



cover ^{1 of 2} verb

cov·er 'kə-vər

covered; covering 'kəv-rɪŋ 'kə-və-

[Synonyms of cover >](#)

transitive verb

1 a : to guard from attack

b (1) : to have within the range of one's guns : **COMMAND**

The ships were *covering* approaches to the harbor.

(2) : to hold within range of an aimed firearm

The deputy *covered* the sheriff who was apprehending the suspect.

c (1) : to afford protection or security to : **INSURE**

a policy *covering* the traveler in all kinds of accidents

(2) : to afford protection against or compensation (see **COMPENSATION sense 2**) for

a policy *covering* loss by fire

d (1) : to guard (an opponent) in order to obstruct a play

a linebacker assigned to *cover* the tight end

(2) : to be in position to receive a throw to (a base in baseball)

The shortstop was *covering* second.

e (1) : to make provision for (a demand or charge) by means of a reserve or deposit

Your balance is insufficient to *cover* the check.

(2) : to maintain a check on especially by patrolling

motorcycle police *covering* the highways



Dictionary

Thesaurus

b : to lie over : **ENVELOP**a blanket *covering* her legs**3** : to lay or spread something over : **OVERLAY***Cover* the seedbed with straw.**4 a** : to spread overSnow *covered* the hills.**b** : to appear here and there on the surface ofa region *covered* with lakes**5** : to place or set a cover or **covering** over*Cover* the pot.**6 a** : to copulate with (a female animal)a horse *covers* a mare**b** : to sit on and incubate (eggs)**7** : to invest with a large or excessive amount of something*covered* herself with glory**8** : to play a higher-ranking card on (a previously played card)**9** : to have sufficient scope to include or take into accountan examination *covering* a full year's work**10** : to deal with : **TREAT**material *covered* in the first chapter



Dictionary

Thesaurus

12 : to pass over : **TRAVERSE**The hikers *covered* 12 miles that day.**13** : to defray the cost of*cover* expenses**14** : to place one's stake in equal jeopardy within a bet**15** : to buy securities or commodities for delivery against (an earlier short sale)**16** : to record or perform a cover of (a song)***intransitive verb*****1** : to conceal something illicit, blameworthy, or embarrassing from notice → usually used with *up**cover up* for a careless coworker**2** : to act as a substitute or replacement during an absencea stand-in *covering* for an injured star'kəv-rə-bəl  'kə-və- **adjective**'kə-vər-ər  **noun****cover** 2 of 2 **noun****often attributive****1** : something that protects, shelters, or guards: such as**a** : natural shelter for an animal*also* : the factors that provide such shelter



Dictionary

Thesaurus

2 : something that is placed over or about another thing:

a : **LID, TOP**

b : a binding or case for a book or the analogous part of a magazine

also : the front or back of such a binding

c : an overlay or outer layer especially for protection

a mattress *cover*

d : a tablecloth and the other table accessories

e : **COVER CHARGE**

f : **ROOF**

g : a cloth used on a bed for warmth or for decoration → usually used in plural
lying under the *covers*

h : something (such as vegetation or snow) that **covers** the ground

i : the extent to which clouds obscure the sky

3 a : something that conceals or obscures

under *cover* of darkness

b : a masking device : **PRETEXT**

The project was a *cover* for intelligence operations.

4 : an envelope or wrapper for mail

5 : one who substitutes for another during an absence

6 : a recording or performance of a song previously recorded by another performer

'kə-vər-ləs  **adjective**

Phrases



Dictionary

Thesaurus

: to deal with a subject or assignment in a particular manner

The new book *covers* a lot of *ground*.

under cover

1 : in an envelope or wrapper

2 : under concealment : in secret

Verb[fill in](#)[pinch-hit](#)[stand in](#)[step in](#)[sub](#)[substitute](#)[take over](#)**Noun**[cap](#)[lid](#)[top](#)[See All Synonyms & Antonyms in Thesaurus](#)



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We **covered** the stains on the wall with a fresh coat of paint.

[See More](#) ▾

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

Verb

Sessions will **cover** safety and situational awareness and include basic self-defense skills.

— Michelle Mullins, *Chicago Tribune*, 15 May 2025

Kaye previously **covered** the entire NFL for Pro Football Network, the Philadelphia Eagles for NJ Advance Media and the Jacksonville Jaguars for First Coast News.

— Mike Kaye, *Charlotte Observer*, 15 May 2025

Noun

Import and warehousing procedures are often exploited to provide **cover** for the illicit movement of goods.

— Mark Littler, *Forbes.com*, 16 May 2025

Earlier this week, the couple was spotted in New York City walking with Lively's sister Robyn, 53, plus Hayek Pinault, whose Sports Illustrated Swimsuit **cover** debuted earlier the same day.

