# RANDOM HOUSE WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY 

## Second Edition



RANDOM HOUSE
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 ientiane. Whor zbdominal surgery using a laparoscope. [1850-55; $\rightarrow \quad$ Whro-t scopy]
 Whlin esp. for access to the abdominal cavity. [1875-
2. inaro- + -Tomy] WHaz, la päs'; Eng dinmistrative capital of Bolivia, in the W part; Sucre is
The official capital. 660,700 ; ab. $12,000 \mathrm{ft}.(3660 \mathrm{~m})$ above
क level. 2 a city in Wef level, 2. a city in SE Lower California, in NW Mex-
N6000. 3id 46000 .
Wh: belt/, (in a motor vehicle) a seat belt secured to To framework of a seat and faste
fiver or a passenger.
[1950-55]
friver or a passenger. [1950-55].
Whboard (lap ${ }^{\prime}$ bôrd' , börd'), $n$. a thin, flat board to We held on the lap for use as a table or writing surface.
$1850-40 ;$ La ${ }^{1}+$ board]
body
ion.
Wepel (lo pel'), $n$. either of the two parts of a garment folled back on the chest, esp. a continuation of a coat collar, [1780-90; irreg. dim. of LAP ${ }^{1}$; see -LE] -la. henel/ mikel -la-pel'less, adj.
hpel/ mike', a small microphone that may be clipped
to the speaker's lapel, pocket, or the like. Also called lap to the speaker's lapel, pocket, or the like. Also called lap
mirophone. 4 Pérouse [1935-40]
 Taup (hhän frän swa' da ga lö'), 1741-88, French
maval officer and explorer.
 hidd. $11605-15 ;$ LAP $^{1}{ }^{1}+$ pl. -fuls.
-Usage. See -ful.
lapifdaroy (lap/i der/ë), n., pl. dar-ies, adj. -n. 1. Aliso, lap-lodist (lap'i dist). a worker who cuts, polishes, ond engraves precious stones. 2. Also, la pid pid ar ist $)$ ant Techingues used in cutting and engraving them. 3. the irt of cutting, polishing, and engraving precious stones. danlan book on the lore of gems. Fadj. Also, lap-iing or engraving of precious stones. 6. characterized by sh exactitude and extreme refinement that suggests gem tottinge a lapidary style; lapidary verse. 7. of, pertaining to or suggestive of inscriptions on stone monuments.
1025 . 75 ; ME lapidarie ( n.$)<\mathrm{L}$ lapidãrius of stone (add), stone-cutter (n.), equiv. to lapid-(s. of lapis) stone laplidate -ary]
appldate (lap/i dat/), vet., -dat-ed, -dat-ing, 1. to pelt
with stones. 2. to stone to death with stones. 2 . to stone to death. [1615-25; < L lapidä-
tise ptp, of lapidāre to stone. See LAPIDARy, -ATE ${ }^{1}$ ] map/rda/tion, $n$.
lappldi.fy (le pid'a fí'), v.t., v.i., fled, -fy-ing. Ar-
chaic, to turn into stone, thaic, to turn into stone. [1650-60; ML lapidi(ficätiōn)
petrifaction (see Lapidary petrifaction (see lapidary, -I-, -Fication) + -Fy] -lap' depllilus (la pil/es), n., pl. -pil•li (- $n$.
lapillise (lo pilfas), n., pl. -pil-II (-pil/i). a small stony
paticle ejected from a volcano. [1740-50; $<$ L: little stone, pebiected from a volcano.
dim. of lapis stone]
Iepln (lap/in; Fr. la pan'), n., pl. lap-ins (lap/inz; Fr. la pan'). 1. a rabbit. 2. rabbit fur, esp. When trimmed
tid dyed. [1900-05; < F, MF, perh., by suffix alteration, from laperean rabbit < Ibero-Romance; cf. cony]
lapis, (lap'is, lā'pis), n., pl. Lap-i-des (lap/i dēz'). 1 .
