



Merriam-Webster's Collegiate[®] Dictionary

TENTH EDITION

Merriam-Webster, Incorporated Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A.



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.

Merriam-Webster $^{\text{TM}}$ is the name 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 © 1998 by Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

Philippines Copyright 1998 by Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

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

Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. — 10th ed.

p. cm.

ISBN 0-87779-708-0 (unindexed : alk. paper). — ISBN 0-87779-709-9 (indexed : alk. paper). — ISBN 0-87779-710-2 (deluxe indexed : alk. paper). — ISBN 0-87779-707-2 (laminated cover, unindexed).

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

PE1628.M36 1998

423-dc21

97-41846

CIP

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary, Tenth Edition principal copyright 1993

COLLEGIATE is a registered trademark of Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

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

21222324RMcN98

vō-\ n (1842): a leg bowed outward at or gged \ bō-,le-gad, -,lā-; -,legd, -,lāgd\ adj \ 00): a person who bowls; specif: the player: batsman in cricket er, 19th cent. family of Eng. hatters] (1861)

[ME bouline, perh. fr. bowe bow + line] keep the weather edge of a square sail taut to form a loop that neither slips nor jams —

i): any of several games in which balls are an alley at an object or group of objects take unawares 2: ¹IMPRESS 2 c): ARCHER 1 829): a boatman, oarsman, or paddler sta-

mənz-\ n [Sir William Bowman †1892 Eng. in membranous double-walled capsule sur-a vertebrate nephron WITHDRAW

saw having a narrow blade held under ed frame

ped frame bows-ing [origin unknown] vt (1593): to wi: to bowse something

i): the shock wave formed by the collision other medium (as the magnetosphere of a

usu 'bō-\ n [ME bouspret, prob. fr. MLG sprēt pole] (13c): a large spar projecting ship 4c): a waxed or sized cord joining the ends

i8): any of various Asian and African sanhleaf fiber used esp. in cordage hort necktie tied in a bowknot): a usu. curved bay window n [mit.] (1576) 1: the bark of a dog; also arrogant dogmatic manner wpere] (14c): a maker of shooting bows x-es [ME, fr. OE, fr. L buxus, fr. Gk pyxos] ub or small tree (genus Buxus of the family with opposite entire leaves and capsular led shrub (B. sempervirens) used for hedges,

buxis, fr. Gk pyxis, fr. pyxos box treel (bef. rectangular container with or without a an open cargo container of a vehicle b i a box esp. as a measure of quantity 3: a lits contents: as a Brit: a gift in a box b n c: TELEVISION d: a signaling apparadif-contained piece of electronic equipment mall space, compartment, or enclosure: as ats for spectators (as in a theater or stata carriage or coach c: a cell for holding PENALTY BOX 5: a usu. rectangular space r demarcated on a surface: as a: any of mond where the batter, coaches, pitcher, ce on a page for printed matter or in which AMENT. Fix 7: a cubical building — box (adj. in or a siff in a box 2: to ham in (as an)

AMENT, FIX 7: a cubical building \(\) \(

x-shaped camera with a simple lens and

i): a roofed freight car usu. with sliding

nbers stenciled on the sides of boxcars] awarded her a ∼ figure) vy overcoat formerly worn for driving 2 shoulders

merican maple (Acer negundo) with com-

1: a person who engages in the sport of

ces boxes or packs things in boxes 1904): a compact medium-sized shorts og of a breed originating in Germany trans. of Chin (Beijing) yihé juán, lit., 199): a member of a Chinese secret soci-violence to drive foreigners out of China to renounce Christianity

RT4b

1: an act of enclosing in a box 2: a material used for boxes and casings ttack and defense with the fists practiced

st weekday after Christmas observed as a ommonwealth and marked by the giving workers (as postal workers) one of a pair of leather mittens heavily

n boxing te consisting of two or more open-ended

acked in a container (as a box)

