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Webster's
Collegiate[®]
Dictionary

Eleventh Edition

R.I. Reynolds Vanor

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Merriam- Webster's Collegiate[®] Dictionary

ELEVENTH
EDITION



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or hen of the domestic chicken (*Gallus gallus*); esp : an adult hen **b** : any of several domesticated or wild gallinaceous birds — compare **GUINEA FOWL**, **JUNGLE FOWL** **3** : the meat of fowls used as food

fowl *v* (bef. 12c) : to seek, catch, or kill wildfowl — **fowler** *n*
fowling piece *n* (1596) : a shotgun for shooting birds or small animals

fox *v* (1611) **1 obs** : INTOXICATE **2 a** : to trick by ingenuity or cunning : OUTWIT **b** : BAFFLE (*ved* by his behavior)
foxed *v* (1847) : discolored with foxing (< leaves of old books)

fox fire *n* (15c) : an eerie phosphorescent light (as of decaying wood); also : a luminous fungus (as *Armillaria mellea*) that causes decaying wood to glow
fox-glove *v* (1611) **1** : any of a genus (*Digitalis*) of erect herbs of the snapdragon family; esp : a common European biennial or perennial (*D. purpurea*) cultivated for its showy racemes of dotted white or purple tubular flowers and as a source of digitalis
fox grape *n* (1657) : any of several native grapes (esp. *Vitis labrusca*) of eastern No. America with sour or musky fruit

fox-hole *v* (1611) : a pit dug usu. hastily for individual cover from enemy fire
fox-hound *v* (1611) : any of various large swift powerful hounds of great endurance used in hunting foxes and developed to form several breeds and many distinctive strains — compare **AMERICAN FOXHOUND**, **ENGLISH FOXHOUND**

fox-hunter *v* (1611) : one who engages in foxhunting **2** : HUNTER **1c**
fox-hunt-ing *v* (1611) : a pastime in which participants on horseback ride over the countryside following a pack of hounds on the trail of a fox — **fox-hunt** *v* (1611)

fox-ing *v* (1611) : brownish spots on old paper (some ~ on the pages)
fox-tail *v* (1611) **1 a** : the tail of a fox **b** : something resembling the tail of a fox **2** : any of several grasses (esp. genera *Alopecurus*, *Hordeum*, and *Setaria*) with spikes resembling brushes — called also **foxtail grass**

foxtail lily *n* (1946) : EREMURUS
foxtail millet *n* (ca. 1899) : a coarse drought-resistant but frost-sensitive annual grass (*Setaria italica*) grown for grain, hay, and forage
fox terrier *n* (1823) : a small lively terrier of either of two breeds formerly used to dig out foxes: **a** : SMOOTH FOX TERRIER **b** : WIRE FOX TERRIER

Fox-trot *v* (1952) — a communications code word for the letter **f**
fox-trot *v* (1872) **1** : a short broken slow trotting gait in which the hind foot of the horse hits the ground a trifle before the diagonally opposite forefoot **2** : a ballroom dance in duple time that includes slow walking steps, quick running steps, and the step of the two-step

fox-trot *v* (1916) : to dance the fox-trot
foxy *v* (1611) **1** : resembling or suggestive of a fox (< narrow ~ face): as **a** : cunningly shrewd **b** : of a warm reddish-brown color (< eyebrows) **2** : having a sharp brisk flavor (< grapes) **3** : physically attractive (< a ~ lady) **syn** see **SLY** — **fox-ily** *v* (1611) **1** : fox-i-hess *v* (1611) **1** : fox-i-hess *v* (1611) **1** : fox-i-hess *v* (1611)

foy *v* (1611) [Dial. *foi* feast at end of the harvest] (ca. 1645) chiefly *Scot* : a farewell feast or gift
foyer *v* (1611) : an anteroom or lobby esp. of a theater; also : an entrance hallway : VESTIBULE

fp *abbr* freezing point
FP *abbr* fielding percentage
FPC *abbr* fish protein concentrate
fpm *abbr* feet per minute
FPO *abbr* fleet post office
fps *abbr* 1 feet per second 2 foot-pound-second 3 frames per second

fr *abbr* 1 father 2 franc 3 friar 4 from
Fr *abbr* 1 France; French 2 Friday
Fr *symbol* francium

