



**WEBSTER'S**  
**Ninth New**  
**Collegiate**  
**Dictionary**

DJI-1023

U.S. Patent No. 9,260,184



### A GENUINE MERRIAM-WEBSTER

The name *Webster* alone is no guarantee of excellence. It is used by a number of publishers and may serve mainly to mislead an unwary buyer.

A *Merriam-Webster*® is the registered trademark you should look for when you consider the purchase of dictionaries or other fine reference books. It carries the reputation of a company that has been publishing since 1831 and is your assurance of quality and authority.

Copyright © 1988 by Merriam-Webster Inc.

Philippines Copyright 1988 by Merriam-Webster Inc.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data  
Main entry under title:

Webster's ninth new collegiate dictionary.

Includes index.

1. English language—Dictionaries. I. Merriam-Webster Inc.

PE1628.W5638 1988 423 87-24041

ISBN 0-87779-508-8

ISBN 0-87779-509-6 (indexed)

ISBN 0-87779-510-X (deluxe)

Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary principal copyright 1983

COLLEGIATE trademark Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

All rights reserved. No part of this book covered by the copyrights hereon may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means—graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, taping, or information storage and retrieval systems—without written permission of the publisher.

Made in the United States of America

282930RMcN88

- drip-dry** *adj* (1957): made of a washable fabric that drip-dries  
**drip-dry** *n* (1959): a drip-dry garment  
**drip-less** *\drip-las\* *adj* (1887): designed not to drip (~ candles)  
**drip-pling** *\drip-plin\* *n* (1530): fat and juices drawn from meat during cooking — often used in pl.  
**drippy** *\drip-ē\* *adj* **drip-pier**; **-est** (1817) 1: characterized by dripping; *esp*: RAINY, DRIZZLY 2: MAWKISH 2  
**drip-stone** *\drip-stōn\* *n* (1812) 1: a stone drip (as over a window) 2: calcium carbonate in the form of stalactites or stalagmites  
**drive** *\driv\* *vb* **drove** *\drov\*; **driven** *\driv-n\*; **driving** *\driv-in\* [ME *driven*, fr. OE *drifan*; akin to OHG *drifan* (to drive) *vt* (bef. 12c) 1 a: to impart a forward motion to by physical force (waves drove the boat against the shore) b: to repulse, remove, or cause to go by force, authority, or influence (~ the enemy back) c: to set or keep in motion or operation (~ machinery by electricity) 2 a: to direct the motions and course of (a draft animal) b: to operate the mechanism and controls and direct the course of (as a vehicle) c: to convey in a vehicle d: to float (logs) down a stream 3: to carry on or through energetically (*driving a hard bargain*) 4 a: to exert inescapable or coercive pressure on: *FORCE* b: to compel to undergo or suffer a change (as in situation, awareness, or emotional state) (*drove him crazy*) c: to urge relentlessly to continuous exertion (the sergeant drove his recruits) d: to press or force into an activity, course, or direction (the expensive drug habit that ~s addicts to steal) e: to project, inject, or impress incisively (*drove his point home*) 5 a: to frighten or prod (as game or cattle) into moving in a desired direction b: to go through (a district) driving game animals 6: to force (a passage) by pressing or digging 7 a: to propel (an object of play) swiftly b: to hit (a golf ball) from the tee *esp.* with a driver c: to cause (a run or runner) to be scored in baseball — *usu.* used with *in* ~ *vi* 1 a: to dash, plunge, or surge ahead rapidly or violently b: to progress with strong momentum (the rain was *driving hard*) 2 a: to operate a vehicle; *also*: *HANDLE* (an auto that ~s well) b: to have oneself carried in a vehicle 3: to drive a golf ball *syn* see *MOVE* — **drive-able** *\dri-və-bəl\* *adj* — **drive at**: to intend to express, convey, or accomplish (did not understand what she was *driving at* — Eric Goldman)  
**drive** *n* (1785) 1: an act of driving: a: a trip in a carriage or automobile b: a collection and driving together of animals; *also*: the animals gathered c: a driving of cattle or sheep overland d: a hunt or