office (as in a theater) where tickets of

admission are sold b: income from ticket sales (as for a film) 2: the ability or power (as of a show) to attract ticket buyers; also possibly that enhances that ability (any publicity is good box office) box pleat n (1883): a pleat made by forming two folded edges one facing right and the other left box score n [fr. its arrangement in a newspaper box] (1913): a printed score of a game (as baseball) giving the names and positions of the players and a record of the play arranged in tabular form; broadly: total count: SUMMARY box seat n (1849) 1: 2Box 4b 2 a: a seat in a box (as in a theater or grandstand) b: a position favorable for viewing something box social n (1928): a fund-raising affair at which box lunches are auctioned to the highest bidder box spring n (1885): a bedspring that consists of spiral springs attached to a foundation and enclosed in a cloth-covered frame box stall n (1885): an individual enclosure within a barn or stable in which an animal may move about freely without a restraining device box-thorn / baks-thorn\() n (1678): MATRIMONY VINE box turtle n (ca. 1804): any of several No. American land turtles (genus Terrapene) capable of withdrawing into its shell and closing it by hinged joints in the lower half—called also box tortoise box-wood '\baks-swid \ n (1652) 1: the very close-grained heavy tough hard wood of the box (Buxus); also: a wood of similar properties 2: a plant producing boxwood boxy '\bak-se\ adj box-ier; -est (ca. 1861): resembling a box — box-i-ness n
boy \boi\() n often attrib [ME] (13c) 1: the mande servant — sometimes

box \"bak-s\"ex\"alpha dox\"box\"-est (ca. 1861): resembling a box\"box\"iness n\"boy\"box\"iness n\"boy\"boy\"iness n\"boy\"iness n\"boy\

Scout

Boy-sen-ber-ry \"boi-z^n-,ber-\(\bar{e}\), -s^2n-, -z^2m-\ n [Rudolph Boysen †1950]

Am. horticulturist + E berp] (1935): a large bramble fruit with a raspberry flavor; also: the trailing hybrid bramble yielding this fruit and developed by crossing several blackberries and raspberries boy wonder n (1946): a young man of noteworthy achievements

bozo \"bo-(.)z\"o, n \(\beta\) bozos [origin unknown] (1920): a foolish or inconventing achievements

and developed by crossing several blackberries and raspberries boy wonder n (1946): a young man of noteworthy achievements boy wonder n (1946): a young man of noteworthy achievements boy of 'b6-(2)Zo' n, pl bozos [origin unknown] (1920): a foolish or incompetent person

B picture n (ca. 1937): B MOVIE
bra' bra'n (1936): BRASSIERE — bra-less adj
brab-ble 'b'ra-b-bl' wi brab-bled; brab-bling \-b'(a)—lip\ [perh. fr. MD
brabelen, of imit, origin] (ca. 1530): SOUABBLE — brabble n
brace ('bras\) wb braced, brac-ing [ME, fr. MF bracier to embrace, fr.
brace] wt (14e): 1 archaie: to fasten tightly: BND 2: a: to prepare
for use by making taut b: PREPARE STEEL (~ yourself for the shock)
c: INVIGORATE. FRESHEN 3: to turn (a sail yard) by means of a brace
4: a: to furnish or support with a brace (heavily braced against the
wind) b: to make stronger: REINFORCE 5: to put or plant firmly
(~s his foot in the stirrup) 6: to waylay esp, with demands or questions ~ wi 1: to take heart — used with up 2: to get ready (as for
an attack).
brace n, pl brace-es [ME, clasp, pair, fr. MF, two arms, fr. L bracchia,
pl. of bracchium arm, fr. Gk brachiōn, fr. compar. of brachys short —
more at BRIEF] (14e): 1: something (as a clasp) that connects or fastens 2 or pl brace: two of a kind: PAIR (several ~ of quail) 3: a
crank-shaped instrument for turning a bit 4: something that transmits, directs, resists, or supports weight or pressure: as a: a diagonal
piece of structural material that serves to strengthen something (as a
framework) b: a rope rove through a block at the end of a ship's yard
to swing it horizontally c pl: Suspenders used to exert pressure to
straighten misaligned teeth 5: a: one of two marks | 1 used to connect words or items to be considered together b: one of these marks
connecting two or more musical staffs carrying parts to be performed
simultaneously e: BRACKET 3a 6: a position of rigid attention 7:
something (as handcuffs) resembling a bracelet
thracer \cdot bra-ser\n (1759): 1: one that braces, binds, or makes

