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crest 1 of 2 noun

'krest

Synonyms of *crest* ›

1 **a** : a showy tuft or process on the head of an animal and especially a bird

→ see bird illustration

b : the plume or identifying emblem worn on a knight's helmet

also : the top of a helmet

c (1) : a heraldic representation of the crest

(2) : a heraldic device depicted above the escutcheon (see ESCUTCHEON sense 1) but not upon a helmet

(3) : **COAT OF ARMS sense 2a**

d : a ridge or prominence on a part of an animal body

2 : something suggesting a crest especially in being an upper prominence, edge, or limit: such as

a : **PEAK**

especially : the top line of a mountain or hill

b : the ridge of a roof

c : the top of a wave

3 **a** : a high point of an action or process and especially of one that is rhythmic

b : **CLIMAX, CULMINATION**

at the *crest* of his fame

crestal 'kre-stəl adjective

crestless 'krest-ləs adjective

crest 2 of 2 verb

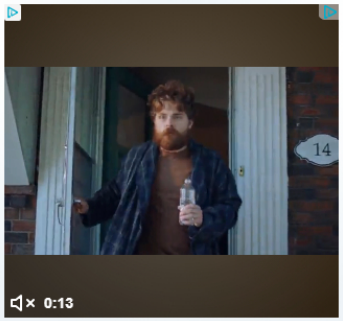
crested; cresting; crests

transitive verb

1 : to furnish with a crest

also : **CROWN**

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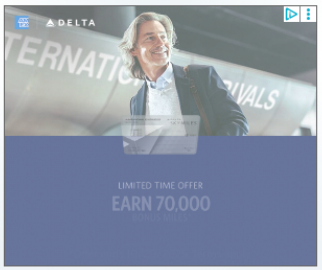




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WORD OF THE DAY

2 : to reach the crest of

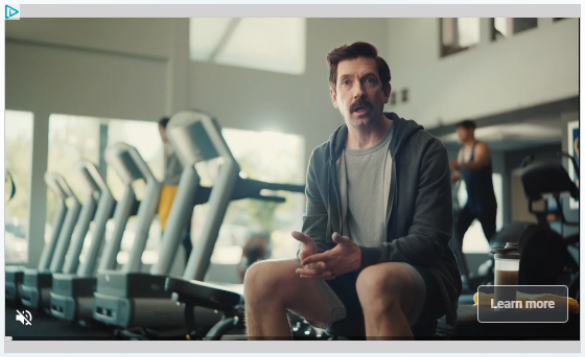
crested the hill and looked around

intransitive verb

: to rise to a crest

waves *cresting* in the storm

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flummox

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Synonyms

Noun

pinnacle, top, zenith, height, peak, culmination, apex

See All Synonyms & Antonyms in Thesaurus ›

Examples of *crest* in a Sentence

Noun

at that point the filmmaker was at the ***crest*** of his critical acclaim, which included winning an Oscar for best picture

the hiking party reached the ***crest*** of the mountain just as it began to thunder

Verb

We ***crested*** the hill and looked out around us.

Recent Examples on the Web

Examples are automatically compiled from online sources to show current usage. Opinions expressed in the examples do not represent those of Merriam-Webster or its editors. Send us feedback.

Noun

Bighorn Scenic Byway Wyoming Embrace your inner cowboy with a drive along the Bighorn Scenic Byway, which takes you over the ***crest*** of the Big Horn Mountains and to spots like the city of Sheridan, where New West meets Old West in the historic downtown.

– Beth Luberecki, *USA Today*, 6 Sep. 2025

Diamond Pattern The diamond pattern has been present in Japanese art since the ancient times, and is also the motif of the Okura family ***crest***.

– Isabelle Kliger, *Forbes.com*, 2 Sep. 2025

Verb

Fire progress slowed as the fire ***crested*** some of the initial ridges and began backing downhill.

