

Webster's New World Dictionary[®]

Third College Edition

THIRD COLLEGE EDITION

Webster's New World Dictionary®

OF AMERICAN ENGLISH

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*Dedicated
to David B. Guralnik
lexicographical mentor
and friend*

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approbation / aquaplane 68

approbatus, pp. of approbare, APPROVE] [Now Rare] to approve or sanction

approbation (ap'ra ba'shon) n. 1 official approval, sanction, or commendation 2 [Obs.] proof

approbative (ap'ra ba'tiv) adj. [Fr approbatif < LL approbatiuus] showing approbation or approval Also ap-pro-ba-to-ry, (a prō'ba tōrē)

ap-pro-pri-able (a prō'prē ə'bal) adj. that can be appropriated

ap-pro-pri-ate (a prō'prē ə'tiv) vt. -ated, -ating [ME appropriaten < LL appropriatus, pp. of appropriare, to make one's own < L ad-, to + proprius, one's own] 1 to take for one's own or exclusive use 2 to take improperly, as without permission 3 to set aside for a specific use or certain person [to appropriate funds for the schools] -adj. right for the purpose; suitable; fit; proper -SYN. FIT -ap-pro-pri-ate-ly, (-it.lē) adv. -ap-pro-pri-ate-ness n. -ap-pro-pri-a-tive (-ə'tiv) adj. -ap-pro-pri-a-tor n.

ap-pro-pria-tion (a prō'prē ə'shən) n. 1 an appropriating or being appropriated 2 a thing appropriated; esp., money set aside for a specific use

approval (ə prō'vval) n. 1 the act of approving 2 favorable attitude or opinion 3 formal consent or sanction 4 [pl.] Philately stamps sent on request by mail to potential buyers -on approval for the customer to examine and decide whether to buy or return

approve (ə prōv) vt. -proved, -proving [ME aproven < OFr aprover < L approbare < ad-, to + probare, to try, test < probus, good] 1 to give one's consent to; sanction; confirm 2 to be favorable toward; think or declare to be good, satisfactory, etc. 3 [Archaic] to prove or show: often used reflexively 4 [Obs.] to prove by testing -vt. to give approval; have a favorable opinion (of) -ap-prov-able adj. -ap-prov'er n. -ap-prov'ing-ly adv.

approve, the most general of the following terms, means simply to regard as good or satisfactory; endorse adds the further implication of active support or advocacy [to endorse a candidate for office]; sanction implies authoritative approval [a practice sanctioned by the charter]; certify implies official approval because of compliance with the requirements or standards [a certified public accountant]; ratify implies official approval of that which has been done by one's representative [to ratify a peace treaty] -ANT: disapprove, reject

approx 1 approximate 2 approximately

approx-imate (ə prāk'sə mə) adj. [< L approximare (see fol.) + -al] 1 next to; side by side; adjoining

approx-imate (ə prāk'sə mət; for v., -mət) adj. [ME < LL approximatus, pp. of approximare, to come near < L ad-, to + proximus, superl. of prope, near] 1 near in position; close together 2 much like; resembling 3 more or less correct or exact -vt. -mat'ed, -mat'ing 1 to come near to; approach or be almost the same as [this painting approximates reality] 2 to bring near; make approach [to something] -vt. to come near; be almost the same -ap-prox-i-mate-ly adv.

approx-ima-tion (ə prāk'sə mə'shən) n. 1 the act or state of approximating, or coming close 2 an estimate, guess, or mathematical result that is approximately correct or close enough to exactness for a particular purpose

ap-pur-tenance (ə pɜrt'n əns) n. [ME < Anglo-Fr apurtenance < OFr apurtenance < prp. of LL apertinere, APERTAIN] 1 anything that appertains; thing added to a more important thing; adjunct 2 [pl.] apparatus or equipment; accessories 3 an incidental right, privilege, etc., attached to something and passing with it, as by conveyance or sale

ap-pur-tenant (-ənt) adj. appertaining or pertinent; accessory -n. an appurtenance

