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Definition

adjective

noun

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transverse1 of 2adjective

trans-verse

tran(t)s-ˈvərs

tranz-ˈvərs,

ˈtran(t)s-,vərs

ˈtranz-,vərs

1: acting, lying, or being across : set crosswise

2: made at right angles to the long axis of the body

a transverse section

transverselyadverb

transverse2 of 2noun

trans-verse

ˈtran(t)s-,vərs

ˈtranz-

: something (such as a piece, section, or part) that is transverse

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Examples of transverse in a Sentence

Adjective

The surgeon made a **transverse** incision across her abdomen.

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Adjective

- The frontal plane is your side-to-side movements, and the **transverse** plane is twisting movements.
- Sarah Klein, *Outside*, 10 Feb. 2026
- The camper was based on the full-size Transit van, then in its fourth generation, and included a **transverse** rear kitchen equipped with a spirit stove.
- *New Atlas*, 29 Jan. 2026
- Your core muscles are also working, including your rectus abdominis (across the front of your abdomen), obliques (sides of your abdomen), and **transverse** abdominis (deep muscles that wrap around the sides of your abdomen).
- Christa Sgobba, *Health*, 7 Apr. 2026
- Another feature that creates the yachting effect is the **transverse** marina.
- Michael Verdon, *Robb Report*, 20 Mar. 2026

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Word History

Etymology

Adjective

Middle English, from Latin *transversus*, from *trans-* + *-versus* (as in *adversus* adverse)

First Known Use

Adjective

15th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Noun

15th century, in the meaning defined [above](#)

Time Traveler

The first known use of *transverse* was in the 15th century

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Phrases Containing *transverse*

- [transverse colon](#)
- [transverse myelitis](#)
- [transverse process](#)
- [transverse wave](#)

Rhymes for *transverse*

- [adverse](#)
- [disburse](#)



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adverse	averse	coerce
disburse	disperse	diverse
immerse	inverse	obverse
perverse	rehearse	reverse

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transverse

transverse artery

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Kids Definition

transverse adjective

trans-verse tran(t)s-'vərs, tranz-; 'tran(t)s-,vərs, 'tranz-

: lying or being across : set crosswise

| transverse beams supporting the floor

transversely adverb

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