Fra *v* (1611) [It, short for *frate*, fr. *L. frater* — more at **BROTHER**] (1722) — used as a title equivalent to *brother* preceding the name of an Italian monk or friar

fra-cas *v* (1611) [Fr. *fracas*, fr. *L. fractus*, broken, uneven (pp. of *frangere* to break) + *F* -ale -al (n. suffix)] (1975) : any of various extremely irregular curves or shapes for which any suitably chosen part is similar in shape to a given larger or smaller part when magnified or reduced to the same size — **fractal** *adj*

fract-ed *v* (1611) [L. *fractus*] (1547) **obs** : BROKEN
frac-tion *v* (1611) [ME *fraccloun*, fr. LL *fractio*, *fractio* act of breaking, fr. *L. frangere* to break — more at **BREAK**] (14c) **1 a** : a numerical representation (as $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{2}{3}$, or 3.234) indicating the quotient of two numbers **b** (1) : a piece broken off : **FRAGMENT** (2) : a discrete unit : **PORTION** (3) : one of several portions (as of a distillate) separable by fractionation **3** : BIT, LITTLE (a ~ closer)

frac-tion-al *v* (1611) [L. *fractus*, broken, uneven (pp. of *frangere* to break) + *F* -ale -al (n. suffix)] (1975) : any of various extremely irregular curves or shapes for which any suitably chosen part is similar in shape to a given larger or smaller part when magnified or reduced to the same size — **fractal** *adj*

frac-tion-ate *v* (1611) [L. *fractus*] (1547) **obs** : BROKEN
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frac-tion-al-ize *v* (1611) [L. *fractus*, broken, uneven (pp. of *frangere* to break) + *F* -ale -al (n. suffix)] (1975) : any of various extremely irregular curves or shapes for which any suitably chosen part is similar in shape to a given larger or smaller part when magnified or reduced to the same size — **fractal** *adj*

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~ vi 1 *archaic* : PROCEED, GO 2 *obs* : MANAGE — **fram-able** or **frame-able** \ˈfrā-mə-bəl\ *adj* — **fram-er** *n*

Frame *n* (14c) 1 **a** : something composed of parts fitted together and united **b** : the physical makeup of an animal and esp. a human body : PHYSIOLOGICAL, FIGURE 2 **a** : the underlying constructional system or structure that gives shape or strength (as to a building) **b** : a frame dwelling 3 *obs* : the act or manner of framing 4 **a** : a machine built upon or within a framework (as a spinning wheel) **b** : an open case or structure made for admitting, enclosing, or supporting something (a window ~) **c** (1) : a part of a pair of glasses that holds one of the lenses (2) *pl* : that part of a pair of glasses other than the lenses **d** : a structural unit in an automobile chassis supported on the axles and supporting the rest of the chassis and the body 5 **a** : an enclosing border **b** : the matter or area enclosed in such a border: as (1) : one of the squares in which scores for each round are recorded (as in bowling); *also* : a round in bowling (2) : an individual drawing in a comic strip usu. enclosed by a bordering line (3) : one picture of the series on a length of film (4) : a complete image for display (as on a television set) **c** : an inning in baseball **d** (1) : FRAMEWORK 1a (2) : CONTEXT, FRAME OF REFERENCE **e** : an event that forms the background for the action of a novel or play 6 : FRAME-UP

frame *adj* (1753) : having a wood frame (~ houses)

frame of mind (1665) : mental attitude or outlook : MOOD

frame of reference (1897) 1 : an arbitrary set of axes with reference to which the position or motion of something is described or physical laws are formulated 2 : a set of ideas, conditions, or assumptions that determine how something will be approached, perceived, or understood (a Marxist *frame of reference*)

frame-shift \ˈfrām-ʃift\ *adj* (1967) : relating to, being, or causing a shift in which a number of nucleotides not divisible by three is inserted or deleted so as to change the reading frame of some triplet codons during genetic translation — **frameshift** *n*

frame-up \ˈfrām-ʊp\ *n* (1889) 1 : an act or series of actions in which someone is framed 2 : an action that is framed