Apr April

ap-rax-i-a (ə prāk'sē ə, ə-) n. [ModL < Gr, inaction; see A-2 & PRAXIS] complete or partial loss of the ability to perform complex muscular movements, resulting from damage to certain areas of the brain without any paralysis or damage to normal motor functions -ap-rax-ic (-prāk'sik) or ap-rax-ic (-prāk'tik) adj.

après (ə prā; Fr ə prə) prep. [Fr] after: often used in hyphenated compounds [an après-ski party]

après moi le déluge (ə prə mwa le də'liʒh) [Fr] after me the deluge; a saying attributed to Louis XV of France

ap-ri-cot (ə pri kət, ə pri-) n. [Fr abricot < Port albricoque < Ar'al-birqaq < LGr praikohion < L praecoquum, early matured (fruit) < praec-, beforehand + coquere, ripen, 'cook] 1 a small, yellowish-orange fruit that is closely related to the peach and plum 2 any one of certain trees (genus Prunus) of the rose family bearing this fruit 3 a yellowish-orange color

April (ə'pral) n. [altered, infl. by the L, from ME Avril < OFr avrill < L aprilis < *apero-, latter, second (in the ancient Rom. calendar, the year began with March); akin to Sans aparah, latter, Goth afar, after] the fourth month of the year, having 30 days; abbrev. Apr or Ap

April a feminine name; equiv. Fr Avril

April fool victim of jokes played on April Fools' Day

April Fools' Day April 1; All-Fools' Day, when practical jokes are played on the unsuspecting

a pri-o-ri (ə'pri ōrē, ōrē; ə-'rē) [L, lit., from what precedes < a, ab, from + priori, abl. of prior; see PRIOR] 1 from cause to effect or from a generalization to particular instances; deductive or deductively 2 based on theory, logic, fixed rules or forms, etc., instead of on experience or experiment 3 before examination or analysis. Opposed to A POSTERIORI

ap-pri-o-ri-ty (ə'pri ōrē tē) n. 1 the quality or fact of being a priori 2 the use of a priori reasoning

apron (ə'prən) n. [by faulty separation of a napron < ME napron < OFr naperon < nape, a cloth < L mappa, napkin] 1 a garment of cloth, leather, etc. worn over the front part of the body, usually to protect one's clothes 2 anything like an apron in appearance or use; specif., a) a covering or extending part for protecting or shielding a structure, machine, etc. b) a waterproof protecting shield in an open vehicle c) the hard-surfaced area, often paved, in front of or next to the terminal or hangars of an airport d) a broadened part of an automobile driveway, as where it joins the roadway e) the part of a proscenium stage in front of the arch f) an endless belt for carrying things g) a protective work of planking or other material along a river bank, below a dam, etc. -vt. to put an apron on or provide an apron for -a'pron-like adj.

apron string a string for tying an apron on -tied to one's mother's (or wife's, etc.) apron strings dominated by one's mother (or wife, etc.)

ap-ro-pos (ap'rə pō) adv. [Fr à propos; to the purpose < L ad-, to + propositus, pp. of proponere, PROPOSE] 1 at the right time; opportunistically 2 by the way; used to introduce a remark -adj. fitting the occasion; relevant; apt -SYN. RELEVANT -ap-ro-pos of in connection with; with regard to

A-propo-si-tion (ə'prəpə'zishən) n. Logic a universal affirmative proposition

apse (əps) n. [L apsis, APSIS] 1 a semicircular or polygonal projection of a building, esp. one at the east end of a church, with a domed or vaulted roof 2 APSIS (sense 1)

ap-si-dal (ə'psidəl) adj. of an apse or apsis

ap-sis (ə'psis) n., pl. -sides (-sə'dēz) [L, an arch < Gr hapsis, a fastening < haptēin; see APT] 1 that point in the elliptical orbit of the moon, a planet, etc. nearest to (lower apsis), or that farthest from (higher apsis), the gravitational focus point 2 APSE (sense 1) -line of apsides a line joining the lower and higher apsides, forming the major axis of the orbit

apt pl. ap-ts abbr. apartment

apt (əpt) adj. [ME & OFr apte < L aptus, pp. of aperire < IE base *ap-, to grasp, reach > Gr haptēin, to fasten] 1 suited to its purpose; appropriate; fitting [an apt remark] 2 tending or inclined; likely [apt to rain] 3 quick to learn or understand [an apt student] 4 [Archaic] ready; prepared -SYN. FIT, LIKELY, QUICK -apt'ly adv. -apt'ness n.

