

¹pinion

noun | pin·ion | \ˈpin-yən\

Examples: **PINION** in a Sentence ☐

Definition of PINION

- 1 : the terminal section of a bird's wing including the carpus, metacarpus, and phalanges; *broadly* : **WING**
- 2 : **FEATHER, QUILL**; *also* : **FLIGHT FEATHERS**

—pinioned \ˈpin-yənd\ *adjective*

NEW! Time Traveler

First Known Use: 15th century

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Origin and Etymology of PINION

Middle English, probably modification of Anglo-French **empignon*, *enpenoun* flight feathers, ultimately from Vulgar Latin **pinnion-*, *pinnio*, from Latin *pinna* feather — more at [PEN](#)

NEW! Time Traveler

First Known Use: 15th century

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²pinion



DEFINITION OF PINION

transitive verb

- 1 a : to disable or restrain by binding the arms
 b : to bind fast : **SHACKLE**
- 2 : to restrain (a bird) from flight especially by cutting off the pinion of one wing

See *pinion* defined for English-language learners

Examples of PINION in a Sentence

They *pinioned* his arms behind his back.

Joan of Arc was *pinioned* to a stake and burned as a heretic.

First Known Use of PINION

1558

PINION Synonyms

Synonyms

chain, enchain, enfetter, fetter, gyve, handcuff, manacle, bind, shackle, trammel

- 1 : a gear with a small number of teeth designed to mesh with a larger wheel or rack
- 2 : the smaller of a pair or the smallest of a train of gear wheels

Origin and Etymology of PINION

French *pignon*, from Middle French *peignon*, from *peigne* comb, from Latin *pecten* — more at **PECTINATE**

Other Mechanical Engineering Terms

centrifuge, differential, flange, lathe, linchpin, plenum, ratchet, traction

PINION Defined for English Language Learners

pinion
verb

Definition of PINION for English Language Learners

: to tie up (someone's arms or legs) very tightly

PINION Defined for Kids

pinion



DEFINITION OF PINION for Students

pinioned; pinioning

- 1 : to restrain by tying the arms to the body
- 2 : to tie up or hold tightly • The guards *pinioned* the prisoner's arms.
- 3 : to prevent a bird from flying especially by cutting off the end of one wing

Learn More about PINION

See [words that rhyme with pinion](#)

Thesaurus: [All synonyms and antonyms for pinion](#)

Spanish Central: [Translation of pinion](#)

Nglish: [Translation of pinion for Spanish speakers](#)

Britannica English: [Translation of pinion for Arabic speakers](#)

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Seen and Heard

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WORD OF THE DAY

perfunctory

done merely as a duty

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TRENDING NOW

1 repugnant

Trump clarifies his position on racism

2 white nationalist, white supremacist

Trending in 2017

3 bereft

"Lacking something needed, wanted, or expected"

4 impanel

"To choose people to serve on a jury"

5 cosmopolitan

"Worldly"

[SEE ALL](#)

BROWSE DICTIONARY

niniest



pinion

pinioned

pinion end

TEST YOUR VOCABULARY

Time Traveler Quiz: Which Word Came First?

time-traveler-quiz-
which-word-came-first

Which came first?

sarcastic

snarky

Name
That Thing

Test your visual vocabulary with our 10-question challenge!

TAKE THE QUIZ

Word
Winder's
CrossWinder

Test Your Knowledge - and learn some interesting things along the way.

TAKE THE QUIZ

WORDS AT PLAY



alt-599492594f435

How 'Wonderful' Lost Its
Sense of Wonder



Don't Let Reading This Be Another 'Coulda' 'Shoulda' 'Woulda'

PSA: They're three separate words.



image1458426927

Food Words for Strong Flavors

A tasting menu of vivid flavor descriptions

ASK THE EDITORS



video-title-words-of-the-year-1066



payday

How Often Is 'Biweekly'?

Don't get us started on 'bimonthly'



video-irregardless-grammar-
peeve-blend-of-the-synonyms-
irrespective-and-regardless

Irregardless

It is in fact a real word (but that
doesn't mean you should use it).

WORD GAMES



time-traveler-quiz-which-word-
came-first



Which word entered the English
language first?
TAKE THE QUIZ



name-more-food

Name More Food!

Test your knowledge of food
vocabulary!
TAKE THE QUIZ



Name That Thing

Name That Thing

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our 10-question challenge!
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