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Word Frequency ● ● ● ● ●

mains (meɪnz)

Definitions

plural noun

1. See [the mains](#)
2. See [the mains](#)
3. See [the mains](#)

modifier

4. of or relating to a main distribution network for water, gas, or electricity ⇒ [mains voltage](#)

main (meɪn)

Definitions

adjective (prenominal)

1. chief or principal in rank, importance, size, etc
2. sheer or utmost (esp in the phrase **by main force**)
3. (*nautical*) of, relating to, or denoting any gear, such as a stay or sail, belonging to the mainmast
4. (*obsolete*) significant or important

noun

5. a principal pipe, conduit, duct, or line in a system used to distribute water, electricity, etc
6. (*plural*)
 - a. the main distribution network for water, gas, or electricity
 - b. (*as modifier*) ⇒ [mains voltage](#)
7. the chief or most important part or consideration
8. ~~great strength or force (now chiefly in the phrase (with) **might and main**)~~

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- I'm not sure
- No

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- 9. (*literary*) the open ocean
- 10. (*archaic*) short for [Spanish Main](#)
- 11. (*archaic*) short for [mainland](#)
- 12. See [in the main](#)

Word Origin

C13: from Old English *mægen* strength

Synonyms

[View thesaurus entry](#)

= [chief](#), [leading](#), [major](#), [prime](#), [head](#), [special](#), [central](#), [particular](#), [necessary](#), [essential](#), [premier](#), [primary](#), [vital](#), [critical](#), [crucial](#), [supreme](#), [outstanding](#), [principal](#), [cardinal](#), [paramount](#), [foremost](#), [predominant](#), [pre-eminent](#), [must-have](#),

= [sheer](#), [direct](#), [entire](#), [pure](#), [mere](#), [absolute](#), [utter](#), [utmost](#), [downright](#), [brute](#), [undisguised](#)

= [force](#), [might](#), [power](#), [effort](#), [strength](#), [potency](#), puissance

= [pipeline](#), [channel](#), [pipe](#), [conduit](#), [duct](#)

= [cable](#), [line](#), electricity supply, mains supply

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main (meɪn)

Definitions

noun

- 1. a throw of the dice in dice games
- 2. a cockfighting contest
- 3. a match in archery, boxing, etc

Word Origin

C16: of unknown origin

Example Sentences Including 'mains'

A hissing noise of escaping gas from the ruptured mains suddenly thumped into flame and burst across the street, pushing the firemen back.

Robert Wilson THE COMPANY OF STRANGERS (2002)

Even the very streets were cracking up, causing mains pipes to burst and adding to fears of a water shortage.

Stewart, Michael COMPULSION

They are free to all those who decide to welcome the miracle of mains electricity into their homes.

Philip Marsden THE MAIN CAGES (2002)

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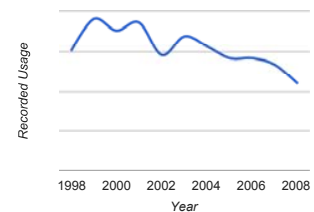
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