



Webster's
New
Collegiate
Dictionary

A Merriam-Webster®

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partial derivative *n*: the derivative of a function of several variables with respect to one of them and with the remaining variables treated as constants

partial differential equation *n*: a differential equation containing at least one partial derivative

partial differentiation *n*: the process of finding a partial derivative

partial fraction *n*: one of the simpler fractions into the sum of which the quotient of two polynomials may be decomposed

partial-ity \pär-shē-'al-ē, pär-'shal-ē *n*, *pl* -ties 1: the quality or state of being partial: **BIAS** 2: a special taste or liking

partially ordered *adj*: having some but not all elements connected by a relation that is transitive and not symmetric

partial pressure *n*: the pressure exerted by a (specified) component in a mixture of gases

partial product *n*: a product obtained by multiplying a multiplier by one digit of a multiplier with more than one digit

part-ible \pär-'ə-bəl *adj*: capable of being parted: **DIVISIBLE**

particip-ant \pär-'tis-ə-pənt, pär-ē *n*: one that participates — **participant** *adj*

particip-ate \pär-'tis-ə-pāt, pär-ē *vb* -pat-ed; -pat-ing [*L. participatus*, pp. of *participare*, fr. *particip-*, *particeps* participant, fr. *parti-*, *pars* part + *capere* to take — more at **HEAVE**] *vt*, *archaic*

PARTAKE ~ *vi* 1: to possess something of the nature of a person, thing, or quality 2 *a*: to take part (always tried to ~ in class discussions) *b*: to have a part or share in something *syn* see **SHARE** — **particip-ative** \-pät-iv *adj* — **particip-ator** \-pät-ər *n*

particip-ation \pär-'tis-ə-pä-shən, (-)pär-ē *n* 1: the act of participating 2: the state being related to a larger whole

particip-atory \pär-'tis-ə-pə-tōr-ē, pär-, -tōr-ē *adj*: characterized by or involving participation; *esp*: providing the opportunity for individual participation (~ democracy)

particip-ial \pär-'tis-ē-əl *adj* [*L. participialis*, fr. *participium*] : of, relating to, or formed with or from a participle — **particip-ially** \-ē-ē-ē *adv*

particip-iple \pär-'tis-ē-pəl *n* [*ME*, fr. *MF*, modif. of *L. participium*, fr. *particip-*, *particeps*] : a word having the characteristics of both verb and adjective; *esp*: an English verbal form that has the function of an adjective and at the same time shows such verbal features as tense and voice and capacity to take an object

particle \pär-'i-kəl *n* [*ME*, fr. *L. particula*, fr. dim. of *part-*, *pars*] 1 *archaic*: a clause or article of a composition or document 2: one of the minute subdivisions of matter (as an atom or molecule); also: **ELEMENTARY PARTICLE** 3 *a*: a minute quantity or fragment *b*: a relatively small or the smallest possible discrete portion or amount of something 4 *a*: a unit of speech expressing some general aspect of meaning or some connective or limiting relation and including the articles, most prepositions and conjunctions, and some interjections and adverbs *b*: an element that resembles a word but that is used only in composition (as *un-* in *unfair* and *-ward* in *backward*) 5: a small eucharistic wafer distributed to a Roman Catholic layman at Communion

particle board *n*: a composition board made of very small pieces of wood bonded together (as with a synthetic resin)

particle physics *n*: **HIGH-ENERGY PHYSICS**

parti-colored \pär-'ē-kəl-ərd *adj* [*obs.* *E. party* (parti-colored) + *E. colored*] : showing different colors or tints (~ threads)

partic-ular \pär-'tik-yə-lər *adj* [*ME* *particular*, fr. *MF*, fr. *LL* *particularis*, fr. *L. particula* small part] 1: of, relating to, or being a single person or thing (the ~ person I had in mind) 2 *obs*: **PARTIAL** 3: of, relating to, or concerned with details (gave us a very ~ account of her day) 4 *a*: distinctive among others of the same general category (suffered from measles of ~ severity) *b*: being one unit or element among others (~ incidents in the account seem contrived) 5 *a*: being a particular in logic *b*: affirming or denying a predicate to a part of the subject — used of a proposition in logic ("some men are wise" is a ~ affirmative) 6 *a*: concerned over or attentive to details: **METICULOUS** (a very ~ housekeeper) *b*: nice in taste: **FASTIDIOUS** *c*: hard to please: **EXACTING** *syn* 1 see **SINGLE** *ant* general 2 see **SPECIAL** 3 see **CIRCUMSTANTIAL** 4 see **NICE**

