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WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY

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DAVID B. GURALNIK, *Editor in Chief*

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mon-o (mān'ō) *adj.* *clipped form of MONOPHONIC* (sense 2) — *n.* *clipped form of MONONUCLEOSIS*

mon-o- (mān'ō, -ō; *occas.* mō'nō) [Gr. *mono-* < *monos*, single, alone < IE. base **men-*, small, single, whence OIr. *menb*, small] *a prefix meaning:* 1. one, alone, single [*monoclinic*] 2. containing one atom or one group (of a specified element) [*monochloride*] 3. [*mono-molecular*] having a thickness of one molecule [*monolayer*]

mon-o-ac-id (mān'ō əs'īd) *adj.* *same as MONOACIDIC* — *n.* an acid having only one replaceable hydrogen atom per molecule

mon-o-a-cid-ic (-ə sīd'ik) *adj.* 1. designating a base or alcohol one molecular weight of which can react with only one equivalent weight of an acid, or that has one hydroxyl group capable of replacing one acid hydrogen atom 2. having only one acid hydrogen atom per molecule

mon-o-a-tom-ic (-ə tām'ik) *adj.* *same as MONATOMIC*

mon-o-bas-ic (mān'ō bās'ik) *adj.* *Chem.* 1. designating an acid the molecule of which contains one hydrogen atom replaceable by a metal or positive radical or capable of reacting with the hydroxyl group 2. designating a compound in which a metal or positive radical has replaced one acid hydrogen atom — **mon'o-ba-sic'i-ty** (-bās'is'ə tē) *n.*

mon-o-car-box-yl-ic (-kār'bāk sil'ik) *adj.* having only one carboxylic acid group in the molecule

mon-o-car-peil-lar-y (-kār'pə ler'ē) *adj.* consisting of or having only a single carpel

mon-o-car-pic (-kār'pik) *adj.* [MONO- + -CARPIC] bearing fruit only once, and then dying: said of annuals, biennials, and some long-lived plants, as the bamboos and century plants: also **mon'o-car'pous**

Mo-noc-er-os (mō nās'ər əs) [L., the unicorn] a S constellation east of Orion

mon-o-cha-si-um (mān'ō kā'zhē əm, -zē əm) *n., pl. -sī-a* (-ə) [ModL. < MONO- + Gr. *chasis*, division, akin to *chainein*, to yawn, GAPE] *Bot.* a cymose or determinate inflorescence having only a single main axis — **mon'o-cha'st-al** *adj.*

mon-o-chla-myd-e-ous (-klā mid'ē əs) *adj.* [*<* ModL. *m. nochlamydeae*, name of the group < MONO- + Gr. *chlamyd-*, base of *chlamys*, a mantle + -OUS] having only one series of perianth parts, usually designated as sepals, in the flower

mon-o-chlo-ride (-klōr'id) *n.* a chloride containing one chlorine atom per molecule

mon-o-chord (mān'ō kōrd'ō) *n.* [ME. *monocorde* < MFr. < LL. *monochordon* < Gr. *monochordon*: see MONO- & CHORD] an acoustical instrument consisting of a wooden sounding box with a single string and a movable bridge set on a graduated scale: used for determining musical intervals mathematically by dividing the string into separate parts whose vibrations can be measured

mon-o-chro-mat (mān'ō krō'mat) *n.* [*<* L. *monochromatos*, one-colored < Gr. *monochromatos*: see MONO- & CHROMA] a person who has monochromatism

mon-o-chro-mat-ic (mān'ō krō'mat'ik) *adj.* [*<* L. *monochromatos* < Gr. *monochromatos*: see MONOCHROME & -IC] 1. of or having one color: also **mon'o-chro'tic** (-krō'tik) 2. of or producing light of one wavelength 3. of, having, or having to do with monochromatism — **mon'o-chro'mat-i-cal-ly** *adv.*

mon-o-chro-ma-tism (-krō'mə tiz'm) *n.* [MONOCHROMAT-IC] + -ISM] total colorblindness in which all objects appear as shades of gray

mon-o-chrome (mān'ō krōm') *n.* [ML. *monochroma* < Gr. *monochromos*, of one color < *monos*, single + *chrōma*, color] 1. a painting, drawing, or photograph in one color or shades of one color 2. the art or process of making these — **mon'o-chro'mic** *adj.* — **mon'o-chro'mist** *n.*