frame-work \ˈfrām-wɜrk\ *n* (1578) 1 **a** : a basic conceptual structure (as of ideas) (the ~ of the U.S. Constitution) **b** : a skeletal, openwork, or structural frame 2 : FRAME OF REFERENCE 3 : the larger branches of a tree that determine its shape

framing \ˈfrā-mɪŋ\ *n* (1703) : FRAME, FRAMEWORK

franc \ˈfrɑŋk\ *n* [F] (14c) 1 : any of various former basic monetary units (as in Belgium, France, and Luxembourg) 2 — see MONEY table

franchise \ˈfrɑŋ-tʃɪz\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. *franchir* to free, fr. *franc* free — more at FRANK] (14c) 1 : freedom or immunity from some burden or restriction granted to an individual or group 2 **a** : a special privilege granted to an individual or group; *esp.* : the right to be and exercise the powers of a corporation **b** : a constitutional or statutory right or privilege; *esp.* : the right to vote **c** (1) : the right or license granted to an individual or group to market a company's goods or services in a particular territory; *also* : a business granted such a right or license (2) : the territory involved in such a right 3 **a** : the right of membership in a professional sports league **b** : a team and its operating organization having such membership

franchise *vt* **franchised**; **fran-chis-ing** (14c) 1 *archaic* : FREE 2 : to grant a franchise to

franchisee \ˈfrɑŋ-tʃi-zē\ *n* (1954) : one granted a franchise

franchisee \ˈfrɑŋ-tʃi-zər\ *n* [in sense 1, fr. *franchisee*; in sense 2, fr. *franchise*] (1843) 1 : FRANCHISEE 2 : FRANCHISOR

franchisee \ˈfrɑŋ-tʃi-zər\ *n* [fr. *franchise* + -or] (1967) : one that grants a franchise

Franciscan \ˈfrɑŋ-sɪs-kən\ *n* [ML *Franciscus* Francis] (1536) : a member of the Order of Friars Minor founded by St. Francis of Assisi in 1209 and dedicated esp. to preaching, missions, and charities — **Franciscan** *adj*

fractium \ˈfrɑŋ(t)-sē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *France*] (1946) : a short-lived radioactive element of the alkali-metal group occurring naturally as a disintegration product of actinium and also produced artificially — see ELEMENT table

Frango *comb form* [ML, fr. *Francus* Frenchman, fr. LL, Frank] 1 : French and <Frango-American> 2 : French (<Frangophile>)

Frango-American \ˈfrɑŋ-kō-ˈmer-ə-kən\ *n* (1859) : an American of French or esp. French-Canadian descent — **Frango-American** *adj*

franco-lin \ˈfrɑŋ-k(ə)-lɪn\ *n* [F, fr. It *francolino*] (1653) : any of a genus (*Francolinus*) of partridges of chiefly southern Asia and Africa

franco-philic \ˈfrɑŋ-kə-ˈfɪl(-ə)-\, -kō-\ *adj* (1887) : markedly friendly to France or French culture — **franco-philic** *n*

franco-philic \ˈfrɑŋ-kə-ˈfɪ-lē-ə-, -lɪ-, -kō-\ *adj* (1855) : marked by a fear or strong dislike of France or French culture or customs — **franco-phobe** *n*

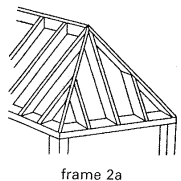
franco-philic \ˈfrɑŋ-kə-ˈfɪ-bē-ə-, -kō-\ *n* : a population using French as its first or sometimes second language — **franco-philic** *n*

franco-tireur \ˈfrɑŋ-ˈtɪr-ər\ *n* [F, fr. *franc* free + *tireur* shooter] (1808) : a Belgian and esp. a guerrilla fighter or sniper

frangible \ˈfrɑŋ-ɡə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF & ML, MF, fr. ML *frangibilis*, fr. L *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] (15c) : readily or easily broken — *syn* see FRAGILE — **frangible-ly** \ˈfrɑŋ-ɡə-ˈbɪ-lɪ-ə-\ *adv*

frangipane \ˈfrɑŋ-ɡɪ-pān\ *n* [F, fr. *frangipani* (perfume), fr. It] (1858) : a custard usu. flavored with almonds