(fil) Latin. stone (used in Latin names for minerals, gems, etc.) 2. See lapis lazuli. opils laz-u-li (lap' is laz'oo lee, -lì', laz' yơo-, lazh' To.). 1 . a deep-blue mineral composed mainly of lazu-
rite tainly as a gem or as a pigment. 2. a sky-blue color;
azure. Also called lapis. lazuli. $1350-1400 ; \mathrm{ME}<\mathrm{ML}$, equiv, to L called lapis stone +ML lazuli, gen. of lazulum lapis lazuli; see azure]
lap' joint', 1. Also called plaln lap. a joint, as between
Wo pieces of metal or timber, in which the pieces overlap pithout any change in form. 2. any of various joints between two members, as timbers, in which an end or section of one is partly cut away to be overlapped by an
end or section of the other, often so that flush surfaces end or section of the other, often so that
result. -lap/-joint/ed, adj. [1815-25]
result.-lap/-joint/ed, adj. [1815-25]
Laplace (la plas'), $n$. Pierre Si-mon (pyer sè môn') Warquis de, 1749-1827, French astronomer'and mathe-
matician (pyer sè môn')
Latician.
Laplace/ equa/tion, Math. the second-order partial
differential equation indicating that the Laplace operadifferential equation indicating that the Laplace operator operating on a given function results in zero. Cf. har-
nonic (def. 4c). [1835-45; after P.S. LAPLACE] monic (def. 4c). [1835-45; after P. S. Laplace]
Laplace' trans/form, Math a
Laplace/ trans/form, Math a map of a function, as
a signal, defined esp, for positive real values, as time freater than zero, into another domain where the function is represented as a sum of exponentials. Cf. Fourier
transform. [1940-45; after P. S. LAPLACE] laplarm. [1940-45; after P. S. Laplace]
lapland $/$ ), $n$. a region in N Nor
Lapiland (lap/land/), n. a region in N Norway, N Swo-
den, N Finland, and the Kola Peninsula of the NW So-

lap' link/, a chain link for joining two lengths of chain, having a split in one end so that it can be opened to re-
ceive other links and then closed again. Also called monkey link.

## lap/ mi/crophone. See lapel mike.

La Porte (le port/f, pōrt/), 1. a city in NW Indiana.
21,796. 2.
Lapp (lap), n. 1. Also called Lap-landeer (lap/lan/der, -lon-). a member of a Finnic people of northern Norway, Lappish. any of the languages of the Lapps, closely related to Finnish. Also called Sami.
lap-page (lap'ij), n. Law an overlapping of part or all of a piece of land claimed by one person on land claimed
Lap-peen•ranta (läp'pen Rän tä), $n$. a city in $S E$ Finland. 54,000.
lap.per ${ }^{1}$ (lap'ra), $n$. a person or thing that laps liquid
$\left[1600-10 ;\right.$ LAP $^{3}+-$ ER $\left.^{1}\right]$ lap-per ${ }^{2}$ (lap'or), u.i. Scot. and North Eng. to clabber
lap-pet (lap'it), $n$. 1. a small lap, flap, or loosely hanging part, esp. of a garment or headdress. See illus, unde miter. 2. a projecting, lobelike structure in certain in-
vertebrate animals. 3. Ornith. a wattle or other fleshy process on a bird's head. 4. Textiles. a. a rack or bar prontaining needles, situated at the front of the reed, and used in the production of figured patterns. b. an orna-
mented fabric produced by lappet weaving. [1565-75; mented fabric produced by lapp
lap/pet weav/ing, weaving into which an embroidered pattern produced by additional warp threads ha
been introduced with the aid of a lappet been introduced with the aid of a lappet. [1860-65]
Lap.pish (lap'ish), n. 1. Lapp (def. 2). adj. 2. Also, Lap'pic. of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Lapland or the Lapps. [1870-75; LaAP $+-18 H^{1}$ ]
L'A•près-mi-di d'un Faune (Fr. la pre mē dè dons fonf), a poem (1876) by Mallarmé: source of Debussy's musical composition Prélude à l'Après-midi d'un Faune (1892-94). English, The Afternoon of a Faun
lap/ robe/, a blanket, fur covering, or the like, used to cover one's lap or legs, as when sitting outdoors or riding
laps•a•ble (lap'sa bel), adj. liable to lapse. Also, lapsi-
ble. $[1670-80 ;$ LAPSE + -ABLE $]$
Lap-sang (läp'säng', lap'sang/), adj. noting a kind of
souchong tea with a strong smoky flavor. souchong tea with a strong smoky flavor. [1875-80; orig.
uncert.] uncert.]
lapse (laps), n., v., lapsed, lapsing. -n. 1. an acci-
dental or temporary decline or deviation from an exdental or temporary decline or deviation from an expected or accepted condition or state; a temporary falling or slipping from a previous standard: a lapse of justice.
2. a slip or error, often of a trivial sort; failure: a lapse of 2. a slip or error, often of a trivial sort; failure: a lapse of
memory. 3. an interval or passage of time; elapsed period: a lapse of ten minutes before the program resumed. riod: a lapse of ten minutes before the program resumed.