shoot in which the game is driven within the hunter's range e: the guiding of logs downstream to a mill; *also*: the floating logs amassed in a drive f: (1) the act or an instance of driving an object of play (as a golf ball) (2) the flight of a ball 2 a: a private road: *DRIVEWAY* b: a public road for driving (as in a park) 3: the state of being hurried and under pressure 4 a: a strong systematic group effort: *CAMPAIGN* b: a sustained offensive effort (the ~ that ended in a touchdown) 5 a: the means for giving motion to a machine or machine part b: the means by which the propulsive power of an automobile is applied to the road (front wheel ~) c: the means by which the propulsion of an automotive vehicle is controlled and directed (a left-hand ~) 6: an offensive, aggressive, or expansionist move; *esp*: a strong military attack against enemy-held terrain 7 a: an urgent, basic, or instinctual need: a motivating physiological condition of the organism (a sexual ~) b: an impelling culturally acquired concern, interest, or longing (enslaved by a ~ for perfection) c: dynamic quality 8: a device for reading and writing on magnetic media (as magnetic tape or disks) — **drive adj**  
**drive-in** *\dri-vin\* *n* (1937): an establishment (as a theater or restaurant) so laid out that patrons can be accommodated while remaining in their automobiles — **drive-in adj**  
**drivel** *\driv-əl\* *vb* **-eled** or **-elled**; **-eling** or **-elling** *\-ə-ling\* [ME *drivel*, fr. OE *drifelan*; akin to ON *drif* malt dregs, OE *deor* dark] *vi* (bef. 12c) 1: to let saliva dribble from the mouth: *SLAVE* 2: to talk stupidly and carelessly ~ *vi* 1: to utter in an infantile or imbecile way 2: to waste or fritter in a childish fashion — **drivel-er** *\-ə-lər\* *n*  
**drool** *n* (14c) *1*archaic: *drool* 1: NONSENSE  
**drive-line** *\driv-lin\* *n* (1949): the parts including the universal joint and the drive shaft that connect the transmission with the driving axles of an automobile — called also *drivetrain*  
**driven** *\driv-n\* (1887): having a compulsive or urgent quality (a ~ sense of obligation) — **driven-ness** *\driv-nəs\* *n*  
**driver** *\dri-vər\* *n* (14c): one that drives: as: COACHMAN b: the operator of a motor vehicle c: an implement (as a hammer) for driving d: a mechanical piece for imparting motion to another piece e: a golf club with a wooden head and nearly straight face used in driving f: an electronic circuit that supplies input to another electronic circuit; *also*: LOUDSPEAKER — **driver-less** *\las\* *adj*  
**driver ant** *n* (1859): ARMY ANT: *specif*: any of various African and Asian ants (*Dorylus* or related genera) that move in vast armies  
**driver's license** *n* (1944): a license issued under governmental authority that permits the holder to operate a motor vehicle  
**driver's seat** *n* (1923): the position of top authority or dominance  
**drive shaft** *n* (1893): a shaft that transmits mechanical power  
**drive-train** *\driv-trān\* *n* (1954): DRIVELINE  
**drive-way** *\dri-wā\* *n* (1870): a private road giving access from a public way to a building on abutting grounds  
**driving** *adj* (13c) 1 a: communicating force (a ~ wheel) b: exerting pressure (a ~ influence) 2 a: having great force (a ~ rain) b: acting with vigor: *ENERGETIC* (a hard-driving worker)  
**driving range** *n* (ca. 1949): an area equipped with distance markers, clubs, balls, and tees for practicing golf drives  
**drizzle** *\driz-əl\* *n* (1554): a fine misty rain — **driz-zly** *\driz-(ə-)lē\* *adj*  
**drizzle** *vb* **drizzled**; **drizzling** *\-ə-ling\* [perh. alter. of ME *drysnen* to fall, fr. OE *drisnjan* to disappear; akin to Goth *drisjan* to fall — more at DREARY] *vi* (1584) 1: to shed or let fall in minute drops or particles 2: to make wet with minute drops ~ *vi*: to rain in very small drops or very lightly: *SPRINKLE* — **drizzlings** *\-ə-ling-lē\* *adv*  
**drogue** *\drow\* *n* [prob. alter. of *drag*] (1875) 1: SEA ANCHOR 2 a: a cylindrical or funnel-shaped device towed as a target by an airplane b: a small parachute for stabilizing or decelerating something (as an

