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some with hollow stems used for building, furniture, or utensils and young shoots used for food
bamboo curtain *n*, often *cap B&C* (1949) : a political, military, and ideological barrier isolating an area of the Orient
bam-boo-zle \bām-'bū-zəl/ *v* -boo-zled; -boo-zling \-'būz-līŋ, -'bū-zə-/ [origin unknown] (1703) : to deceive by underhanded methods : DUPE, HOODWINK — **bam-boo-zle-ment** \-'bū-zəl-mənt/ *n*
ban \bān/ *v* **banned**; **ban-ning** [ME *bannen* to summon, curse, fr. OE *bannan* to summon; akin to OHG *bannan* to command, *L fari* to speak, Gk *phanai* to say, *phōnē* sound, voice] *v* (12c) 1 *archaic* : CURSE 2 : to prohibit esp. by legal means (< discrimination); also : to prohibit the use, performance, or distribution of (< a book) (< a pesticide) ~ *v* : to utter curses or maledictions
ban [ME, partly fr. *bannen* & partly fr. OF *ban*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *bannan* to command] (14c) 1 : the summoning in feudal times of the king's vassals for military service 2 : ANATHEMA, EXCOMMUNICATION 3 : MALEDICTION, CURSE 4 : legal or formal prohibition 5 : censure or condemnation esp. through social pressure
ban \bān/ *n*, *pl* **ba-ni** \bā-'nē/ [Rom] (1880) — see *leu* at MONEY table

Ba-nach space \bā-'nāk-, -nək-/ *n* [Stefan Banach †1945 Pol. mathematician] (1949) : a normed vector space for which the field of multipliers comprises the real or complex numbers and in which every Cauchy sequence converges to a point in the space
ba-nal \bā-'nāl, bā-, -'nāl; bā-'nāl/ *adj* [F, fr. MF, of compulsory feudal service, possessed in common, commonplace, fr. *ban*] (1840) : lacking originality, freshness, or novelty : TRITE *syn* see INSPID — **ba-nal-ly** \bā-'nāl-ē-lē-ē bā- or bā-/ *adv* — **ba-nal-ize** \bā-'nāl-īz-, bā-, -'nāl-; bā-'nāl-īz-/ *v* — **ba-nal-ly** \bā-'nāl-ē, bā-, -'nāl-; bā-'nāl-; bā-'nāl-ī/ *adv*

ba-nana \bā-'nā-nə, esp *Brit* -'nā-/ *n*, often *attrib* [Sp or Pg; Sp, fr. Pg, of African origin; akin to Wolof *banāna* banana] (1597) 1 : an elongated usu. tapering tropical fruit with soft pulpy flesh enclosed in a soft usu. yellow rind 2 : any of several widely cultivated perennial herbs (genus *Musa*) of the family Musaceae, the banana family) bearing bananas in compact pendent bunches
banana oil *n* (1926) : a colorless liquid acetate C₇H₁₄O₂ of amyl alcohol that has a pleasant fruity odor and is used as a solvent and in the manufacture of artificial fruit essences
banana republic *n* (1935) : a small dependent country usu. of the tropics; *esp* : one run despotically



banana 2

bananas \bā-'nā-nəz, esp *Brit* -'nā-/ *adj* (1968) : CRAZY (<go ~> <drives me ~>)
banana seat *n* (1965) : an elongated bicycle saddle
bananas Foster \-'fōs-tər, -'fās-/ *n* [Richard Foster, friend of New Orleans restaurateur Owen E. Brennan, at whose restaurant the dish was first made] (1976) : a dessert of bananas as flamed (as with rum) and served with ice cream
banana split *n* (1920) : ice cream served on a banana sliced in half lengthwise and usu. garnished with flavored syrups, fruits, nuts, and whipped cream