4. a moral fall, as from rectitude or virtue. 5. a fall or decline to a lower grade, condition, or degree; descent; regression: a lapse into savagery. 6 . the act of falling, slipping, sliding, etc., slowly or by degrees. 7. a falling
into disuse. 8. Insurance, discontinuance of coverg into disuse. 8. Insurance. discontinuance of coverage resulting from nonpayment of a premium; termination of
a policy. 9. Law. the termination of a right or privilege a policy. 9. Law. the termination of a right or privilege contingency. 10. Meteorol. See lapse rate. 11, Archaic. a gentle, downward flow, as of water. -u.i. 12. to fall or deviate from a previous standard; fail to maintain a normative level: Toward the end of the book the author lapsed into bad prose. 13. to come to an end; stop: We let our subscription to that magazine lapse 14 .
to fall, slip, or sink; subside: to lapse into silence. 15. to to fall, slip, or sink; subside: to lapse into silence. 15. to
fall into disuse: The custom lapsed after a period of time. fall into disuse: The custom lapsed after a period of time.
16. to deviate or abandon principles, beliefs, etc.: to 16. to deviate or abandon principles, beliefs, etc.: to
lapse into heresy. 17. to fall spiritually, as an apostate: to lapse from grace. 18. to pass away, as time; elapse. 19. Law. to become void, as a legacy to someone who dies before the testator. 20 . to cease being in force; terminate: Your insurance policy will lapse after 30 days. $\left[\begin{array}{l}1520-30 ;<\text { L läpsus an error, slipping, failing, equiv. to } \\ \operatorname{la} b(\bar{i}) \text { to slide, slip, fall, make a mistake }+ \text {-sus, for -tus }\end{array}\right.$ lāb(i) to slide, slip, fall, make a mistake + -sus, for tus
lapsed (lapst), adj. 1. expired; voided; terminated: a
lapsed insurance policy, 2. no longer committed to or lapsed insurance policy, 2. no longer committed to or
following the tenets of a particular belief, obligation, position, etc.: a lapsed Catholic. $\left[1610-20\right.$; LAPSE +- ED $\left.^{2}\right]$ lapsé rate', Meteorol. the rate of decrease of atmospheric temperature with increase of elevation vertically lap-si-ble (lap'sa bal), adj lapsab
lap-size (lap ${ }^{\prime}$ siz'), adj. of a size to fit the lap: a lapsize chessboard
lapostrake (lap/strāk/), adj. Naut. 1. clinker-built.
(def. 2). -n. 2. a vessel with a clinker-built hull.
lap-sus carla•mi (läp'sơos kä'lä mé'; Eng. lap/ses kal'e mí', mē'), Latin. a slip of the pen. lapesus /In•guae (läp/sŏs ling/gwī; Eng. lap'ses Lap'tev Sea' (lap'tef, tev; Russ. lä'ptyif), an arm of the Arct lands. Also called Neninsula and the New Siberian is
lap-top (lap'top'), $n$. a portable, usu. battery-powered microcomputer small
$\left[1980-85 ;\right.$ LAP $^{1}+$ TOP $\left.^{1}\right]$
La Puencte (lä pwen'tē, -tā), a city in SW California, E of Los Angeles. 30,882.
La•pu-ta (la pyoo'ta), $n$. an imaginary flying island in Swift's Gulliver's Travels, the inhabitants of which engaged in a variety of ridiculous projects and
scientific experiments. -La.pu/tan, adj., $n$.
lapawing (lap'wing'), n. 1. a large Old World plover,
Vanellus vanellus, having a long, slender, upcurved Vanellus vanellus, having a long, slender, upcurved crest, an erratic, flapping flight, and a shrill cry. 2, any of several similar, related plovers. (by assoc. with wiNg) of lapwinke, OE hléapwince plover. See LEAP, WINK]
 L'Aq-ui•la (lä/kwe lä), $n$. Aquila.
lar (lär), n., pl. larees (lâr'ēz, lā/rëz) for 1, lars for 2. 1. (cap.) Rom. Religion. any of the Lares. 2. Zool. See
white-handed gibbon. [1580-90; < L]
Lar-a•mie (lar'a mē), $\pi_{2}$ 1. a city in SE Wyoming.
24,410. 2. Fort.
