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bound or protecting an area **3**: outer limits — often used in
4: the part of a basketball court outside the three-point line
mou·se \mper-ə-mī-zhē-əm, -zē-/ *n*, *pl* **-sia** \zhē-ə, -zē-/ [NL,
fr. *per-* + Gk *mys* mouse, muscle — more at **MOUSE**] (ca. 1842)
the connective-tissue sheath that surrounds a muscle and forms
paths for the bundles of muscle fibers
birth \ˈnā-pɪ/ *adj* (1952) : occurring in, concerned with, or being
the period around the time of birth (< mortality >) (< care > —
maternal-y \-tʃ-(l)-dē/ *adv*)
bi·na-to·logy \mper-ə-nā-ˈtā-lō-jē/ *n* (1969) : a branch of medicine
concerned with perinatal care — **peri-na-tol-o-gist** \-jɪst/ *n*
per-i-ne-um \mper-ə-nē-əm/ *n*, *pl* **-nea** \-nē-ə/ [ME, fr. LL *périnaion*,
Gk, *fr.* *peri-* + *inan* to empty out; perh. akin to Skt *iṣṇāti* he sets in
motion] (15c) : an area of tissue that marks externally the approximate
boundary of the outlet of the pelvis and gives passage to the urinogen-
ital ducts and rectum; also : the area between the anus and the posteri-
or part of the external genitalia — **per-i-ne-al** \-nē-əl/ *adj*
per-i-neu·m \mper-ə-nūr-ē-əm, -nyūr-/ *n*, *pl* **-ria** \-ē-ə/ [NL, fr. *peri-*
Gk *neuron* nerve — more at **NERVE**] (ca. 1842) : the connective-
tissue sheath that surrounds a bundle of nerve fibers
pe·ri·od \pɪr-ē-əd/ *n* [ME *periode*, fr. MF, fr. ML, L, & Gk; ML *perio-*
period of time, punctuation mark, fr. L & Gk; L, rhetorical period,
Gk *períodos* circuit, period of time, rhetorical period, fr. *peri-* + *ho-*
way] (ca. 1530) **1** : the completion of a cycle, a series of events, or
another action : CONCLUSION **2 a** (1) : an utterance from one full stop
to another : SENTENCE **(2)** : a well-proportioned sentence of several
clauses **(3)** : PERIODIC SENTENCE **b** : a musical structure or melodic
sequence usu. composed of two or more contrasting or complementary
phrases and ending with a cadence **3 a** : the full pause with which the
utterance of a sentence closes **b** : END, STOP **4 obs** : GOAL, PURPOSE
a (1) : a point, used to mark the end (as of a declarative sentence or
an abbreviation) **(2)** — used interjectionally to emphasize the finality
of the preceding statement (I don't remember — ~) **b** : a rhythmic
unit in Greek verse composed of a series of two or more cola **6 a** : a
portion of time determined by some recurring phenomenon **b** (1)
the interval of time required for a cyclic motion or phenomenon to
complete a cycle and begin to repeat itself **(2)** : a number *k* that does
not change the value of a periodic function *f* when added to the inde-
pendent variable; esp : the smallest such number **c** : a single cyclic oc-
currence of menstruation **7 a** : a chronological division : STAGE **b**
division of geologic time longer than an epoch and included in an era
c : a stage of culture having a definable place in time and space
d : one of the divisions of the academic day **e** : one of the divisions
of the playing time of a game
EPOCH, EPOCH, ERA, AGE mean a division of time. PERIOD may
designate an extent of time of any length (*periods* of economic pros-
perity). EPOCH applies to a period begun or set off by some significant
or striking quality, change, or series of events (< the steam engine
marked a new epoch in industry>). ERA suggests a period of history
marked by a new or distinct order of things (< the era of global commu-
nications>). AGE is used frequently of a fairly definite period domi-
nated by a prominent figure or feature (< the age of Samuel Johnson>).
period *adj* (1905) : of, relating to, or representing a particular historical
period (~ furniture) (~ costumes)
peri-od-ic \pɪr-ē-dik/ *adj* (1642) **1 a** : occurring or recurring at
regular intervals **b** : occurring repeatedly from time to time **2**

PERIODIC TABLE

This is a common long form of the table. Roman numerals and letters heading the vertical columns indicate the groups. (There are differences of opinion regarding the letter designations, but those given here are probably the most generally used. Also, international standards favor numbering the groups 1-18 from left to right using Arabic numerals, but the designations shown below remain quite common.) The horizontal rows represent the periods, with two series removed from the two very long periods and represented below the main table. Atomic numbers are given above the symbols for the elements. Compare ELEMENT table.

														VIIA ³	VIIIA ⁴		
IIA ²												IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	I H	2 He
4 Be												5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
12 Mg		IIIB	IVB	VB	VIB	VIIIB	VIII			IB	IIIB	13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr	
38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe	
56 Ba	57 *La	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn	
88 Ra	89 *Ac	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn							
LANTHANIDE SERIES		58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu		
ACTINIDE SERIES		90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr		

Group IIA (excluding hydrogen) comprises the alkali metals.
Group IIA comprises the alkaline earth metals.

^a Group VIIA (excluding hydrogen) comprises the halogens.

^d Group VIIIA (also called group Zero) comprises the noble gases.