brachi- or brachio- comb form [L brachium, brachium] 1: arm ⟨brachial⟩ 2: brachial and ⟨brachiocephalic⟩ bra-chi-al ⟨brā-k-ē-ol- ad (1578): of, relating to, or situated in the arm or an armlike process ⟨the ~ artery of the upper arm⟩ brachial plexus n (ca. 1860): a network of nerves lying mostly in the armpit and supplying nerves to the chest, shoulder, and arm bra-chi-ate ⟨brā-kē-,āi⟩ w -at-ed; -at-ing (1932): to progress by swinging from one hold to another by the arms (a brachating gibbon⟩ — bra-chi-a-tion ⟨brā-kē-ā-a-ton⟩ n — bra-chi-a-tor ⟨brā-kē-ā-a-ton⟩ n

n prachio-ce-phal-ic artery \brā-kē-(,)ō-so-'fa-lik-\ n (ca. 1839): a short artery that arises from the arch of the aorta and divides into the carotid and subclavian arteries of the right side — called also innomi-

nate artery
brachiocephalic vein n (ca. 1852): either of two large veins that
occur one on each side of the neck, receive blood from the head and
neck, and unite to form the superior vena cava — called also innomi-

nate vein
bra-chio-pod \'brā-kē-ɔ-pād\ n [ultim. fr. L bracchium + Gk pod-,
pous foot — more at Foot] (1836): any of a phylum (Brachiopoda) of
marine invertebrates with bivalve shells within which is a pair of arms
bearing tentacles by which a current of water is made to bring microscopic food to the mouth — brachiopod adj
brachyc comb form [Gk, fr. brachys — more at BRIEF]: short
\(\brachycephalic \) brachise ff. libs adj ENL brach verticals.

bearing tentacles by which a currient of water is made to bring microscopic food to the mouth — brachlopod adj
brachy- comb form [Gk, fr. brachys — more at BRIEF] ; short
(brachycephalic) (bra-ki-sə-'fa-lik) adj [NL brachycephalus, fr. Gk
brachy- kephale head — more at CEPHALIC] (ca. 1852) ; shorts
headed or broad-headed with a cephalic index of over 80 — brachyceph-ally \'se-fa-le\n n
bra-chyp-ter-ous \bra-'kip-tə-rəs\ adj [Gk brachypteros, fr. brachypteron wing — more at FEATHER] (ca. 1847) ; having rudimentary or
abnormally small wings (~ insects)
brac-ing \bra-kip, adj (1750) ; giving strength, vigor, or freshness (a
~ breeze) — brac-ing-ly ady
bra-ci-o-la \bra-kip-ia-ch-o-la\ or bra-ci-o-le \-'o-,la\ n [It, lit.,
slice of meat roasted over coals, fr. brace live coals, prob. of Gmc origin; akin to Sw brass fire] (ca. 1945) ; a thin slice of meat wrapped
around a seasoned filling and often cooked in wine
brack-en \bra-kin n [ME braken, prob. of Scand origin; akin to OSw
brakne fern] (14c) 1: a large coarse fern; esp: a nearly cosmopolitan
brake (Pteridium aquilinum) found in most tropical and temperate
regions 2: a growth of brakes

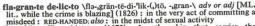
\brack-et \bra-kin \n [perh. fr. MF braguette codpiece, fr. dim. of
brague breeches, fr. OProv braga, fr. L braca, of Celt origin — more at
BREECH] (1580) 1: an overhanging member that projects from a
structure (as a wall) and is usu. designed to support a vertical load or
to strengthen an angle 2: a fixture (as for holding a lamp) projecting
from a wall or column 3 a: one of a pair of marks [] used in writing
and printing to enclose matter or in mathematics and logic as signs of
aggregation — called also square bracket b: one of the pair of marks
(\self) used in writing
of the pair of marks (\self) used in writing
of the pair of marks (\self) used in writing
of the pair of marks (\self) used in writing
of the pair of marks (\self) used in writing
of pair of the pair of marks (\self) used in writing
of the pair of marks (\self) used in writing
of the pair of marks (\self) u