mon-o-cle (mān'ō klē) *n.* [Fr. < LL. *monoculus*, one-eyed < Gr. *monos*, single (see MONO-) + L. *oculus*, EYE] an eyeglass for one eye only — **mon'o-cled** *adj.*

mon-o-cli-nal (mān'ō klī'nəl) *adj.* *Geol.* 1. dipping in one direction: said of strata, or rock layers 2. of strata dipping in the same direction — *n.* *same as MONOCLINE*

mon-o-cline (mān'ō klīn') *n.* [*<* MONO- + Gr. *klīnein*, to incline: see LEAN] a monoclinical rock fold or structure

mon-o-clin-ic (mān'ō klīn'ik) *adj.* [see prec. & -IC] designating or of a system of crystallization characterized by three axes of unequal length, two of which intersect obliquely and are perpendicular to the third

mon-o-cli-nous (klī'nəs) *adj.* [ModL. *monoclinus* < MONO- + Gr. *klīnē*, a bed, couch: see CLINIC] having stamens and pistils in the same flower

mon-o-coque (mān'ō kōk', -kāk') *adj.* [Fr. < *monos*, MONO- + *coque*, a shell < L. *coccum*, scarlet berry < Gr. *kōkkos*, a seed, gall of kermes oak] 1. designating or of a kind of construction, as of an airplane fuselage, in which the skin or outer shell bears all or most of the stresses 2. designating or of a kind of construction, as of an automobile, in which the body and chassis are one unit

mon-o-cot-y-le-don (mān'ō kāt'lē'dŏn) *n.* *Bot.* any of a subclass (Monocotyledoneae) of flowering plants having an embryo containing only one seed leaf, and usually having parallel-veined leaves, flower parts in multiples of three, and no secondary growth in stems and roots, as lilies, orchids, grasses, etc.: sometimes clipped to **mon'o-cot'** — **mon'o-cot'y-le'don-ous** *adj.*

mo-noc-ra-cy (mō nāk'rə sē) *n., pl. -cies* [MONO- + -CRACY] government by one person; autocracy — **mon'o-crat'ic** *adj.*

mon-o-crat (mān'ō krat') *n.* a person who favors monarchy, esp. monarchy: term applied by Thomas Jefferson c. 1790 to pro-English Federalists in the war between England and France

mo-noc-u-lar (mō nāk'və lər) *adj.* [*<* LL. *monoculus* (see MONOCLE) + -AR] 1. having only one eye 2. of, or for use by, only one eye — *n.* a field glass or telescopic device with a single eyepiece

mon-o-cul-ture (mān'ō kul'chər) *n.* [MONO- + CULTURE] the raising of only one crop or product without using the land for other purposes

mon-o-cy-cle (sī'k'lē) *n.* *same as UNICYCLE*

mon-o-cy- clic (mān'ō sī'klik) *adj.* 1. of or forming one cycle, circle, whorl, etc. 2. *Chem.* containing one ring of atoms in the molecule

mon-o-cyte (mān'ō sit') *n.* [MONO- + -CYTE] a large, nongranular white blood cell with a relatively small, kidney-shaped nucleus — **mon'o-cyt'ic** (-sit'ik) *adj.*

mon-o-dist (mān'ō dist) *n.* a writer or singer of monody

mon-o-dra-ma (mān'ō drā'mə, -dram'ə) *n.* drama acted, or written to be acted, by only one performer — **mon'o-dra-mat'ic** (-drə mat'ik) *adj.*

mon-o-dy (mān'ō dē) *n., pl. -dies* [LL. *monodia* < Gr. *monōidia* < *monōidos*, singing alone < *monos*, alone (see MONO-) + *aidein*, to sing: see OPE] 1. in ancient Greek literature, an ode sung by a single voice, as in a tragedy; lyric solo, generally a lament or dirge 2. a poem in which the poet mourns another's death 3. a monotonous sound or tone, as of waves 4. *Music* a) a style of composition in which one part, or voice, predominates, and the others serve as accompaniment; homophony, as distinguished from polyphony b) a composition in this style — **mon'o-dy-cal** (mā nād'ik), **mon'o-dy-cal** *adj.* — **mon'o-dy-cal-ly** *adv.*

