZZLED

grizzly bear *n* (1791) : a very large brown bear (*Ursus arctos*) found from the northwestern U.S. to Alaska — called also *grizzly*

groan \'grōn\ *vb* [ME *gronen,* fr. OE *grānian;* akin to OHG *grīnan* to grimace] (bef. 12c) **1** : to utter a deep moan indicative of pain, grief, or annoyance **2** : to make a harsh sound (as of creaking) under sudden or prolonged strain ~ *vt* : to utter or express with groaning — **groan·ful** *adj*

groan *n*

groan·er \'grō-nər\ *n* (1795) **1** : one that groans **2** : a stale or corny observation, or story

groat \'grōt\ *n* [ME *grotes,* pl., fr. OE *grotan,* pl. of *grot;* akin to OE *grēot* grit] (12c) **1** *usu pl but sing or pl in constr* : hulled grain broken into fragments larger than grits **2** : a grain (as of oats) exclusive of the hull

groat *n* [ME *groot,* fr. MD] (14c) : an old British coin worth four pence

gro·cer \'grō-sər, -shər\ *n* [ME, fr. AF *groser* wholesaler, fr. *gros* coarse, wholesale — more at GROSS] (15c) : a dealer in staple foodstuffs, meats, produce, and dairy products and usu. household supplies

gro·cery \'grōs-rē, 'grō-sə-; 'grōsh-rē\ *n, pl* **-cer·ies** (15c) **1** *pl* : commodities sold by a grocer — usu. sing. in Brit. usage **2** : a grocer's store

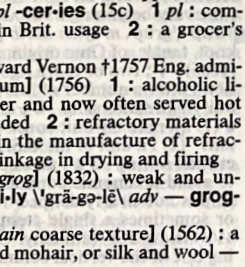
grog \'gräg\ *n* [*Old Grog,* nickname of Edward Vernon †1757 Eng. admiral responsible for diluting the sailors' rum] (1756) **1** : alcoholic liquor; *esp* : liquor (as rum) cut with water and now often served hot with lemon juice and sugar sometimes added **2** : refractory materials as crushed pottery and firebricks) used in the manufacture of refractory products (as crucibles) to reduce shrinkage in drying and firing

grog·gy \'grä-gē\ *adj* **grog·gi·er; -est** [*grog*] (1832) : weak and unsteady on the feet or in action — **grog·gi·ly** \'grä-gə-lē\ *adv* — **grog·gi·ness** \'grä-gē-nəs\ *n*

gro·gram \'grä-grəm, 'grō-\ *n* [MF *gros grain* coarse texture] (1562) : a coarse loosely woven fabric of silk, silk and mohair, or silk and wool — compare GROSGRAIN

grog·shop \'grägˌ-ˌshäp\ *n* (1790) *chiefly Brit* : a usu. low-class barroom

groin \'groin\ *n* [alter. of ME *grynde,* fr. OE abyss; akin to OE *grund* ground] (ca. 1522) **1** : the fold or depression marking the juncture of the lower abdomen and the inner part of the thigh; *also* : the region of this line **2 a** : the projecting curved line along which two intersecting vaults meet **b** : a rib that covers this edge **3** : a rigid structure built out from a shore to protect the shore from erosion, to trap sand, or to direct a current or scouring a channel



groin 2a

groin *vt* (ca. 1816) : to build or equip with groins

grok \'gräk\ *vt* **grokked; grok·king** [coined by Robert A. Heinlein †1988 Am. author] (1961) : to understand profoundly and intuitively

gros·grain \'grō-ˌgrān\ *n* [F *gros grain* coarse texture] (1868) : a strong close-woven corded fabric usu. of silk or rayon and often with cotton filler — compare GROGRAM

gros·beak \'grōs-ˌbēk\ *n* [part trans. of F *grosbec,* fr. *gros* thick + *bec* beak] (ca. 1678) : any of several finches (esp. families Cardinalidae and Fringillidae) of Europe and America having large stout conical bills

gro·schen \'grō-shən, 'grō-\ *n, pl* **groschen** [G] (1925) : a former Austrian monetary unit equal to ¹/₁₀₀ schilling

gros·grain \'grō-ˌgrān\ *n* [F *gros grain* coarse texture] (1868) : a strong close-woven corded fabric usu. of silk or rayon and often with cotton filler — compare GROGRAM