ban-aus-tic \bā-'nō-sik, -zik/ *adj* [Gk *banausikos* of an artisan, nonintellectual, vulgar, fr. *banausos* artisan] (1845) : relating to or concerned with earning a living — used pejoratively (contempt for the ~ occupations — T. S. Eliot); also : UTILITARIAN, PRACTICAL (<such mundane and ~ considerations as comfort and durability — G. B. Boyer)
band \bānd/ *n* [in senses 1 & 2, fr. ME *band*, *bonda* something that constricts, fr. ON *band*; akin to OE *bīndan* to bind; in other senses, fr. ME *bande* strip, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *binda*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *bīnda* fillet; akin to OE *bīndan* to bind, *bend* letter] (12c) 1 : something that confines or constricts while allowing a degree of movement 2 : something that binds or restrains legally, morally, or spiritually 3 : a strip serving to join or hold things together: as a : BELT 2 b : a cord or strip across the back of a book to which the sections are sewn 4 : a thin flat encircling strip esp. for binding: as a : a close-fitting strip that confines material at the waist, neck, or cuff of clothing b : a strip of cloth used to protect a newborn baby's navel — called also *bellyband* c : a ring of elastic 5 a : a strip (as of living tissue or rock) or a stripe (as on an animal) differentiable (as by color, texture, or structure) from the adjacent material or area b : a more or less well-defined range of wavelengths, frequencies, or energies c : RANGE 7a 6 : a narrow strip serving chiefly as decoration: as a : a narrow strip of material applied as trimming to an article of dress b *pl* : a pair of strips hanging at the front of the neck as part of a clerical, legal, or academic dress c : a ring without raised portions 7 : TRACK 1c(2)

band *v* (15c) 1 : to affix a band to or tie up with a band 2 : to finish or decorate with a band 3 : to gather together : UNITE (<~ed themselves together for protection) ~ *v* : to unite for a common purpose — often used with *together* (<have ~ed together in hopes of attacking the blight that is common to them all — J. B. Conant) — **band-er** *n*
band *n* [MF *bande* troop, fr. OFrov *banda*, of Gmc origin; akin to Goth *bandwo* sign, standard — more at BANNER] (15c) : a group of persons, animals, or things; *esp* : a group of musicians organized for ensemble playing and using chiefly woodwinds, brass, and percussion instruments — compare ORCHESTRA
band-age \bān-'dij/ *n* [MF, fr. *bande*] (1599) 1 : a strip of fabric used esp. to dress and bind up wounds 2 : a flexible strip or band used to cover, strengthen, or compress something
bandage *v* **band-aged**; **band-dag-ing** (1774) : to bind, dress, or cover with a bandage
Band-Aid \bān-'dād/ *trademark* — used for a small adhesive strip with a

band-box \bān(d)-'bāks/ *n* (1631) 1 : a usu. cylindrical box of paper-board or thin wood for holding light articles of attire 2 : a structure (as a baseball park) having relatively small interior dimensions
bandbox *adj* (1844) : exquisitely neat, clean, or ordered as if just taken from a bandbox (<a ~ perfection of appearance) — **bandbox** *adv*
ban-deau \bān-'dō/ *n*, *pl* **ban-deaux** \-'dōz/ [F, dim. of *bande*] (1706) 1 : a fillet or band esp. for the hair 2 : BRASSIERE; also : a band-shaped covering for the breasts

band-ed \bān-'dəd/ *adj* (1787) : having or marked with bands
ban-de-ri-lla \bān-də-'rē(l)-yə/ *n* [Sp, dim. of *bandera* banner] (1797) : a decorated barbed dart that the banderillero thrusts into the neck or shoulders of the bull in a bullfight
ban-de-ri-llero \bān-də-'(rē(l)-)yer-(j)ō/ *n*, *pl* -ros [Sp, fr. *banderilla*] (1797) : one who thrusts in the banderillas in a bullfight
ban-de-rol or **ban-de-rol** \bān-də-'rōl/ *n* [F *banderole*, fr. It *banderuola*, dim. of *bandiera* banner, of Gmc origin; akin to Goth *bandwo* sign] (1562) 1 : a long narrow forked flag or streamer 2 : a long scroll bearing an inscription or a device

ban-di-coof \bān-dī-'kūt/ *n* [Telugu *panḍikōḍḍu*] (1813) 1 : any of several very large rats (genera *Bandicota* and *Nesokia*) of southern Asia destructive to crops 2 : any of a family (Peramelidae) of small insectivorous and herbivorous marsupial mammals of Australia, Tasmania, and New Guinea
ban-dit \bān-'dīt/ *n* [It *bandito*, fr. pp. of *bandire* to banish, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *bannan* to command — more at BAN] (1591) 1 *pl* also **ban-dit-ti** \bān-'dīt-ē/ : an outlaw who lives by plunder; *esp* : a member of a band of marauders 2 : ROBBER 3 : an enemy plane — **ban-dit-ry** \bān-'dīt-rē/ *n*
band-lea-der \bān-'lē-dər/ *n* (1894) : the conductor of a band (as a dance band)

