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New Oxford American Dictionary - Definition of Outward

The New Oxford American Dictionary

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chance a remote possibility. **outside of informal** beyond the boundaries of: a village 20 miles outside of New York. **■ apart from:** outside of his family, nobody cares too much about him.

USAGE Outside of tends to be more commonly used in the U.S. than in Britain, where outside usually suffices, but, like its cousin *off of*, it is colloquial and not recommended for formal writing. (See **usage at OFF**.) The adverb outside is not problematic when referring to physical space, position, etc. (*I'm going outside*), but the compound preposition **outside of** is often used as a colloquial (and often inferior) way of saying *except for*, *other than*, *apart from* (*outside of what I just mentioned, I can't think of any reason not to*).

Besides possibly sounding more informal than desired, **outside of** may cause misunderstanding by suggesting physical space or location when that is not the point to be emphasized, or when no such sense is intended—consider the ambiguity in this sentence: *outside of China, he has few interests*. Does this mean that his primary interest is China? Or does it mean that whenever he is not in China, he has few interests?

out-side in-ter-est *n.* an interest or hobby not connected with one's work or studies. **■ curiosity about a place, situation, or thing on the part of people unconnected with it:** this flurry of outside interest has put many locals on guard.

out-side line *n.* a telephone connection to an external dial tone, for outgoing calls.

out-side money *n.* Economics money held in a form such as gold that is an asset for the holder and does not represent a corresponding liability for someone else. **■ money or investment from an independent source.**

out-side-er */out'sider/ n.* **1** a person who does not belong to a particular group. **■ a person who is not accepted by or who is isolated from society.** **2** a competitor, applicant, etc., thought to have little chance of success: he started as a rank outsider for the title.

out-side-er art *n.* art produced by self-taught artists who are not part of the artistic establishment. —**out-side-er artist** *n.*

out-size */out'siz/ v. & adj.* (also **out-sized**) exceptionally large.

■ n. an exceptionally large person or thing, esp. a garment made to measurements larger than the standard.

out-skirts */out'skɜrts/ plural n.* the outer parts of a town or city: the park was built on the outskirts of New York in 1857. **■ the fringes of something:** he likes to be on the outskirts of a discussion.

out-smart */out'smɑrt/ v.* [trans.] informal defeat or get the better of (someone) by being clever or cunning: content with the illusion that they can outsmart the market.

out-sold */out'sold/ v.* past and past participle of **OUT-SELL**.

out-sole */out'sol/ n.* the outermost layer of the sole of a boot or shoe, esp. an athletic shoe.

out-source */out'sɔrs/ v.* [trans.] obtain (goods or a service) from an outside or foreign supplier, esp. in place of an internal source: **outsourcing** components from other countries | [as *n.*] **outsourcing** outsourcing can dramatically lower total costs. **■ contract (work) out or abroad:** you may choose to outsource this function to another company or do it yourself.

out-spoken */out'spəkn/ v. & adj.* frank in stating one's opinions, esp. if they are critical or controversial: he has been outspoken in his criticism. —**out-spoken-ly** *adv.* —**out-spoken-ness** *n.*

out-spread */out'spreɪd/ v. & adj.* fully extended or expanded: outspread arms.

■ v. (past and past part. **-spread**) [trans.] poetic/literary spread out: that eagle outspreading his wings for flight.

out-standing */out'stændɪŋ/ v. & adj.* **1** exceptionally good: the team's outstanding performance. **■ clearly noticeable:** works of outstanding banality. See note at **NOTICEABLE**. **2** remaining to be done or dealt with: how much work is still outstanding? **■ (of a debt) remaining to be paid or dealt with:** there was a small charge outstanding.

out-standing-ly */out'stændɪŋli/ v. & adv.* [usu. as *submodifier*] exceptionally: outstandingly beautiful gardens.

out-stare */out'steə/ v.* [trans.] stare at (someone) for longer than they can stare back, typically in order to intimidate or disconcert them.

out-station */out'stæʃən/ n.* a branch of an

organization situated at some distance from its headquarters.

out-stay */out'stā/ v.* [trans.] stay beyond the limit of (one's expected or permitted time): employees who had outstayed their coffee break.

