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The New Oxford American Dictionary

SECOND EDITION

FIRST EDITION

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SECOND EDITION

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OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

2005

OXFORD

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The first edition of the *New Oxford American Dictionary* was based on *The New Oxford
Dictionary of English*, published in the United Kingdom in 1998.

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Published by Oxford University Press, Inc.
198 Madison Avenue, New York, New York, 10016
www.oup.com/us
www.askoxford.com

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Oxford University Press

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
The new Oxford American dictionary.-- 2nd ed.
p. cm.

ISBN-13 978-0-19-517077-1

1. English language--United States--Dictionaries. 2.
Americanisms--Dictionaries.
PE1628.N429 2005
423'.1--dc22

2005000941

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10 9 8 7 6 5 4

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clog

clog /klɒg; klɒg/ **n.** 1 a shoe with a thick wooden sole. 2 an encumbrance or impediment: a clog in the system.

► **v.** (**clogged, clogging**) [*trans.*] fill or block with an accumulation of thick, wet matter: the gutters were clogged up with leaves | [*as adj.*] (**clogged**) clogged drains. ► [*intrans.*] become blocked in this way: too much fatty food makes your arteries clog up. ► fill up or crowd (something) so as to obstruct passage: tourists clog the roads in summer. ► Middle English (in the sense 'block of wood to impede an animal's movement'): of unknown origin.



clog 1

clog dance **n.** a dance performed in clogs with rhythmic beating of the feet, esp. as a traditional dance in Ireland, Scotland, and the north of England. ► a North American country tap dance of similar style. — **clog dancer** **n.** — **clog dancing** **n.**

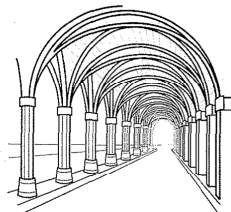
clogger /'klæɡər; 'klɒɡər/ **n.** 1 a person who performs a clog dance. 2 someone or something that clogs: pore-cloggers.

clogging /'klɒɡɪŋ/ **n.** clog dancing.

cloisonné /'kloʊzəˈneɪ; 'klɒz- (also **cloisonné enamel**) **n.** enamel work in which the different colors are separated by strips of flattened wire placed edgewise on a metal backing. ► mid 19th cent.: French, literally 'partitioned', past participle of *cloisonner*, from *cloison* 'a partition or division'.

cloister /'kloɪstər/ **n.** a covered walk in a convent, monastery, college, or cathedral, typically with a wall on one side and a colonnade open to a quadrangle on the other. ► (the **cloister**) monastic life: he was inclined more to the cloister than the sword. ► a convent or monastery. ► any place or position of seclusion: college is a cloister apart from the cares of the world.

► [*trans.*] seclude or shut up in or as if in a convent or monastery: the monastery was where the Brothers would cloister themselves to meditate | she cloisters herself at home. ► Middle English (in the sense 'place of religious seclusion'): from Old French *cloître*, from Latin *claustrum*, *clastrum* 'lock, enclosed place', from *claudere* 'to close'. — **clois-tral** /'kloɪstrəl/ **adj.**



cloister

cloistered /'kloɪstəd/ **adj.** 1 kept away from the outside world; sheltered: a cloistered upbringing. 2 having or enclosed by a cloister, as in a monastery: a cloistered walkway bordered the courtyard.

clomb /klɒm/ **v.** archaic past and past participle of **climb**.

clom-i-phene /'klɒmɪˈfēn; 'klɒ-/ **n.** Medicine a synthetic nonsteroidal drug used to treat infertility in women by stimulating ovulation.

clomp /klɒmp; klɒmp/ **v.** [*intrans.*] walk with a heavy tread: she clomped down the steps. ► early 19th cent.: imitative: compare with **clump**.

clonality /klɒˈnælɪti/ **n.** the fact or condition of being genetically identical, as to a parent, sibling, or other biological source: the lack of genetic diversity may be a combination of both isolation and clonality.

clone /klɒn/ **n.** Biology a group of organisms or cells produced asexually from one ancestor or stock, to which they are genetically identical. ► an individual organism or cell so produced. ► a person or thing regarded as identical to another: successful women don't want to be male clones. ► a microcomputer designed to simulate exactly the operation of another, typically more expensive, model: an IBM PC clone.

