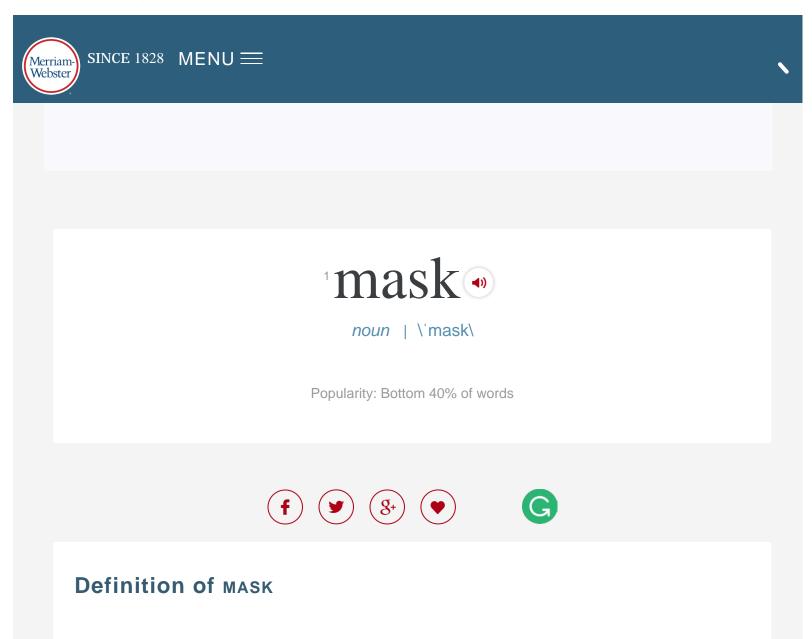
Mask | Definition of Mask by Merriam-Webster



**1 a** (1) : a cover or partial cover for the face used for disguise (2) : a person wearing a mask : MASKER

**b** (1) : a figure of a head worn on the stage in antiquity to identify the character and project the voice (2) : a grotesque false face worn at carnivals or in rituals

- **c**: an often grotesque carved head or face used as an ornament (as on a keystone)
- d: a sculptured face or a copy of a face made by means of a mold
- **2 a** : something that serves to conceal or disguise : **PRETENSE**, **CLOAK** <aware of the *masks*, facades and defenses people erect to protect themselves Kenneth Keniston>
  - **b** : something that conceals from view

**c**: a translucent or opaque screen to cover part of the sensitive surface in taking or printing a photograph

d: a pattern of opaque material used to shield selected areas of a surface (as of a

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- **a** : a protective covering for the face
  - **b**: GAS MASK
  - c: a device covering the mouth and nose to facilitate inhalation
  - d: a comparable device to prevent exhalation of infective material

**e**: a cosmetic preparation for the skin of the face that produces a tightening effect as it dries

**a**: the head or face of an animal (as a fox or dog) **b**: an area (as the one around the eyes) of an animal's face that is distinguished by usually darker coloring

See mask defined for English-language learners

See mask defined for kids

See words that rhyme with mask

#### Examples of MASK in a sentence

Everyone wore costumes and *masks* to the dance.

Doctors wear surgical masks in the operating room.

### **Origin and Etymology of MASK**

Middle French masque, from Old Italian maschera

First Known Use: 1534

Synonyms vizard

Related Words camouflage, costume, disguise, guise; bill, cloak, domino, hood, veil, visor (*also* vizor)

## <sup>2</sup>mask

verb

#### **Definition of MASK**

#### intransitive verb

- 1 : to take part in a masquerade
- 2 a : to assume a mask
  - **b**: to disguise one's true character or intentions

#### transitive verb

- 1 : to provide or conceal with a mask: as
  - a: to conceal from view < mask a gun battery>
  - b: to make indistinct or imperceptible < masks undesirable flavors>
  - c: to cover up < masked his real purpose>
- 2 : to cover for protection
- **3** : to modify the size or shape of (as a photograph) by means of an opaque border

-masklike (•) \- līk\ adjective

See mask defined for English-language learners



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#### Examples of MASK in a sentence

The house was masked by trees.

They tried to *mask* their real purpose.

She tried using perfume to *mask* the bad odor.

#### First Known Use of MASK

circa 1562

# **Circa 1562**

#### MASK Synonyms

Synonyms camouflage, cloak, dress up, disguise

Antonyms unmask

#### Synonym Discussion of MASK

DISGUISE, CLOAK, MASK mean to alter the dress or appearance of so as to conceal the identity or true nature. DISGUISE implies a change in appearance or behavior that misleads by presenting a different apparent identity *<disguised* herself as a peasant*>*. CLOAK suggests a means of hiding a movement or an intention *<cloaked* their maneuvers in secrecy*>*. MASK suggests some often obvious means of hiding or disguising something *<smilling* to *mask* his discontent*>*.

## **MASK Defined for English Language Learners**

## <sup>2</sup>mask

verb

## Definition of MASK FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

: to hide (something) from sight

: to keep (something) from being known or noticed

## **MASK Defined for Kids**



noun | \'mask\

### **Definition of MASK for Students**

DOCKET

- a cover for the face or part of the face used for disguise or protection <a Halloween mask> <a catcher's mask>
- 2 : something that disguises or conceals <She visited under a mask of friendship.>

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# DOCKET A L A R M



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