frangipani *n* *also* **frangipani** \ˈfrɑŋ-ɡɪ-pā-nē-, -pā-\ *n*, *pl* -pani *also* -pani [modif. of It *frangipane*, fr. Muzio *Frangipane*, 16th cent. Ital. nobleman] (1675) 1 : a perfume derived from or imitating the odor of the flower of a frangipani (*Plumeria rubra*) 2 : any of a genus (*Plumeria*) of shrubs or small trees of the dogbane family that are native to the American tropics and widely cultivated as ornamentals



frame 2a

frank \ˈfrɑŋk\ *adj* [ME, free, fr. AF *franc*, fr. ML *francus*, fr. LL *Francus* Frank] (1535) 1 : marked by free, forthright, and sincere expression (<~ reply>) 2 **a** : unmistakably evident (<~ materialism>) **b** : clinically evident and unmistakable (<~ pus>) — **frank-ness** *n*

syn FRANK, CANDID, OPEN, PLAIN mean showing willingness to tell what one feels or thinks. FRANK stresses lack of shyness or secretiveness or of evasiveness from considerations of tact or expedience (<frank discussions>). CANDID suggests expression marked by sincerity and honesty esp. in offering unwelcome criticism or opinion (a *candid* appraisal). OPEN implies frankness but suggests more indiscretion than FRANK. PLAIN suggests outspokenness and freedom from affectation or subtlety in expression (<plain talk>).

frank *vt* (1708) 1 **a** : to mark (a piece of mail) with an official signature or sign indicating the right of the sender to free mailing **b** : to mail free **c** : to affix to (mail) a stamp or a marking indicating the payment of postage 2 : to enable to pass or go freely or easily — **frank-able** \ˈfrɑŋ-kə-bəl\ *adj* — **frank-er** *n*

frank *n* (1713) 1 **a** : the signature of the sender on a piece of franked mail serving in place of a postage stamp **b** : a mark or stamp on a piece of mail indicating postage paid **c** : a franked envelope 2 : the privilege of sending mail free of charge

frank *n* (1904) : FRANKFURTER

Frank \ˈfrɑŋk\ *n* [ME, partly fr. OE *Franca*; partly fr. AF *Franc*, fr. LL *Francus*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *Franko* Frank, OE *Franca*] (bef. 12c) : a member of a West Germanic tribal confederacy that entered the Roman provinces in A.D. 253, occupied the Netherlands and most of Gaul, and established themselves along the Rhine

Franken-food \ˈfrɑŋ-kən-ˈfud\ *n* [*Franken-* (as in *Frankenstein*) + *food*] (1992) : genetically engineered food

Franken-stein \ˈfrɑŋ-kən-ˈstɪn\ *also* -stɛn\ *n* (1818) 1 **a** : the title character in Mary W. Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* who creates a monster by which he is eventually killed **b** : a monster in the shape of a man esp. in popularized versions of the Frankenstein story 2 : a monstrous creation; *esp.* : a work or agency that ruins its originator — **Franken-stein-ian** \ˈfrɑŋ-kən-ˈsti-nē-ən-, -sti-\ *adj*

frank-furter \ˈfrɑŋk-ˈfɜrt-ər-, -fɔrt-\ or **frank-furt** \-fɔrt\ *n* [G *Frankfurt* of Frankfurt, (r.) *Frankfurt am Main*, Germany] (1887) : a cured cooked sausage (as of beef or pork) that may be skinless or stuffed in a casing

frank-incense \ˈfrɑŋ-kən-ˈsɛn(t)s\ *n* [ME *frank encense*, fr. AF *franc encens*, fr. *franc* (perh. in sense "of high quality") + *encens* incense] (14c) : a fragrant gum resin from trees of a genus (*Boswellia* of the family Burseraceae) of Somalia and southern coastal Arabia that is an important incense resin and has been used in religious rites, perfumery, and embalming

Frank-ish \ˈfrɑŋ-kɪʃ\ *adj* (14c) : of or relating to the Franks

Frankish *n* (14c) : the Germanic language of the Franks

Franklin \ˈfrɑŋ-klɪn\ *n* [ME *frankeleyn*, fr. AF *franclein*, fr. *franc*] (14c) : a medieval English landowner of free but not noble birth