— Hannah Sacks, *People.com*, 16 May 2025

[See All Example Sentences for cover](#)



Dictionary

Thesaurus

verb and noun

Middle English, from Anglo-French *coverir*, *covrir*, from Latin *cooperire*, from *co-* + *operire* to close, cover

First Known Use**Verb**

13th century, in the meaning defined at [transitive sense 1a](#)

Noun

14th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Time Traveler

The first known use of *cover* was in the 13th century

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

[air cover](#)[blow one's cover](#)[break cover](#)[cloud cover](#)[cover-all](#)[cover all the bases](#)[cover band](#)[cover charge](#)[cover crop](#)[cover every base](#)[cover girl](#)[cover glass](#)



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[hover](#)[plover](#)[discover](#)[hardcover](#)[recover](#)[thereover](#)[uncover](#)[rediscover](#)[undercover](#)[See All Rhymes for *cover*](#)[co-venture](#)**cover**[cover address](#)[See All Nearby Words](#)

Words From 1921: 100 Years Old and...

From goons to abominable snowmen



Dictionary

Thesaurus

Style

MLA

"Cover." *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cover>. Accessed 23 May. 2025.

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cover 1 of 2 verb

cov·er 'kəv-ər covered; covering 'kəv-(ə-)rɪŋ **1 a** : to guard from attack**b** : to have within range of one's guns



Dictionary

Thesaurus

state police *covering* the highways

2 a : to hide something from sight or knowledge

cover up a scandal

b : to conceal something dishonest or embarrassing from notice

cover for a friend in an investigation

c : to act as a substitute or replacement

covered for me during my vacation

3 a : to spread or lie over or on

covered the child with a blanket

water *covered* the floor

b : to put something protective or concealing over

cover the mouth while coughing

4 a : to deal with

a test *covering* two chapters

b : to provide or plan for

plans *covering* an emergency

5 a : to have as one's territory or field of activity

one salesperson *covers* the whole state

b : to report news about

covered the trial

6 : to pass over or through

covered 10 miles a day



Dictionary

Thesaurus

-ər-ər **noun**

cover 2 of 2 **noun**

- 1** : something that protects, shelters, or conceals (as a natural shelter for an animal or natural features that shelter or conceal)
- 2** **a** : something that is placed over or about another thing (as the lid of a box or a sheet or blanket on a bed)
b : a binding or case for a book or the front or back of such a binding
c : something (as plants or snow) that covers the ground
- 3** : an envelope or wrapper for mail

cover 1 of 2 **transitive verb**

cov·er

- 1** : **INSURE**
this policy *covers* other family drivers
- 2** : to give protection against or compensation or indemnification for
doesn't *cover* flood damage

intransitive verb

- : to obtain cover
where the seller anticipatorily repudiates a contract and the buyer does not *cover*



Dictionary

Thesaurus

fails to fulfill the contract

the buyer is always free to choose between *cover* and damages for nondelivery

— *Uniform Commercial Code*

also : the substituted goods

NOTE: Under the Uniform Commercial Code, when a seller does not perform on a contract, the buyer has the option of covering, with the seller paying the difference between the cost of the cover and the original contract price, or seeking damages for nonperformance. Reselling is the seller's comparable remedy when a buyer does not perform under a contract.

Nglish: [Translation of cover for Spanish Speakers](#)

Last Updated: 18 May 2025 - Updated example sentences

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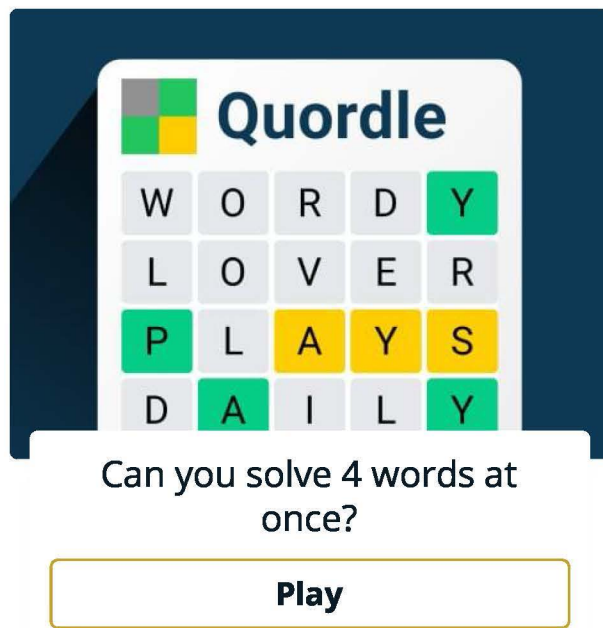
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Missing Letter

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fits the clue...**Take the quiz****See All****Learn a new word every day.
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