■ PHRASE **outstay one's welcome** see **WELCOME**.

out-step */out'steɪp/ v.* (**-stepped**, **-step-ping**) [trans.] rare exceed.

out-stretch */out'streɪtʃ/ v.* [trans.] [usu. as *adj.*] (**out-stretched**) extend or stretch out (something, esp. a hand or arm): I walked with my arms outstretched. **■ go beyond the limit of:** their good intentions far outstretched their capacity to offer help.

out-strip */out'strɪp/ v.* (**-stripped**, **-strip-ping**) [trans.] move faster than and overtake (someone else). **■ exceed:** supply far outstripped demand.

out-ta */outə/ (also out-a) prep.* an informal contraction of "out of," used in representing colloquial speech: we'd better get outta here.

out-take */ou,tæk/ n.* a scene or sequence filmed or recorded for a movie or program but not included in the final version.

out-talk *v.* (also **out-talk**) [trans.] outdo or overcome in talking or argumentation: whether you get ten years or go free can depend on whether your counsel can out-talk the other man's.

out-think */out'thɪŋk/ v.* [trans.] outdo in thinking; outwit: machines that can outthink humans.

out-thrust */out'thrʌst/ v. & adj.* extended outward: with his outthrust foot he sent the man keeling over.

■ n. a thing that projects or is extended outward: root hairs are outthrusts from the root surface.

out-turn */out,tɜrn/ n.* the amount of something produced, esp. money; output: the financial outturn.

out-vote */out'vot/ v.* [trans.] defeat by tallying a greater number of votes.

out-ward */outwərd/ v. & adj.* [attrib.] **1** of, on, or from the outside: the vehicle's outward and interior appearance. **■ relating to the external appearance of something rather than its true nature or substance:** an outward display of friendliness. **■ archaic out:** the outward physical body. **2** going out or away from a place: the outward voyage.

■ adv. away from the center or a particular point; toward the outside: a window that opens outward | the solar wind that rushes outward from the sun. **▶ Old English** *ūtward* (see **OUT-**, **-WARD**). —**out-ward-ness** *n.* **out-ward-bound** *v. & adj.* (of a ship or passenger) going away from home or point of origin: an outward-bound cruise ship.

out-ward-ly */outwərdli/ v. & adv.* [often as *submodifier*] on the surface: an outwardly normal life | [sentence *adv.*] outwardly she seemed no different. **■ on or from the outside:** outwardly featureless modern offices | [sentence *adv.*] outwardly it's not a bad-looking car.

out-wards */outwərdz/ v. & adv.* chiefly Brit. variant of **OUTWARD**.

out-wash */out,wɒʃ/ v.* **■ wash** *n.* material carried away from a glacier by meltwater and deposited beyond the moraine.

out-watch */out,wætʃ/ v.* [trans.] archaic watch (something) until it disappears. **■ keep awake beyond the end of:** they outwatched the night, ever hopeful of a rescue.

out-wear */out'weə/ v.* (**past** **-wore**; **past part.** **-worn**) [trans.] last longer than: a material that will outwear any other waterproof sheeting. **■ exhaust; wear out; wear away.**

out-weigh */out'wē/ v.* [trans.] be heavier than: Bob outweighed him by more than twenty-five pounds. **■ be greater or more significant than:** the advantages greatly outweigh the disadvantages.

out-went */out'went/ v.* past of **OUTGO**.

out-wit */out'wit/ v.* (**-witted**, **-witting**) [trans.] deceive or defeat by greater ingenuity: Ray had outwitted many an opponent.

out-work */out,wɜrk/ v. & n.* **1** a section of a fortification or system of defense that is in front of the main part. **2** Brit. work done outside the factory or office that provides it.

■ v. */out,wɜrk/ [trans.]* work harder, faster, or longer than: Irwin simply outworks his opponent. —**out-work-er** *n.* (in sense 2).

out-world */out,wɜrld/ n.* (in science fiction) an outlying or alien planet. —**out-world-er** *n.*

out-worn */out,wɜrn/ v.* past participle of **OUTWEAR**.

■ adj. out of date: outworn prejudices. **■ no longer usable or serviceable:** outworn lead flashings.

out-yeild */out'jeld/ v.* [trans.] produce or yield more than: plantations outyield managed natural forest.

ou-zeil */'ōzēl/ (also ou-sel) n.* a bird that resembles the blackbird, esp. the ring ouzel. See also **WATER**

OUZEL. **▶ Old English** *ōsle* 'blackbird,' of Germanic origin; related to German *Amsel* 'blackbird.'

ou-ze */'ōzē/ n.* a Greek anise-flavored liqueur.

■ modern Greek.

o-va */'ōvə/ n.* plural form of **OVUM**.

o-val */'ōvəl/ v. & adj.* having a rounded and slightly elongated outline or shape, like that of an egg: her smooth oval face | the game with the oval ball.

