



automatic

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automatic 1 of 2 adjective

 au-to·mat·ic (,ô-tə-'ma-tik ◀▶)
[Synonyms of automatic >](#)

- 1 a** : largely or wholly involuntary
especially : **REFLEX sense 5**
automatic blinking of the eyelids
- b** : acting or done spontaneously or unconsciously
 the *automatic* applause of the audience
- c** : done or produced as if by machine : **MECHANICAL**
 the answers were *automatic*
- 2** : having a self-acting or self-regulating mechanism
 an *automatic* transmission
- 3 of a firearm** : firing repeatedly until the trigger is released

(,ô-tə-'ma-ti-k(ə)-lē ◀▶) **adverb**
(,ô-tə-mə-'ti-sə-tē ◀▶) **-ma-** **noun**

automatic 2 of 2 noun

- 1** : a machine or apparatus that operates [automatically](#)
especially : an automatic firearm



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3 American football : AUDIBLE

Adjective

instinctive

instinctual

involuntary

knee-jerk

mechanic

mechanical

robotic

spontaneous

[See All Synonyms & Antonyms in Thesaurus](#)

Choose the Right Synonym for *automatic*

SPONTANEOUS, **IMPULSIVE**, **INSTINCTIVE**, **AUTOMATIC**, **MECHANICAL** mean acting or activated without deliberation.

SPONTANEOUS implies lack of prompting and connotes naturalness.
a spontaneous burst of applause

IMPULSIVE implies acting under stress of emotion or spirit of the moment.
impulsive acts of violence

INSTINCTIVE stresses action involving neither judgment nor will.
blinking is an *instinctive* reaction

AUTOMATIC implies action engaging neither the mind nor the emotions and



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a *mechanical* teaching method

Adjective

Without thinking, he gave an **automatic** reply.

She always has an **automatic** smile for everyone.

Noun

Will your next car be a manual or an **automatic**?

Recent Examples on the Web

 Examples are automatically compiled from online sources to show current usage. [Read More](#)

Adjective

In one report broadcast on Israel's Channel 12, Israeli soldiers can be seen working hand in hand with Syrian villagers to collect boxes of artillery rounds, **automatic** weapons, grenade launchers and other armaments.

— Uriel Heilman, *New York Daily News*, 2 Mar. 2025

Hashtag United currently lead the division by three points and sit in the **automatic** promotion place into the second tier of the women's game in England, the FA Women's Championship.

— Asif Burhan, *Forbes*, 1 Mar. 2025

Noun

There were, at most, two **automatics** on the pad at any time for as many as twenty



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The gearbox offerings will likely include 6-speed manuals and 6-speed **automatics**.

— Michael Harley, *Forbes*, 30 Nov. 2024

[See All Example Sentences for *automatic*](#)

Etymology

Adjective

borrowed from New Latin *automaticus*, from Latin *automatum* "contrivance with a hidden mechanism that appears to operate on its own" (borrowed from Greek *autómaton*) + *-icus* [-IC entry 1](#) — more at [AUTOMATON](#)

Noun

derivative of [AUTOMATIC entry 1](#)

First Known Use

Adjective

1686, in the meaning defined at [sense 1a](#)

Noun

1870, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Time Traveler

The first known use of *automatic* was in 1686

[See more words from the same year](#)



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automatic pilot	automatic teller
automatic teller machine	automatic transmission
automatic writing	Browning automatic rifle

achromatic

acrobatic

adriatic

aliphatic

antistatic

aromatic

astigmatic

autocratic

bureaucratic

charismatic

cholestatic

cinematic

[See All Rhymes for *automatic*](#)

automated teller machine

automatic

automatic block signal

[See All Nearby Words](#)



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Style

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automatic ^{1 of 2} adjective

au·to·mat·ic (ˌɒt-ə-'mat-ik )

1 a : largely or wholly involuntary

especially : **REFLEX sense 2**

b : acting or done without conscious thought or intention

an automatic smile

2 : having devices or mechanisms that permit operation without help from a person

automatic washer

3 : firing repeatedly until the trigger is released



adjective 2 Synonyms Synonym Chooser Example Sentences Word History Ph

automatic 2 of 2 noun

: an automatic machine or device

especially : an automatic firearm

automatic adjective

au·to·mat·ic

: happening or existing through the operation of a preexisting arrangement that is triggered by some event

specifically : happening or existing through the operation of law

automatic reversal

an *automatic* appeal

adverb

English: [Translation of automatic for Spanish Speakers](#)

Last Updated: 5 Mar 2025 - Updated example sentences



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MERRIAM-WEBSTER UNABRIDGED



Quordle

W	O	R	D	Y
L	O	V	E	R
P	L	A	Y	S
D	A	I	L	Y

Can you solve 4 words at once?

Play



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Quordle

Can you solve 4 words at once?

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Blossom Word Game

Pick the best words!

[Play](#)

Missing Letter

A daily crossword with a twist

[Play](#)

Challenging Standardized Test Words Quiz Vol. 3

You're on your own for the math
section.

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