- astronaut's capsule) or for pulling a larger parachute out of stowage  
 : a funnel-shaped device which is attached to the end of a long flexible hose suspended from a tanker airplane in flight and into which the probe of another airplane in flight is fitted so as to receive fuel from the tanker airplane  
**droit** *\droit, dra-wā\* *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *directum*, fr. LL, neut. *directus* just, fr. L, *direct* — more at DRESS] (15c): a legal right (~ admiralty)  
**droit du seigneur** *\droit-dū-se-nē-er\* *n* [F, right of the lord] (1825): supposed legal or customary right of a feudal lord to have sexual relations with a vassal's bride on her wedding night  
**droll** *\droll\* *adj* [F *drolle*, fr. *drole* scamp, fr. MF *drolle*, fr. MD, *drille* (1623): having a humorous, whimsical, or odd quality — **droll-ness** *\droll-nəs\* *adv*  
**droll** *n* (1645): one that amuses or diverts: JESTER, COMEDIAN  
**droll** *vi*, *archaic* (1654): to make fun: JEST, SPORT  
**drollery** *\droll-(ə-)rē\* *n*, *pl* *-eries* (1597) 1: something that is droll 2 a: a comic picture or drawing b: a usu. brief comic show or entertainment c: an amusing story: JEST 2: the act or an instance of jesting or burlesquing 3: whimsical humor  
**-drome** *\drom\* *n* *comb form* [*hippodrome*] 1: racecourse (*motodrome*) 2: large specially prepared place (*acrodrome*)  
**drome-dary** *\drom-ə-, der-ē-ə\* *adj* **-drom-ē** *n*, *pl* *-daries* [ME *dromedarius*, fr. OF *dromedaire*, fr. LL *dromedarius*, fr. L *dromad-*, *dromas*, fr. C. running; akin to Gk *dromaine* to run, *dromos* racecourse, OE *treppan* tread] (13c) 1: a camel of unusual speed and trained *esp.* for riding 2: CAMEL 3a  
**-dromous** *\drom-əs\* *adj* *comb form* [NL, *dromus*, fr. Gk *-dromos* (to Gk *dromaine*): running (*catadromous*)  
**drone** *\dron\* *n* [ME, fr. OE *drān*; akin to OHG *treno* drone, *thrēnos* dirge] (bef. 12c) 1: the male of a bee (as the honeybee) 2: has no sting and gathers no honey — see HONEYBEE illustration 3: one that lives on the labors of others: PARASITE 4: a pilotless plane, helicopter, or ship controlled by radio signals 5: DRUDGE  
**drone** *vb* **droned**; **droning** *vi* (1500) 1 a: to make a sustained humming, buzzing, or humming sound b: to talk in a persistent dull or monotonous tone 2: to pass, proceed, or act in a drowsy, or indifferent manner (the trial *droned* on for months) 3: to utter or pronounce with a drone 2: to pass or spend in dull monotonous activity or in idleness (*droned away the precious year youth*) — **drone-er** *n* — **droning-ly** *\dron-ŋ-lē\* *adv*  
**drone** *n* (1500) 1: a deep sustained or monotonous sound: *hum*; 2: an instrument or part of an instrument (as one of the fixed pipes of a bagpipe) that sounds a continuous unvarying tone  
**droop** *\druip\* *vb* [perh. alter. of *drivel*] *vi* (1802) 1 a: to secrete in anticipation of food b: DRIVEL 2: to make an effusive show of pleasure 3: to talk nonsense ~ *vi*: to express sentimentally or excessively  
**drool** *n* (1869) 1: saliva trickling from the mouth 2: NONSENSE  
**droop** *\druip\* *vb* [ME *drupa*, fr. ON *drupa*; akin to OE *drupa* drop] (14c) 1: to hang or incline downward 2: to sink gradually 3: become depressed