phores
brack-ish \'bra-kish\\ adj [D brac salty; akin to MLG brac salty] (1538)
1: somewhat salty \(\sim \text{ water} \) 2 a: not appealing to the taste \(\sim \text{ tea} \) b: REPULSIVE — brack-ish-ness n
brac-o-nid \(\sho \) to Allow brack-indix n [within fr. Gk brachys] (ca. 1893): any of
a large family (Braconidae) of ichneumon flies — braconid adj
bract \(\sho \) takth n [NL bractea, fr. L, thin metal plate] (1770) 1: a leaf
from the axil of which a flower or floral axis arises 2: a leaf borne on
a floral axis; esp: one subtending a flower or flower cluster — brac-teal \(\sho \) track-te-sl\\ adj — brac-te-ale \(\text{-tē-sl} \) adj — brac-te-d\(\text{-tol} \)

adj
brac-te-ole \brak-tē-,ō\\ n [NL bracteola, fr. L, dim. of bractea] (ca.
1828): a small bract esp. on a floral axis
brad \brad \n [ME, fr. ON braddr spike; perh. akin to OE byrst bristle
more at bristre [13e] 1: a thin nail of the same thickness
throughout but tapering in width and having a slight projection at the
top of one side instead of a head 2: a slender wire nail with a small
barrel-shaped head
2 brad-awl \brad-ol\ n (1823): an awl with chisel edge used to make
brad-awl \brad-ol\ n (1823): an awl with chisel edge used to make

brad-awl \bard-ol\ n (1823): an awl with chisel edge used to make holes for brads or screws brady-comb form [Gk bradys]: slow \bardy-kinin\ bra-dy-car-dia \bra-di-\kar-de-a also \bra-\hat n [NL] (ca. 1890): relatively slow heart action — compare TACHYCARDIA bra-dy-ki-nin \bra-ki-nin \hat n (1949): a kinin that is formed locally in injured tissue, acts in vasodilation of small arterioles, is considered to play a part in inflammatory processes, and is composed of a chain of nine amino-acid residues

\ə\ abut \abut \abut \text{kitten, F table \ar\ further \a\ ash \aki\ ace \aki\ mop, mar \au\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \e\ easy \g\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \j\ job \n\ sing \o\ go \o\ law \oi\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ii\ loot \u\ foot \y\ yet \zh\ vision \\a, \overline{k}, \overline{n}, \overline{ce}, \overline{ce}, \overline{v}\ see Guide to Pronunciation



fla-gran-te de-lic-to \fla-gran-tē-di-lik-(\)tō, -gran-\ adv or adj [ML, lit., while the crime is blazing] (1826): in the very act of committing a misdeed: RED-HANDED: also: in the midst of sexual activity flag-ship\ n (1672) 1: the ship that carries the commander of a fleet or subdivision of a fleet and flies his flag 2: the finest, largest, or most important one of a series, network, or chain flag-staff \-\staf\-staf\ n (ca. 1613): a staff on which a flag is hoisted flag-stick \-\staf\ n (1926): a staff on which a flag is hoisted flag-stick \-\staf\ n (1926): a staff or a flag marking the location of the cup on a golf putting green flag-stone \-\stone n (1941): a point at which a vehicle in public transportation stops only on prearrangement or signal flag-waver \flag\-\text{ng}, n\text{va}-vr\ n (1894): 1: one who is intensely and conspicuously patriotic 2: one who waves a flag in signaling 3: a song intended to rouse patriotic sentiment
flag\text{ng}-wav-ing \-\viny\ n (1892): passionate appeal to patriotic or partisan sentiment: cHAUVINISM
flail \flace\ flace\ flagellum - more at FLAGELLATE | (bef. 12c): a hand threshing implement consisting of a wooden handle at the end of which a stouter and shorter stick is so hung as to swing freely
flail v (15c) 1 a: to strike with or as if with a flail \(\sim ng\) a club to drive away the insects\(\frac{\chi}{\chi}\) 2: to thresh (grain) with a flail \(\sim v\) in the more at like a flail flair \(\frac{\chi}{\sim ng}\) a perceiate or make good use of something: TALENT (a \sim for \chi flage ng), also considered the same of the dramatic \(\chi\) 2: a uniquely attractive quality: STYLE \(\lambda\) flask \(\frac{\chi}{\sim ng}\) a sell from flak 3: CRITICISM opposition of lake \(\frac{\chi}{\sim ng}\) in the flair from flak 3: CRITICISM opposition of lakes: \(\chi\) in the flake in \(\chi\) in the flake in \(\chi\) in the flake of the form of break into flakes: \(\chi\) and \(\frac{\chi}{\sim}\) in a skill or instinctive ability to appreciate or make good use of somethin