ap-ter-al (əp'tər əl) adj. [Gr apteros (see APTEROUS) + -al] 1 Apterid, having columns at one or both ends, but not along the sides 2 Zool. APTEROUS

ap-te-ri-um (əp'tirē əm) n., pl. -te-ria (-sə) a bare area of skin between feather tracts on the body of a bird

ap-ter-ous (əp'tər əs) adj. [Gr apteros < a-, without + pteron, a wing, FEATHER] Biol. having no wings or winglike parts

ap-ter-yg-i-al (əp'tər i'jē əl) adj. [< Gr apterygos < a-, without + pteryx, wing + -al] Zool. lacking fins, limbs, or wings

ap-ter-yx (əp'tər iks) n. [ModL < Gr a-, without + pteryx, wing] KIWI

ap-ti-tude (əp'ta tūd, -tūd) n. [ME < LL aptitudo < L aptus; see APT] 1 the quality of being apt or appropriate; fitness 2 a natural tendency or inclination 3 a natural ability or talent 4 quickness to learn or understand. -SYN. TALENT

ap-ti-tude test a test for determining the probability of a person's success in some activity in which he is not yet trained

Apu-lei-us (əpyūlē'əs), Lucius li. 2d cent. A.D.; Rom. satirist; author of The Golden Ass

Apu-lja (əpyūljə, -ə) region on the SE coast of Italy, on the Adriatic Sea & the Gulf of Taranto; 7,469 sq. mi. (19,345 sq. km); pop. 3,978,000; cap. Bari; lt. name Puglia

Apu-ri- (ə pūrē) river in WC Venezuela, flowing from the Andes into the Orinoco; c. 500 mi. (800 km)

Apus (ə'pəs) [ModL, the Old World swift (genus name) < Gr apous, lit., footless; see APODAL] a S constellation near the celestial pole

ap-y-ret-ic (ə'pi ret'ik) adj. [Gr apyretos; see A-2 & PYRETIC] Med. without fever

aq Pharmacy aqua

Aq-a-ba (ə'kə bā), Gulf of arm of the Red Sea between the Sinai Peninsula and NW Saudi Arabia

aqua (ə'kwə; ək'ə; ək'ə) n., pl. aquas or aquae (-wə) [L < IE *akwa-; see ISLAND] water; esp., in pharmacy, a solution of a substance in water -adj. [< AQUAMARINE] bluish-green

aqua ammonia [ModL, lit., water of ammonia] a water solution of ammonia; ammonia water; ammonium hydroxide

☆aqua-cade (ə'kwə kād, ək'ə) n. [AQUA(TIC) + CADE] an aquatic exhibition or entertainment consisting of swimming, diving, etc., often to music

aqua-cul-ture (-kəl'chər) n. [AQUA + CULTURE] the regulation and cultivation of water plants and animals for human use or consumption -aqua-cul-tur-ial adj.

aqua for-tis (fōr'tis) [L, strong water] NITRIC ACID

Aqua-lung (ə'kwə lʌŋ, ək'ə) [AQUA + LUNG] trademark for a type of scuba apparatus no longer much used -n. (usually a-) any type of scuba apparatus

aqua-ma-rine (ə'kwə mə rēn, ək'ə) n. [L aqua marina, sea water] 1 a transparent, pale bluish-green variety of beryl, used in jewelry 2 its color -adj. bluish-green

☆aqua-naut (ə'kwə nōt, ək'ə) n. [AQUA + (ASTRO)NAUT] 1 a person trained to live and work in a water and underwater chamber in and from which he can conduct oceanographic experiments 2 a skin diver; see SKIN DIVING

☆aqua-plane (ə'kwə plān, ək'ə) n. [AQUA + PLANE] a board or small platform towed by a speedboat while a person stands on it

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