or weakened: *LANGUISH* ~ *vi*: to let droop  
**drooping** *\druip-ŋ\* *adj*  
**droopy** *\druip-ē\* *adj* **droop-i-er**; **-est** (13c) 1: drooping or tending to droop 2: GLOOMY  
**drop** *\drāp\* *n*, *often attrib* [ME, fr. OE *dropa* — more at DREARY] (12c) 1 a: (1) the quantity of fluid that falls in one spherical (2) *pl*: a dose of medicine measured by drops; *specif*: a solution diluting the pupil of the eye b: a minute quantity or degree of anything nonmaterial or intangible c: a small quantity of drink, the smallest practical unit of liquid measure 2: something that resembles a liquid drop: as: a pendant ornament attached to a piece of jewelry; *also*: an earring with such a pendant b: a small globular object or candy 3 [*drop*] a: the act or an instance of dropping: *FALL* b: a decline in quantity or quality c: a descent by parachute; *also*: people or equipment dropped by parachute d: a central point depository to which something (as mail) is brought for distribution e: a place used for the deposit and distribution of a lower level or illegal goods 4 a: the distance from a higher to a lower level through which something drops b: a fall of electric potential c: slot into which something is to be dropped 6 [*drop*] something drops, hangs, or falls: as: a movable plate that covers the key of a lock b: an unframed piece of cloth stage scenery; *also*: CURTAIN c: a hinged platform on a gallows d: a fallen fruit e: advantage of having an opponent covered with a firearm: *broadly* VANTAGE, SUPERIORITY — *usu.* used in the phrase *get the drop on* the drop of a hat: as soon as the slightest provocation is given b: DIABLY — **drop in the bucket**: a part so small as to be negligible  
**drop** *vb* **dropped**; **dropping** *vi* (bef. 12c) 1: to fall in drops 2: to fall unexpectedly or suddenly (2): to descend from one level to another b: to fall in a state of collapse or death c: to become played by reason of the obligation to follow suit d: to roll into a hole or basket 3: to enter or pass as if by unconscious effort of will into some state, condition, or activity (dropped into sleep) 4 a: to cease to be of concern: LAPSE (let the matter drop) b: to become less (production *dropped*) — *often* used with *off* ~ *move with a favoring wind or current* — *usu.* used with *down* ~ *to let fall*: cause to fall 2 a: to give up (as an idea) b: to *let* (something *dropped* what he was doing) c: to break off an association connection with: *DISMISS* (~ a failing student) 3 a: to *let* (something *drop* in a casual way (~ a suggestion) (~ names) b: to *write* (a line soon) 4 a: to lower or cause to descend from one position to another b: to lower (wheels) in preparation for landing an airplane c: to cause to lessen or decrease: *REDUCE* (*dropped speed*) 5 of an animal: to give birth to 6 a: *LOSE* (*dropped the games*) (*dropped \$50 in a poker game*) b: *SPEND* (~ \$20 for lunch) c: to bring down with a shot or a blow b: to cause (a high ceiling) to fall c: to toss or roll (a ball) into a hole or basket 8 a: to *let* (something *drop* from a ship or vehicle: *DEPOSIT* — *usu.* used with *off* b: *let* (something *drop* the voice) to be less loud 10 a: to leave (a letter *dropping* a speech sound) unsounded (~ the *g* in *running*) b: to