Lar'amie Range', a mountain range in N Colorado
and SE Wyoming. Highest peak, Laramie Peak, 9020 ft . and $S E$, yoming. Highest peak, Laramie Peak, 9020 ft
$(2749 \mathrm{~m})$.
 an ancient Roman home) a shrine for
la raoza (lä rä/sä), (sometimes caps.) Spanish. 1. (used with a plural v.) Mexican Americans collectively. lar•board (lär '/bôrd', ${ }^{\text {-bōrd }}$ '; Naut. lär'bərd), Naut. -n. 1. (formerly) port ${ }^{2}$ (def. 1). a adj. 2. (formerly) port $^{2}$ (defs. 2, 3). [1300-50; ME ladadeborde (perh. lit., with starboard)]
lar-ce-ner (lär'sa nar), $n$. a person who commits lar-
ceny. Also, far'ce-nist. $1625-35$; LARCEN(v) lar-ce-nous (lär'se nes), adj. 1. of, resembling, or
characteristic of larceny. 2. guilty of larceny. [1735-45; characteristic of larceny.
lar-ce•ny (lär/se nē), n., pl. -nies. Law. the wrongful taking and carrying away of the personal goods of another from his or her possession with ind larceny, petty larceny. [1425-75; late ME < AF larcin theft ( $<\mathrm{L}$ latrōcinium robbery, equiv. to latröcin(ārī) to rob, orig. serve as mercenary soldier (deriv. of latrō hired soldier, robber) $\left.+-i u m-I U M)+-\mathbf{Y}^{3}\right]$
larch (lärch), $n$. 1. any coniferous tree of the genus
Larix, yielding a tough durable wood. 2. the wood of
such a tree. [1540-50; earlier larche $<\mathrm{MHG} \ll \mathrm{L}$ larsuch a tree. [1540-50; earlier larche <
ic- (s. of larix) larch] -larch/er, adj.
larch'saw'fly, a red and black sawfly, Pristiphora
erichsonii, the larvae of which infest and feed on the
lard (laird), n. 1. the rendered fat of hogs, esp. the in-
ternal fat of the abdomen. - v.t. 2. to apply lard or ternal fat of the abdomen. -v.t. 2. to apply lard or grease to. 3. to prepare or enrich (lean meat, chicken,
etc.) with pork or fat, esp. with lardons. 4. to suppleetc.) with pork or fat, esp. with lardons. 4. to supple-
ment or enrich with something for improvement or ormamentation: a literary work larded with mythological namentation: a literary work larded with mythological
allusions. $[1300-50 ; \mathrm{ME}$ (v.), late ME ( n ) < MF larder
 fat (adj.)] -lard/like', adj.
lar-da•ceous (lär dä'shas), adj. lardlike; fatty. lard 1815 ; LARD + -aceous]
ard-ass (lärd/as/), n. Slang (vulgar). 1. a person havAng unusually large buttocks. 2. any very fat person. lar-der (lär'dar), n. 1. a room or place where food is kept; pantry. 2. a supply of fo
lar/der bee/tle, a black beetle, Dermestes lardarius, the laryae of which feed on dried meats, hides, furs, etc. [1865-70, Amer.]
Lard-ner (lärd/nar), n. Ring(gold Wil-mer) (ring'gōld' wilist.
lard' oil', a colorless or yellowish oil expressed from lard, used chiefly as a lubricant for cutting tools. [183545]
ar drawn through the strip of fat used in larding, esp.
as dance of meat, chicken, etc. as drawn through the substance of meat, chicken, etc.,
with a kind of needle or pin. Also, Jar-doon (lar dō̃n'). with a kind of needle or pin. Also, lar-doon (lar doon).
[1400-50; late ME lardun < MF lardon piece of pork, equiv. to lard LARD + on n . suffix]
lard-y (lär'dē), adj., lard•i-er, lard-i-est. 1. like or consisting of lard: lardy pastry. 2. fat or becoming fat: a
diet designed for the lardy figure. [1880-85; LARD $\left.+-\mathbf{x}^{1}\right]$ lar-dy-dardy (lär'dē där'dē), adj. Chiefly Brit. Slang. characterized by excessive elegance. [1860-65; after LA-Di-DA; for sp . with $r$, cf. arvo]

CONCISE PRONUNCIATION KEY: act, cäpe, dâre, pärt; set, ēqual; if, ice;
ox, $\bar{\sigma}$ ver, ôrder, oil, book bōt, out; up, ûrge; child; sing; shoe; thin, that; zh as in treasure. $a=a$ as in alone, $e$ as in system, $i$ as in