mo-noe-cious (mō nē'shəs, mō-) *adj.* [*<* MON- + Gr. *oikos*, a house + -IOUS] 1. *Bot.* having separate male flowers and female flowers on the same plant, as in maize 2. *Zool.* having both male and female reproductive organs in the same individual; hermaphroditic — **mo-noe'cism** (-siz'm) *n.*

mon-o-fil-a-ment (mān'ō fil'ə mēnt) *n.* a single, untwisted strand, of synthetic material: also **mon'o-fil'**

mo-nog-a-my (mō nāg'ə mē) *n.* [Fr. *monogamie* < LL. (Ec.) *monogamia* < Gr. *monogamia*: see MONO- & -GAMY] 1. the practice or state of being married to only one person at a time 2. [Rare] the practice of marrying only once during life 3. *Zool.* the practice of having only one mate — **mo-nog'a-mist** *n.* — **mo-nog'a-mous**, **mon-o-gam-ic** (mān'ə gam'ik) *adj.*

mon-o-gen-e-sis (mān'ə jen'ə sis) *n.* [ModL.: see MONO- & GENESIS] 1. *Biol.* the hypothetical descent of all living organisms from a single original organism or cell 2. *Zool.* asexual reproduction, as by budding or spore formation

mon-o-ge-net-ic (-jī net'ik) *adj.* 1. of or pertaining to monogenesis 2. designating or of animals without alternating asexual and sexual generations

mon-o-gen-ic (-jen'ik) *adj.* 1. [MONO- + GEN(ē) + -IC] *Biol.* designating or of a mode of inheritance in which a character is controlled by one pair of genes 2. [MONO- + -GEN + -IC] *Zool.* producing offspring of one sex only, as females only in some species of aphids — **mo-nog'e-ny** (mō nāj'ə nē) *n.*

mo-nog-e-nism (mō nāj'ə niz'm) *n.* [MONO- + -GEN + -ISM] the doctrine that all human beings are descended from a single pair of ancestors

mon-o-glot (mān'ə glōt') *adj.* [Gr. *monoglōttos*: cf. MONO- & (POLY)GLOT] speaking or writing only one language — *n.* a monoglot person

mon-o-gram (mān'ə gram') *n.* [LL. *monogramma* < Gr. *mono-*, MONO- + *gramma*, letter: see GRAM'] a character or figure made up of two or more letters, often initials of a name, combined in a single design: used on writing paper, ornaments, clothing, etc. — *vt.* -grammed', -gram'ming to put a monogram on — **mon'o-gram-mat'ic** (-grə mat'ik) *adj.*

mon-o-graph (mān'ə graf', -gräf') *n.* [MONO- + -GRAPH] 1. orig., a treatise on a single genus, species, etc. of plant or animal 2. a book, article, or paper written about a particular subject; esp., a scholarly writing on some detailed aspect of a subject — **mon'o-graph'ic** *adj.*

mo-nog-y-nous (mō nāj'ə nəs) *adj.* 1. of or characterized by monogyny 2. *Bot.* having one style or pistil

mo-nog-y-ny (-nē) *n.* [MONO- + -GYN] the practice or state of being married to only one woman at a time

mon-o-hy-drate (mān'ə hi'drāt) *n.* a hydrate containing one molecule of water per molecule of combining compound

mon-o-hy-dric (-hi'drik) *adj.* [MONO- + -HYDRIC] 1. *same as MONOHYDROXY* 2. [Rare] having one atom of replaceable hydrogen

mon-o-hy-drox-y (-hi drāk'sē) *adj.* [MONO- + HYDROXY] having one hydroxyl group in the molecule

mo-nol-a-try (mō nāl'ə trē) *n.* [MONO- + -LATRY] the worship of only one god, where several are believed to exist: distinguished from MONOTHEISM — **mo-nol'a-ter** *n.*

mon-o-lay-er (mān'ə lā'ər) *n.* a layer or film one molecule thick

mon-o-ling-u-al (mān'ə lin'gwəl) *adj.* [MONO- + LINGUAL] using or knowing only one language