particular *n* 1 *archaic*: a separate part of a whole 2 *a*: an individual fact, point, circumstance, or detail *b*: a specific item or detail of information or news (bill of ~s) 3 *a*: an individual or a specific subclass in logic falling under some general concept or term *b*: a particular proposition in logic *syn* see **ITEM** — in **particular**: in distinction from others: **SPECIFICALLY**

partic-ular-ism \pär-'tik-yə-lə-'riz-əm, pär-ē *n* 1: exclusive or special devotion to a particular interest 2: a political theory that each political group has a right to promote its own interests and *esp*: independence without regard to the interests of larger groups 3: a tendency to explain complex social phenomena in terms of a single causative factor — **partic-ular-ist** \-rəst *n* — **partic-ular-ly** \-tik-yə-lə-'rē-tik *adv*

partic-ular-ity \pär-'tik-yə-lər-ē-tē, (-)pär-ē *n*, *pl* -ties 1 *a*: a minute detail: **PARTICULAR** *b*: an individual characteristic: **PECULIARITY**; also: **SINGULARITY** 2 *a*: the quality or state of being particular as opposed to universal *b*: attentiveness to detail: **EXACTNESS** *c*: the quality or state of being fastidious in behavior or expression

partic-ular-iza-tion \-yə-lə-'zā-shən *n*: the act of particularizing — the condition of being particularized

partic-ular-ize \pär-'tik-yə-lə-'rīz, pär-ē *vb* -ized; -iz-ing *vt*: to state in detail: **SPECIFY** ~ *vi*: to go into details

partic-ular-ly \pär-'tik-yə-lə-'lē, pär-'tik-yə-lə-'lē *adv* 1: in a particular manner: in detail 2: to an unusual degree

partic-ulate \pär-'tik-yə-lət, pär-, -lāt *adj* [*L. particula*] : of or relating to minute separate particles

particulate *n*: a particulate substance

particulate inheritance *n*: inheritance of characters specif. transmitted by genes in accord with Mendel's laws

part-ing \pär-'tīŋ *n*: a place or point where a division or separation occurs — **parting of the ways** 1: a point of separation or divergence 2: a place or time at which a choice must be made

parting *adj*: given, taken, or performed at parting (a ~ kiss)

par-ti pris \pär-'tē-'prē *n*, *pl* **par-tis pris** \-tē-'prē(z) [F, lit., side taken]: a preconceived opinion: **PREJUDICE**, **BIAS** — **parti pris** *adj*

par-ti-san or **par-ti-zan** \pär-'ə-zən, -sən *n* [*MF* *partisan*, fr. *Olt* *partigiano*, fr. *parte* part, party, fr. *L. part-*, *pars* part] 1: a firm adherent to a party, faction, cause, or person; *esp*: one exhibiting blind, prejudiced, and unreasoning allegiance 2 *a*: a member of a body of detached light troops making forays and harassing an enemy *b*: a member of a guerrilla band operating within enemy lines *syn* see **FOLLOWER** — **partisan** *adj* — **par-ti-san-ship** \-ship *n*

partisan or **partizan** *n* [*MF* *partisane*, fr. *Olt* *partigiana*, fem. of *partigiano*] : a weapon of the 16th and 17th centuries with long shaft and broad blade

par-ti-ta \pär-'tē-tə *n* [*It.* fr. *partire*, to divide, fr. *L.* — more at **PART**] 1: **VARIATION** 5 2: **SUITE** 2b(1)

par-ti-tle \pär-'tīt *adj* [*L. partitus*, fr. pp. of *partire*] 1: divided into a usu. specified number of parts 2: **PARTED** 1b (a ~ leaf)

par-ti-tion \pär-'tish-ən, pär-ē *n* 1 *a*: the action of parting: the state of being parted: **DIVISION** *b* (1): separation of a class or whole into constituent elements (2): the separation of a set (as the points of a line) into subsets such that every element belongs to one set and no two subsets have an element in common 2: something that divides; *esp*: an interior dividing wall 3: one of the parts or sections of a whole — **par-ti-tion-ist** \-tish-(ə-)nəst *n*