Franklin stove *n* [Benjamin *Franklin*, its inventor] (1776) : a metal heating stove resembling an open fireplace but designed to be set out in a room

frank-ly \ˈfrɑŋ-kli\ *adv* (1537) 1 : in a frank manner (<spoke ~>) 2 : in truth : INDEED (<I don't know>) *usage* see HOPEFULLY

frank-pledge \ˈfrɑŋk-ˈpleɪ\ *n* [ME *frankpledge*, fr. AF *francplege* (prob. trans. of ME *frifborg* peace pledge), fr. *franc* free + *plege* pledge] (15c) : an Anglo-Saxon system under which each adult male member of a tithing was responsible for the good conduct of the others; *also* : the member himself or the tithing

frank-tic \ˈfrɑŋ-tɪk\ *adj* [ME *frenetik*, *frantik* — more at FRENETIC] (14c) 1 *archaic* : mentally deranged **b** : emotionally out of control (<with anger and frustration>) 2 : marked by fast and nervous, disordered, or anxiety-driven activity (<made a ~ search for the lost child>)

frank-tic-ly \ˈfrɑŋ-tɪk-li\ *adv* — **frank-tic-ness** \-tɪk-nəs\ *n*

frap \ˈfrɑp\ *vt* **frapped**; **frap-ping** [ME, to strike, beat, fr. AF *fraper*] (1548) : to draw tight (as with ropes or cables) (<~ a sail>)

frap-pé \ˈfrɑ-pā\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *frapper* to strike, chill, fr. OF *fraper* to strike] (1848) : chilled or partly frozen

frap-pé \ˈfrɑ-pā\ or **frappe** \ˈfrɑp, frɑ-ˈpā\ *n* (1903) 1 **a** : a partly frozen drink (as of fruit juice) **b** : a liqueur served over shaved ice 2 : a thick milk shake

Fraser *fr* \ˈfrɑ-zər-\ *n* [John *Fraser* †1811 Brit. botanist] (1897) : a southern Appalachian fir (*Abies fraseri*) that resembles the balsam fir

frass \ˈfrɑs\ *n* [G, insect damage, lit., eating away, fr. OHG *vrāz* food, fr. *fræzzan* to devour — more at FRET] (1854) : debris or excrement produced by insects

frat \ˈfræt\ *n* (ca. 1895) : FRATERNITY 1c

frat-er-nal \ˈfrɑ-tər-nəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. ML *fraternalis*, fr. L *fraternus*, fr. *frater* brother — more at BROTHER] (15c) 1 **a** : of, relating to, or involving brothers **b** : of, relating to, or being a fraternity or society (<~ order>) 2 : derived from two ova : DIZYGOTIC (<~ twins>) 3 : FRIENDLY, BROTHERLY — **frat-er-nal-ism** \-nəl-iz-əm\ *n* — **frat-er-nal-ly** \-nəl-ē\ *adv*

frat-er-ni-ty \ˈfrɑ-tər-nə-ti\ *n*, *pl* -ties (14c) 1 : a group of people associated or formally organized for a common purpose, interest, or pleasure: as **a** : a fraternal order **b** : GUILD 1 **c** : a men's student organization formed chiefly for social purposes having secret rites and a name consisting of Greek letters **d** : a student organization for scholastic, professional, or extracurricular activities (<a debating ~>) 2 : the quality or state of being brothers : BROTHERLINESS 3 : persons of the same class, profession, character, or tastes (the racetrack ~)

frat-er-nize \ˈfrɑ-tər-nɪz-ə-, -nɪz-ɪŋ\ (1611) 1 : to associate or mingle as brothers or on fraternal terms 2 **a** : to associate on close terms with members of a hostile group esp. when contrary to military orders **b** : to be friendly or amiable — **frat-er-ni-za-tion** \ˈfrɑ-tər-nə-ˈzə-ʃən\ *n* — **frat-er-niz-er** \ˈfrɑ-tər-nɪ-zər\ *n*

\ə\ abut \ə\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ā\ ace \ā\ mop, mar

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