asleep 2 slang: to be overcome esp. by exhaustion flake tool n (ca. 1947): a Stone-Age tool that is a flake of stone struck off from a larger piece flak jacket n (1950): a jacket containing metal plates for protection against flak; broadly: a bulletproof vest — called also flak vest flaky also flakes ("flak" dia "flak" dia "flam" ha [prob imit] (1819): a drumbeat of two strokes of which the first is a very quick grace note "flam" dia "flam" ha [prob imit] (1819): a drumbeat of two strokes of which the first is a very quick grace note "flam" dia "flam" dia

ing flames (~ tracery) (~ architecture) 2: marked by or given to strikingly elaborate or colorful display or behavior — flam-boy-ant-ly adv 2flamboyant n (1879): ROYAL POINCIANA [Imme Vilam v | Imme Vi

flame-proof \flam-priif\ adj (1886): resistant to damage or burning on contact with flame — flame-proof vi — flame-proof-er n flame-retardant adj (1947): made or treated so as to resist burning flame stitch n (1936): a needlepoint stitch that produces a paten resembling flames flame-throw-er \, \, \text{hro}(-9)r\ n (1917) 1: a device that expels from nozzle a burning stream of liquid or semiliquid fuel under pressure i: a pitcher who throws hard: a fastball pitcher flame tree n (1860): any of several trees or shrubs with showy sealed or yellow flowers: as a: a tree (Brachychiton acerifolium of the family Sterculiaceae) of southern Australia with panicles of brilliant scarling flowers b: ROYAL POINCIANA flam-ing \(\frac{1}{14}\) in the sembling or suggesting a flame color, brilliance, or wavy outline (the ~ sunset sky) \(\choosetar\) cord, brilliance, or wavy outline (the ~ sunset sky) \(\choosetar\) cord, brilliance, or wavy outline (the ~ sunset sky) \(\choosetar\) cord hair) is being on fire: BLAZING 3: INTENSE, PASSIONATE \(\choosetar\) youth \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) with \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) with \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) or several large aquatic birds \(\frac{1}{16}\) ity \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) or several large aquatic birds \(\frac{1}{16}\) ity \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) or several large aquatic birds \(\frac{1}{16}\) ity \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) or several large aquatic birds \(\frac{1}{16}\) ity \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) or several large aquatic birds \(\frac{1}{16}\) ity \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) or several large aquatic birds \(\frac{1}{16}\) ity \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) ity \(\frac{1}{16}\) mingo \(\frac{1}{16}\) ity \(\frac{1}{16}\)

bling that of a duck but abruptly bent downward, and usu, rosy-white plumage with scarlet wing coverts and black wing quills guills are the property of the plumage with scarlet wing coverts and black wing quills are the property of the plumage with scarlet wing coverts and black wing quills guills are to flam-ball with scapacity for combustion; esp: a high capacity for combustion flam-ma-ble \frac{1}{1}a-ma-ball} adj [L flammare to flame, set on fire, fr. flammal] (1813): capable of being easily ignited and of burning quickly—flammable not flam \frac{1}{1}a-ma-ball} adj [L flammare to flame, set on fire, fr. Chammal [1813]: capable of being easily ignited and of burning quickly—flammable not flame the property flame to flame the property are to flame, fr. L fladon., flado flat cake, of Grac origin; akin to OHG flado flat cake, [1846] 1 a: an open pie containing any divarious sweet or savory fillings b: custard baked with a caramel glaz 2: the metal disk of a coin, token, or medal as distinguished from the design and lettering stamped on it flane and lettering stamped on a wheely 2: projecting edge of cloth used for decoration on clothing (a jacket with ~ shoulders)

**Alange wf langed; flang-ing (ca. 1859): to furnish with a flange flank \mathematical flank, \mathematical flan

net; esp: men s trousers
evasive talk; also: NONSENSE, RUBBISH — flannel adj — flannel-ty\n^1-\text{R} adj
flannel-tet \nlannel-tet \nl