band-mas-ter \bān(d)-'mas-tər/ *n* (1858) : BANDLEADER; *esp* : a conductor of a military or concert band
band-dog \bān-'dɔg/ *n* [ME *bandogge*, fr. *band* + *dogge* dog] (14c) : a dog kept tied to serve as a watchdog or because of its ferocity
band-o-lier or **band-o-leer** \bān-də-'li-ər/ *n* [MF *bandouliere*, ultim. fr. OSP *bando* band, of Gmc origin; akin to Goth *bandwo*] (ca. 1577) : a belt worn over the shoulder and across the breast often for the suspending or supporting of some article (as cartridges) or as a part of an official or ceremonial dress

band-ore \bān-'dɔr-, -'dɔr/ or **band-o-ra** \bān-'dɔr-ə, -'dɔr-/ *n* [Sp *bandurria* or Pg *bandurra*, fr. LL *pandura* 3-stringed lute, fr. Gk *pan-doura*] (1566) : a bass stringed instrument resembling a guitar
band-pass filter \bān(d)-'pas-/ *n* (1926) : a filter that transmits only frequencies within a selected band
band saw *n* (ca. 1864) : a saw in the form of an endless steel belt running over pulleys; also : a power sawing machine using this device
band shell *n* (1926) : a bandstand having at the rear a sounding board shaped like a huge concave seashell

bands-man \bān(d)-'mən/ *n* (ca. 1842) : a member of a musical band
band-stand \bān(d)-'stænd/ *n* (1859) 1 : a usu. roofed platform on which a band or orchestra performs outdoors 2 : a platform in a ball-room or nightclub on which musicians perform
band-wag-on \bān(d)-'wə-gən/ *n* (1855) 1 : a usu. ornate and high wagon for a band of musicians esp. in a circus parade 2 : a popular party, faction, or cause that attracts growing support — often used in such phrases as *climb on the bandwagon* 3 : a current or fashionable trend
band-width \bān(d)-'wīdθ/ *n* (ca. 1937) 1 : a range within a band of wavelengths, frequencies, or energies; *esp* : a range of radio frequencies which is occupied by a modulated carrier wave, which is assigned to a service, or over which a device can operate 2 : the capacity for data transfer of an electronic communications system (<graphics consume more ~ than text does); *esp* : the maximum data transfer rate of such a system

band-y \bān-'dē/ *v* **band-died**; **band-y-ing** [prob. fr. MF *bander* to be tight, to bandy, fr. *bande* strip — more at BAND] *v* (1577) 1 : to bat (as a tennis ball) to and fro 2 a : to toss from side to side or pass about from one to another often in a careless or inappropriate manner b : EXCHANGE; *esp* : to exchange (words) argumentatively c : to discuss lightly or banteringly d : to use in a glib or offhand manner — often used with *about* (<these statistics about with considerable bravado — Richard Pollak) 3 *archaic* : to band together ~ *v* 1 obs : CONTENT 2 *archaic* : UNITE

bandy *n* [perh. fr. MF *bandé*, pp. of *bander*] (1693) : a game similar to hockey and believed to be its prototype
bandy *adj* [prob. fr. *bandy* (hockey stick)] (1687) 1 *of legs* : BOWED 2 : BOWLEGGED — **band-y-legged** \bān-'dē-'legd, -'lē-god, -'lā-/ *adj*

bane \bān/ *n* [ME, fr. OE *bana*; akin to OHG *bano* death] (bef. 12c) 1 a *obs* : KILLER, SLAYER b : POISON c : DEATH, DESTRUCTION (<stop the way of those that seek my ~ — Philip Sidney) d : WOE 2 : a source of harm or ruin : CURSE (<national frontiers have been more of a ~ than a boon for mankind — D. C. Thomson)
bane *v* **baned**; **ban-ing** (1578) *obs* : to kill esp. with poison
bane *n* [ME (northern dial.) *ban*, fr. OE *bān*] (bef. 12c) chiefly *Scot* : BONE

bane-ber-ry \bān-'ber-ē/ *n* (1755) : any of several perennial herbs (genus *Actaea*) of the buttercup family having acid poisonous berries; also : one of the berries
bane-ful \bān-'fəl/ *adj* (1579) 1 : productive of destruction or woe : seriously harmful (<a ~ influence) 2 *archaic* : POISONOUS *syn* see PERNICIOUS — **bane-ful-ly** \-'fə-lē/ *adv*

bang \bāŋ/ *v* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to Icel *banga* to hammer] *v* (ca. 1550) 1 : to strike sharply : BUMP 2 : to knock, beat, or thrust vigorously often with a sharp noise 3 *often vulgar* : to have sexual intercourse with ~ *v* 1 : to strike with a sharp noise or thump 2 : to produce a sharp often metallic explosive or percussive noise or series of such noises

