



surround



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surround 1 of 2 verb

sur·round (sə-'raʊnd)**surrounded; surrounding; surrounds**[Synonyms of surround >](#)*transitive verb***1 a (1)** : to enclose on all sides : **ENVELOP**the crowd *surrounded* her**(2)** : to enclose so as to cut off communication or retreat : **INVEST entry 2****b** : to form or be a member of the entourage of
flatterers who *surround* the king**c** : to constitute part of the environment of
surrounded by poverty**d** : to extend around the margin or edge of : **ENCIRCLE**
a wall *surrounds* the old city**2** : to cause to be **surrounded** by something
surrounded himself with friends

surround 2 of 2 noun

: something (such as a border or ambient environment) that **surrounds**
... from urban centre to rural *surround*.

— Emrys Jones


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Verb

[Relevance](#)

encircle

encompass

circle

embrace

ring

Noun

surroundings

environment

atmosphere

environs

climate

context

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

Verb

A wall **surrounds** the old city.

They had the suspect **surrounded**.

She was suddenly **surrounded** by a crowd of excited fans.

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— David McHugh, *Los Angeles Times*, 24 Feb. 2020

The **surrounding** area is pretty rural—forests, vineyards.

— Condé Nast, *Condé Nast Traveler*, 24 Feb. 2026

Noun

While not the biggest change from its forbear, the 40 Series face would go on to become iconic, its round headlights within a white grille **surround** defining the model in the public's eye.

— Will Sabel Courtney, *Robb Report*, 5 Feb. 2026

And yes, the infamous petri-dish smiley faces were plastered around the entire **surround**-screen as creator Vince Gilligan chatted with stars Rhea Seehorn, Karolina Wydra, Carlos-Manuel Vesga and Samba Schutte (who also moderated).

— Anthony D'alessandro, *Deadline*, 3 Feb. 2026

[See All Example Sentences for surround](#)

Etymology

Verb

Middle English, to flood, inundate, from Anglo-French *surunder*, from Late Latin *superundare*, to overflow, from Latin *super-* + *unda* wave; influenced in meaning by [ROUND entry 5](#) — more at [WATER](#)

First Known Use

Verb

circa 1616, in the meaning defined at [sense 1a\(1\)](#)

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TIME TRAVEL

The first known use of *surround* was circa 1616

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[aground](#)

[around](#)

[astound](#)

[background](#)

[campground](#)

[clothbound](#)

[confound](#)

[earthbound](#)

[eastbound](#)

[expound](#)

[fairground](#)

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



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verb 2 ✓ Synonyms Example Sentences Word History Phrases Containing Rhyme

surrogation

surround

surrounder

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Style

MLA

"Surround." *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/surround>. Accessed 26 Feb. 2026.

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: something (as a border) that surrounds

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