► [*trans.*] propagate (an organism or cell) as a clone:

of the hundreds of new plants cloned, the best ones are selected. ► make an identical copy of. ► Biochemistry replicate (a fragment of DNA placed in an organism) so that there is enough to analyze or use in protein production. ► illegally copy the security codes from (a mobile phone) to one or more others as a way of obtaining free calls. ► early 20th cent.: from Greek *klōn* 'twig'. — **clonal** /'klɒnəl/ **adj.**

clonk /klɒŋk; klɒŋk/ another term for **clunk**. ► **v.** 1 [*intrans.*] move with or make such a sound: the horses clonked and snorted softly. 2 [*trans.*] informal hit: I'll clonk you on the head. ► mid 19th cent.: imitative. — **clonky** **adj.**

clonus /'klɒnəs/ **n.** Medicine muscular spasm involving repeated, often rhythmic, contractions. ► early 19th cent.: from Greek *klonos* 'tremor'. — **clonic** /'klɒnɪk/ **adj.**

clop /klɒp/ **n.** [*in sing.*] a sound or series of sounds made by a horse's hooves on a hard surface.

► **v.** (**clopped, clopping**) [*intrans.*] (of a horse) move with such a sound: the animal clopped on at a steady pace. ► mid 19th cent.: imitative.

clo-qué /klɒˈkə/ **n.** a fabric with an irregularly raised or embossed surface. ► French, literally 'blistered'. It was first recorded (1920s) in the anglicized form *clody*; use of the French form dates from the 1950s.

Close /klɒs/ Glenn (1947–), U.S. actress. She received Academy Award nominations for her roles in *The Big Chill* (1983), *Fatal Attraction* (1987), and *Dangerous Liaisons* (1988). She has also received three Tony Awards for her stage performances.

close /klɒs/ **adj.** 1 a short distance away or apart in space or time: the hotel is close to the sea | her birthday and her wedding date were close together | why don't we go straight to the shops, as we're so close? | the months of living in close proximity to her were taking their toll. ► with very little or no space in between; dense: cloth with a closer weave | this work occupies over 1,300 pages of close print. ► [*predic.*] (close to) very near to (being or doing something): on a good day the climate in LA is close to perfection | she was close to tears. ► (of a competitive situation) won or likely to be won by only a small amount or distance: the race will be a close contest. ► [*attrib.*] (of a final position in a competition) very near to the competitor immediately in front: she finished a close second. ► narrowly enclosed: animals in close confinement. ► (of hair or grass) very short or near the surface: the ground will need to be level enough to allow close mowing. ► Phonetics another term for **high** (sense 7). 2 [*attrib.*] denoting a family member who is part of a person's immediate family, typically a parent or sibling: the family history of cancer in close relatives. ► (of a person or relationship) on very affectionate or intimate terms: they had always been very close, with no secrets at all. ► (of a connection or resemblance) strong: the college has close links with many other institutions. 3 (of observation, examination, etc.) done in a careful and thorough way: we need to keep a close eye on this project | pay close attention to what your body is telling you about yourself. ► carefully guarded: his whereabouts are a close secret. ► not willing to give away money or information; secretive: you're very close about your work, aren't you? ► following faithfully an original or model: the debate about close or free translation. 4 uncomfortably humid or airless: a close, hazy day | it was very close in the dressing room.

► **adv.** in a position so as to be very near to someone or something: with very little space between: they stood close to the door | he was holding her close. ► Middle English: from Old French *close* (as noun and adjective), from Latin *clausum* 'enclosure' and *clausus* 'closed', past participle of *claudere*. — **close-ly** **adv.** — **close-ness** **n.** — **close-ish** **adj.**

► **PHRASES** □ **close by** very near; nearby: her father lives quite close by. □ **close to** (or **close on**) (of an amount) almost; very nearly: he spent close to 30 years in jail. □ **close to the bone** see **BONE**. □ **close to one's heart** see **HEART**. □ **close to home** see **HOME**. □ **close up** very near: close up she was no less pretty. □ **close to the wind** Sailing (of a sailing vessel) pointed as near as possible to the direction from which the wind is blowing while still making headway. □ **come close** almost achieve or do; he came close to calling the President a liar. □ **too close for comfort** dangerously or uncomfortably near: the friendly stranger who suddenly comes too close for comfort.

close² /klɒz/ **v.** 1 move or cause to move so as to cover an opening: [*intrans.*] she jumped into the train just as the doors were closing | [*trans.*] they had to close the window because of the insects. ► [*trans.*] block up (a hole or opening): glass doors close off the living room from the hall | figurative Stephen closed his ears to the sound.