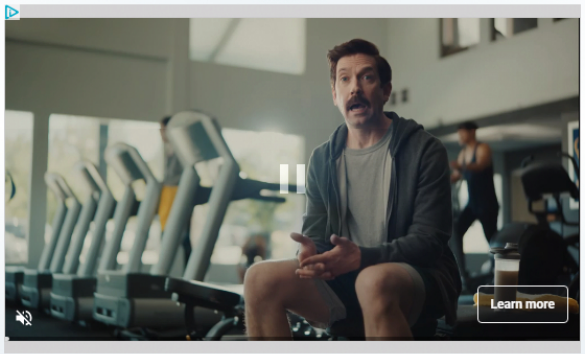
– Ca Wildfire Bot, *Sacbee.com*, 8 Sep. 2025

Both Pink Floyd and Black Sabbath ***crested*** in popularity in the 1970s, capturing die-hard fans amid the growing popularity of rock.

– Anna Kaufman, *USA Today*, 4 Sep. 2025

See All Example Sentences for *crest* ›

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Word History

Etymology

Noun and Verb

Middle English *creste*, from Anglo-French, from Latin *crista*; probably akin to Latin *crinis* hair

First Known Use

Noun

14th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1a

Verb

15th century, in the meaning defined at transitive sense 1

Time Traveler

The first known use of *crest* was in the 14th century

See more words from the same century

Phrases Containing *crest*

neural crest

Rhymes for *crest*

blessed	blest	breast
chest	dressed	fest
gest	geste	guessed
jest	lest	messed

See All Rhymes for *crest* ›

Browse Nearby Words

cressy	**crest**	crest clearance

See All Nearby Words ›

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"Crest." *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/crest. Accessed 12 Sep. 2025.

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Kids Definition

crest 1 of 2 noun

'krest

1 **a** : a showy growth (as of flesh or feathers) on the head of an animal

b : an emblem or design on a helmet (as of a knight) or over a coat of arms

2 : an upper part, edge, or limit

the *crest* of a hill

the *crest* of a wave

crested 'kres-təd adjective

crest 2 of 2 verb

1 : to give a crest to

2 : to reach the crest of

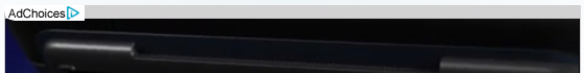
crest the hill

3 : to rise to a crest

sea waves *cresting*

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Medical Definition

crest noun

'krest

1 : a showy tuft or process on the head of an animal and especially a bird

2 : a process or prominence on a part of an animal body: as

a : the upper curve or ridge of the neck of a quadruped (as a horse)

also : the mane borne on such a crest

b : a ridge especially on a bone

the *crest* of the tibia

→ see FRONTAL CREST, OCCIPITAL CREST

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Nglish: Translation of *crest* for Spanish Speakers

Last Updated: 7 Sep 2025 - Updated example sentences

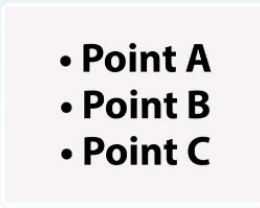
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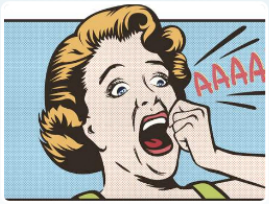
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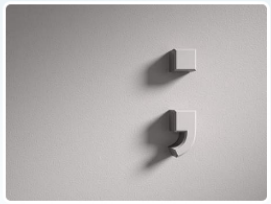
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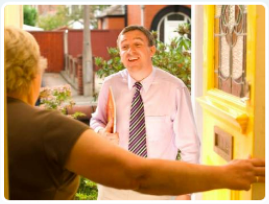
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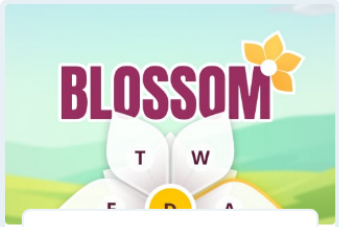
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Games & Quizzes

See All



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Can you solve 4 words at once?
Play



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Play



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