¹gross \'grōs\ *adj* [ME *grosse,* fr. AF & LL; AF *gros* large, thick, whole, fr. LL *grossus* coarse] (14c) **1 a** *archaic* : immediately obvious **b** (1) : glaringly noticeable usu. because of inexcusable badness or objectionableness ⟨a ~ error⟩ (2) : OUT-AND-OUT, UTTER ⟨a ~ injustice⟩ **c** : visible without the aid of a microscope **2 a** : BIG, BULKY; *esp* : excessively fat **b** : growing or spreading with excessive luxuriance **3 a** : of, relating to, or dealing with general aspects or broad distinctions **b** : consisting of an overall total exclusive of deductions ⟨~ income⟩ — compare NET **4** : made up of material or perceptible elements **5** *archaic* : not fastidious in taste : UNDISCRIMINATING **6 a** : coarse in nature or behavior : UNREFINED **b** : gravely deficient in civility or decency : crudely vulgar ⟨merely ~, a scatological rather than a pornographic impropriety —Aldous Huxley⟩ **c** : inspiring disgust or distaste ⟨that sandwich looks ~⟩ **7** : deficient in knowledge : IGNORANT, UNTUTORED *syn* see COARSE, FLAGRANT — **gross·ly** *adv* — **gross·ness** *n*

²gross *n* (1579) **1** *obs* : AMOUNT, SUM **2** : overall total exclusive of deductions

³gross *vt* (1884) : to earn or bring in (an overall total) exclusive of deductions (as for taxes or expenses) — **gross·er** *n*

⁴gross *n, pl* **gross** [ME *gros,* prob. fr. AF *grosse* sum, whole, fr. fem. of *gros*] (14c) : an aggregate of 12 dozen things ⟨a ~ of pencils⟩

gross anatomy *n* (1888) : a branch of anatomy that deals with the macroscopic structure of tissues and organs

gross domestic product *n* (1970) : the gross national product excluding the value of net income earned abroad

gross national product *n* (1947) : the total value of the goods and services produced by the residents of a nation during a specified period (as a year)

gross–out \'grōs-ˌaůt\ *n, often attrib* (ca. 1968) : something inspiring disgust or distaste

gross out *vt* (1965) : to offend, insult, or disgust by something gross

gross ton *n* (ca. 1923) : LONG TON

gros·su·lar \'grä-sə-lər\ *n* [NL *Grossularia,* genus name of the gooseberry] (1819) : a variety of garnet that is most commonly green and consists of calcium aluminum silicate

gros·su·la·rite \-lə-ˌrīt\ *n* [G *Grossularit,* fr. NL *Grossularia*] (ca. 1847) : GROSSULAR

gro·szy \'grō-shē\ *also* **grosz** *or* **grosze** \'grȯsh\ *n, pl* **groszy** [Pol] (1916) — see *zloty* at MONEY table

grot \'grät\ *n* [MF *grotte,* fr. It *grotta*] (1506) : GROTTO

¹gro·tesque \grō-'tesk\ *n* [MF & OIt; MF, fr. OIt (*pittura*) *grottesca,* lit., cave painting, fem. of *grottesco* of a cave, fr. *grotta*] (1561) **1 a** : a style of decorative art characterized by fanciful or fantastic human and animal forms often interwoven with foliage or similar figures that may distort the natural into absurdity, ugliness, or caricature **b** : a piece of work in this style **2** : one that is grotesque **3** : SANS SERIF

²grotesque *adj* (1603) : of, relating to, or having the characteristics of the grotesque: as **a** : FANCIFUL, BIZARRE **b** : absurdly incongruous **c** : departing markedly from the natural, the expected, or the typical *syn* see FANTASTIC — **gro·tesque·ly** *adv* — **gro·tesque·ness** *n*

gro·tes·que·rie *also* **gro·tes·que·ry** \grō-'tes-kə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [*grotesque* + F *-erie* -ery] (ca. 1666) **1** : something that is grotesque **2** : the quality or state of being grotesque : GROTESQUENESS

grot·to \'grä-(ˌ)tō\ *n, pl* **grottoes** *also* **grottos** [It *grotta, grotto,* fr. L *crypta* cavern, crypt] (1617) **1** : CAVE **2** : an artificial recess or structure made to resemble a natural cave

grot·ty \'grä-tē\ *adj* **grot·ti·er; -est** [origin unknown] (1964) *chiefly Brit* : wretchedly shabby : of poor quality; *also* : FILTHY, GROSS

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