■ n. a body, object, or design with such a shape or outline: cut out two small ovals from the felt. **■ an oval playing field or racing track.** **▶ mid 16th cent.:** from French, or modern Latin *ovalis*, from Latin *ovum* 'egg.' —**o-val-ity** */ō'valɪti/ n.* —**o-val-ness** *n.*

ov-al-bu-min */,əvəl'byʊmɪn; ,əvəl- n.* Biochemistry albumin derived from the white of eggs. **▶ mid 19th cent.:** from Latin *ovi albumen* 'albumen of egg,' altered on the pattern of *albumin*.

O-val Office the office of the president of the U.S. in the White House. **■ figurative** this office regarded as representing the power of the executive branch of the U.S. government: on orders from the Oval Office.

o-val win-dow *n.* informal term for **FENESTRA OVALIS** (see **FENESTRA**).

ov-am-bo */ō'vambō/ n.* (pl. same or **-bos**) **1** a member of a people of northern Namibia. **2** the Bantu language of this people.

■ adj. of or relating to the Ovambo or their language. **▶ a local name, from ova-** (prefix denoting a plural) + *ambo* 'man of leisure.'

ov-am-bo-land */ō'vambō,land/ n.* a semiarid region of northern Namibia, the homeland of the Ovambo people.

o-vari-an */ō've(ə)rɪən/ v. & adj.* of or relating to an ovary or the ovaries: an ovarian cyst.

o-vari-an fol-li-cle *n.* another term for **GRAAFIAN FOLLICLE**.

o-vari-ec-to-my */ō,ve(ə)rɪ'ektəm/ n.* (pl. **-mies**) surgical removal of one or both ovaries; oophorectomy.

o-vari-ot-o-my */ō,ve(ə)rɪ'atəm/ n.* **1** surgical incision into an ovary. **2** another term for **OVARIECTOMY**.

o-va-ri-tis */,ōvə'rɪtɪs/ n.* another term for **OOPHORITIS**.

o-va-ry */'ōv(ə)rɪ/ n.* (pl. **-ries**) a female reproductive organ in which ova or eggs are produced, present in humans and other vertebrates as a pair. **▶ Botany** the hollow base of the carpel of a flower, containing one or more ovules. **▶ mid 17th cent.:** from modern Latin *ovarium*, from Latin *ovum* 'egg.'

o-vate */'ō,vāt/ v. & adj.* chiefly Biology having an oval outline or ovoid shape, like an egg. **▶ mid 18th cent.:** from Latin *ovatus* 'egg-shaped.'

o-va-tion */ō'vāʃən/ n.* **1** a sustained and enthusiastic show of appreciation from an audience, esp. by means of applause: the performance received a thundering ovation. **2** Roman History a processional entrance into Rome by a victorious commander, of lesser honor than a triumph. **▶ early 16th cent. (sense 2):** from Latin *ovatio(n)*, from *ovare* 'exult.' The word had the sense 'exultation' from the mid 17th to early 19th cent.

oven */'evən/ n.* an enclosed compartment, as in a kitchen range, for cooking and heating food. **■ a small furnace or kiln.** **■ a cremation chamber in a Nazi concentration camp.** **▶ Old English** *ofen*, of Germanic origin; related to Dutch *oven*, German *Ofen*, from an Indo-European root shared by Greek *igneus*.

oven-bird */'evən,bɜrd/ n.* **1** a small tropical American bird belonging to a diverse family, many members of which make domed, ovenlike nests of mud. **■ Family Furnariidae (the ovenbird family):** many genera and numerous species. The ovenbird family comprises the horned larks, miners, and many others. **2** a migratory brown North American warbler that builds a domed, ovenlike nest on the ground. **■ Sciu- ridae** *auropallidus*, subfamily Parulinae, family Emberizidae.

oven-proof */'evən,pru:f/ v. & adj.* (of cookware) suitable for use in an oven; heat-resistant.

oven-read-y *v. & adj.* (of food) prepared before sale so as to be ready for cooking in an oven.

oven-ware */'evən,wɛr/ n.* dishes that can be used for cooking food in an oven.

o-ver */'ōvər/ v. & prep.* **1** extending directly upward: from I saw flames over Berlin. **■ above so as to cover or protect:** an oxygen tent over the bed | ladle this sauce over fresh pasta. **■ extending above (a general area) from a vantage point:** views over Hyde Park. **■ at the other side of; beyond:** over the hill is a small village. **2** expressing passage or trajectory across: she trudged over the lawn. **■ beyond and falling on**