partition *vt* 1 *a*: to divide into parts or shares *b*: to divide (as a country) into two or more territorial units having separate political status 2: to separate or divide by a partition (as a wall) — often used with *off* (~ed off a closet from the storage area) — **partition-er** \-tish-(ə-)nər *n*

par-ti-tion-ist \-tish-(ə-)nəst *n*: an advocate of political partition

par-ti-tive \pär-'tē-tiv *adj* 1: serving to part or divide into parts 2 *a*: of, relating to, or denoting a part (a ~ construction) *b*: serving to indicate the whole of which a part is specified (~ genitive) — **par-ti-tive-ly** *adv*

part-let \pär-'lət *n* [*ME* (Sc) *patelet*, fr. *MF* *patelette*, fr. dim. of *pate* paw]: a 16th century chemisette with a band or collar

part-ly \pär-'lē *adv*: in some measure or degree: **PARTIALLY**

part-ner \pär-'nər, as a term of address often 'pär-d-ē *n* [*ME* *partener*, alter. of *parcener*, fr. *AF*, *coparcener* — more at **PARCENER**] 1 *archaic*: one that shares: **PARTAKER** 2 *a*: **ASSOCIATE**, **COLLEAGUE** *b*: either of a couple who dance together *c*: one of two or more persons who play together in a game against an opposing side *d*: **HUSBAND**, **WIFE** 3: a member of a partnership 4: one of the heavy timbers that strengthen a ship's deck to support a mast — usu. used in pl.

partner *vi* 1: to join as partner 2: to provide with a partner ~ *vi*: to act as a partner

part-ner-ship \-ship *n* 1: the state of being a partner: **PARTICIPATION** 2 *a*: a legal relation existing between two or more persons contractually associated as joint principals in a business *b*: the persons joined together in a partnership 3: a relationship resembling a legal partnership and usu. involving close cooperation between parties having specified and joint rights and responsibilities (as in a common enterprise)

part of speech: a traditional class of words distinguished according to the kind of idea denoted and the function performed in a sentence: **MAJOR FORM CLASS**

par-ton \pär-'tän *n* [*part* + *-on*] : a hypothetical particle that is held to be a constituent of nucleons

par-tridge \pär-'trij, dial or archaic 'pa-trij *n*, *pl* **partridge** or **partridge-s** [*ME* *partrich*, modif. of *OF* *perdris*, modif. of *L. perdix*, *perdix*] 1: any of various typically medium-sized stout-bodied Old World gallinaceous game birds (as the American ruffed grouse or bobwhite) somewhat like the Old World partridges in size, habits, or value as game

par-tridge-ber-ry \-ber-ē *n*: an American trailing evergreen plant (*Mitchella repens*) of the madder family with insipid scarlet berries; also: its fruit

part-song \pär-'sŏŋ *n*: a usu. unaccompanied song consisting of two or more voice parts with one part carrying the melody

part-time \pär-'tīm *adj*: involving or working less than customary or standard hours (a ~ job) (~ students) — **part-time** *adv*

par-tu-ri-ent \pär-'t(y)ūr-ē-ənt *adj* [*L. parturiens*, prp. of *parturire* to be in labor, fr. *parere* to produce — more at **PARE**] 1 *a*: bringing forth or about to bring forth young *b*: of or relating to parturition 2: being at the point of producing something (as an idea, discovery, or literary work)

parturient *n*: a parturient individual

par-tu-ri-tion \pär-'tū-rish-ən, pär-'chə-, pär-'tyū-ē *n* [*LL* *parturition*, *parturitiō*, fr. *L. parturitus*, pp. of *parturire*] : the action or process of giving birth to offspring

part-way \pär-'wā *adv*: to some extent: **PARTIALLY**, **PARTLY**

part-y \pär-'ē *n*, *pl* **parties** [*ME* *partie* part, party, fr. *OF*, fr. *partir* to divide — more at **PART**] 1: a person or group taking one



partridge 1

a	about	* kitten	or further	a	back	ā	bake	ā	cot, cart
au	out	ch	chin	e	less	ē	easy	g	gift
j	joke	ŋ	sing	ō	flow	ó	flaw	oi	coin
ü	loot	ù	foot	y	yet	yü	few	yü	furious
								zh	vision