

The
AMERICAN
HERITAGE
dic·tion·ar·y
of
THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



THIRD EDITION

THE
AMERICAN
HERITAGE[®]
DICTIONARY
OF THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

THIRD EDITION



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY

Boston · New York

Words are included in this Dictionary on the basis of their usage. Words that are known to have current trademark registrations are shown with an initial capital and are also identified as trademarks. No investigation has been made of common-law trademark rights in any word, because such investigation is impracticable. The inclusion of any word in this Dictionary is not, however, an expression of the Publisher's opinion as to whether or not it is subject to proprietary rights. Indeed, no definition in this Dictionary is to be regarded as affecting the validity of any trademark.

American Heritage® and the eagle logo are registered trademarks of Forbes Inc. Their use is pursuant to a license agreement with Forbes Inc.

Houghton Mifflin Company gratefully acknowledges Mead Data Central, Inc., providers of the LEXIS®/NEXIS® services, for its assistance in the preparation of this edition of *The American Heritage® Dictionary*.

Copyright © 1996, 1992 by Houghton Mifflin Company.
All rights reserved.

No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system without the prior written permission of Houghton Mifflin Company unless such copying is expressly permitted by federal copyright law. Address inquiries to Reference Permissions, Houghton Mifflin Company, 222 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

The American heritage dictionary of the English language.
— 3rd ed.

p. cm.

ISBN 0-395-44895-6

1. English language—Dictionaries.

PE1628.A623 1992

423—dc20

92-851

CIP

Manufactured in the United States of America

For information about this and other Houghton Mifflin trade and reference books and multimedia products, visit The Bookstore at Houghton Mifflin on the World Wide Web at <http://www.hmco.com/trade/>.