► [*trans.*] bring two parts of (something) together so as to block its opening or bring it into a folded state: Loretta closed her mouth | Ron closed the book. ► [*intrans.*] gradually get nearer to someone or something: they plotted a large group of aircraft about 130 miles away and closing fast. ► [*intrans.*] (**close around/over**) come into contact with (something) so as to encircle and hold it: my fist closed around the weapon. ► [*trans.*] make (an electric circuit) continuous: this will cause a relay to operate and close the circuit. 2 bring or come to an end: [*trans.*] the members were thanked for attending, and the meeting was closed | [*intrans.*] the concert closed with "Silent Night" | [*as adj.*] (**closing**) the closing stages of the election campaign. ► [*intrans.*] (of a business, organization, or institution) cease to be in operation or accessible to the public, either permanently or at the end of a working day or other period of time: the factory is to close with the loss of 150 jobs | [*trans.*] the country has been closed to outsiders for almost 50 years. ► [*intrans.*] finish speaking or writing: we close with a point about truth | [*as adj.*] (**closing**) Nellie's closing words. ► [*trans.*] bring (a business transaction) to a satisfactory conclusion: he closed a deal with a metal dealer. ► [*trans.*] remove all the funds from (a bank account) and cease to use it. ► [*trans.*] Computing make (a data file) inaccessible after use, so that it is securely stored until required again.

► **phrasal v.** □ **close something down** (or **close down**) cause to cease or cease business or operation, esp. permanently: the government promised to close down the nuclear plants within twenty years. □ **close in** (on) come nearer to someone being pursued: the police were closing in on them. ► gradually surround, esp. with the effect of hindering movement or vision: the weather has now closed in, so an attempt on the summit is unlikely. ► (of days) get successively shorter with the approach of the winter solstice: November was closing in.

□ **close something out** bring something to an end: Steve tried to close out the conversation. □ **close up** (of a person's face) become blank and emotionless or hostile: he didn't like her laughter and his face closed up angrily. □ **close something up** (or **close up**) 1 cause to cease or cease operation or being used: the broker advised me to close the house up for the time being. 2 (close up) (of an opening) grow smaller or become blocked by something: she felt her throat close up. □ **close with** come near, esp. so as to engage with (an enemy force).

► **n.** [*in sing.*] 1 the end of an event or of a period of time or activity: the afternoon drew to a close. ► (the **close**) the end of a day's trading on a stock market: at the close the Dow Jones average was down 13.52 points. ► Music the conclusion of a phrase; a cadence. 2 the shutting of something, esp. a door: the door jerked to a close behind them. ► Middle English: from Old French *close*, stem of *clorre*, from Latin *claudere* 'to shut'. — **close-a-ble** **adj.** — **close-er** **n.**

► **PHRASES** □ **close the door on** (or **to**) see **DOOR**. □ **close one's eyes to** see **EYE**. □ **close one's mind to** see **MIND**. □ **close ranks** see **RANK** 1. □ **close up shop** see **SHOP**.

close call /klɒs/ **n.** a narrow escape from danger or disaster.

close-cropped /klɒs/ (also **closely cropped**) **adj.** (typically of hair or grass) cut very short.

closed /klɒzd/ **adj.** not open: rooms with closed doors lined the hallway | he sat with his eyes closed. ► (of a business) having ceased trading, esp. for a short period: he put the "Closed" sign up on the door. ► no longer under discussion or investigation; concluded: closed cases of alleged contract irregularities. ► (of a society or system) not communicating with or influenced by others; independent: the perception of the Soviet Union as a closed society | a closed system in which income and expenditure must balance. ► limited to certain people; not open or available to all: the UN Security Council met in closed session. ► unwilling to accept new ideas: you're facing the situation with a closed mind. ► Mathematics (of a set) having the property that the result of a specified operation on any element of the set is itself a member of the set. ► Mathematics (of a set) containing all its limit points. ► Geometry of or pertaining to a curve whose ends are joined.

► **PHRASES** □ **behind closed doors** taking place secretly or without public knowledge. □ **closed book** a subject or person about which one knows nothing: accounting has always been a closed book to me.

Pronunciation Key ə ɡə; ər over; 'ə; ər, əp; 'ər or 'ər fur; a hat; ə rate; ə car; ɔ̄ chew; ə let; ə see; ə(ə) air; i fit; i by; i(ə) ear; ɒ sing; ɔ go; ɔ for; ɔi boy; ɔo good; ɔo goo; ɒu out; ʃH she; ʃH thin; ʃH then; (h)w why; ʒH vision