THE

AMERICAN HERITAGE COLLEGE diction-ary



THIRD EDITION

THE AMERICAN HERITAGE® COLLEGE DICTIONARY

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HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY

Boston • New York



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0-395-67161-2 (UPC)

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data The American heritage college dictionary. —3rd ed.

p. cm.
ISBN 0-395-66917-0 (plain edge). —ISBN 0-395-44638-4
(thumb edge). —ISBN 0-395-66918-9 (deluxe binding).
1. English language—Dictionaries. 2. Americanisms.
PE1628.A6227 1993
423—dc20 92-42124
CIP

Manufactured in the United States of America

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1102 proverb

prudent



prow Of the Queen Elizabeth 2

similar digestive chamber in certain insects and worms. [PRO-2 Lat. ventriculus, stomach, dim. of venter, belly.] - pro'-

ven • tric 'u • lar (-lər) adj.

ven-tric/u-iar (-iar) aaj.
prov-erb (prōv/ûrb') n. 1. A short pithy saying that expresses a basic truth or practical precept. 2. Proverbs. (used with a sing. v.) See table at Bible. [ME proverbe < OFr. < Lat. proverbium: prō-, forth; see PRO-1 + verbum, word; see

wer-o-, pro-ver-bi-al (pro-vûr/bē-ol) adj. 1. Of the nature of a proverb. 2. Expressed in a proverb. 3. Widely referred to, as if the subject of a proverb; famous. — pro-ver/bi-ai-ly adv. pro-vide (pro-vidi) v. -vid-ed, -vid-ing, -vides. — tr. 1. To furnish; supply. 2. To make available; afford. 3. To set down as a stipulation. 4. Archaic. To make ready ahead of time; as a stipulation. 4. Archaic. To make ready ahead of time; prepare. — intr. 1. To take measures in preparation. 2. To supply means of subsistence. 3. To make a stipulation or condition. [ME providen < Lat. providere, to provide for: proforward; see pro-1 + vidēre, to see; see weid-*.] pro-vid-ed (pro-vi/did/conj. On the condition; if. prov-i-dence (prov/i-dons, -děns/) n. 1. Care or preparation in advance; foresight. 2. Prudent management; economy. 3. The care, guardianship, and control exercised by a deity; divine direction. 4. Providence. God. Providence. The cap. of RI, in the NE part on Narragansett Bay; founded by Roger Williams in 1636. Pop. 160,728. prov-i-dent (prov/i-dont, -děnt/) adj. 1. Providing for future needs or events. 2. Frugal; economical. [ME < Lat. providēre, pr.part. of providēre, to provide for. See provue.]

provident-, pr.part. of providere, to provide for. See PROVIDE.]

needs or events. Z. Frigai; economical. [MID. Lat. providents, provident-t, pr.part. of prövidēre, to provide for. See provine.]

— prov'i-dent-tly adv.

prov-i-dent-tlal (prôv'i-dên' shal) adj. 1. Of or resulting from divine providence. Z. Happening as if through divine intervention; opportune. — prov'i-den' tial-tly adv.

pro-vid-en (pro-vi'dar) n. 1. One who supplies a means of subsistence. Z. One that makes something available.

pro-vid-ing (pro-vi'dar) n. 1. A territory governed as an administrative or political unit of a country or an empire. Z. Eccles. A division of territory under the jurisdiction of an archbishop.

3. provinces. Areas of a country situated away from the capital or population center. 4. A comprehensive area of knowledge, activity, or interest. 5. The range of one's proper duties and functions; scope or jurisdiction. 6. Ecol. An area of land, less extensive than a region, having a characteristic plant and animal population. 7. Any of various lands outside Italy conquered by the Romans and administered as self-contained units. [ME < OFr. < Lat. provinca.]

Prov-ince-town (prov/ins-toun'). A town of SE MA on the tip of Cape Cod. Pilgrims first landed on the site in 1620 before sailing on to Plymouth. Pop. 3,374.

pro-vin-cial (pro-vin'shal) adj. 1. Of or relating to a province.

2. Of or characteristic of people from the provinces, not fashionable or sophisticated. 3. Limited in perspective; narrow

2. Of or characteristic of people from the provinces; not fashionable or sophisticated. 3. Limited in perspective; narrow and self-centered. -n. 1. A native or inhabitant of the provinces, 2. A person who has provincial ideas or habits. — provincial ism, provincial ity (-shē-ăl'i-tē) n. — provincial ism, pr vin/cial·ly adv.

pro•vin·cial·ize (pro-vin/sho-līz/) tr.v. -ized, -iz•ing, -iz•es.
To make provincial. — pro•vin/cial•i•za/tion (-sho-lǐ-zā/-

proving ground (proo'ving) n. A place for testing new de-

vices, weapons, or theories.

pro-vi-rus (pro/vi/rss, pro-vi/-) n., pl. -rus-es. The precursor or latent form of a virus that is capable of being integrated

into the genetic material of a host cell and replicated with it.

pro-vi-sion (pro-vizh'-an) n. 1. The act of supplying or fitting out. 2. Something provided. 3. A preparatory action or measout. 2. Something provided. 3. A preparatory action or measure. 4. provisions. A stock of necessary supplies, esp. food. 5. A stipulation or qualification, esp. a clause in a document or an agreement. — It.v. sioned, -sion*. Ing. -sions. To supply with provisions. [ME < OFr., forethought < Lat. provision* provision* - provision* provision* - provision* -

tion of the Irish Republican Army established in 1970. — pro•

vi/sion·ai·lv adv.

pro•vi•so (pra•vī/zō) n., pl. -sos or -soes. A clause in a document making a qualification or restriction. [ME < Med.Lat. prōvīsō (quod), provided (that) < Lat. prōvīsō, ablative of

proviso, (quou), province (tnat) < Lat. proviso, ablative of prōvišus, p.part. of prōvidēre, to provide. See provide.]

pro•vi•so•ry (pra•vī/za-rē) adj. Depending on a proviso; conditional. [Fr. provisoire < OFr. < Med.Lat. prōvīsorius < Lat. prōvīšus, p.part. of prōvidēre, to provide for. See provide.]

— pro•vi/so•ri•ly adv.

pro · vi · ta · min (prō - vī / tə-min) n. A vitamin precursor that is pro•vo•ta•min (pro-vi ta-min) n. A vitalini precursor that is converted to its active form through normal metabolism.

Pro•vo•1 (prō-vō). A city of N-central UT SSE of Salt Lake City; settled by Mormons in 1849. Pop. 86,835.

Pro•vo•(prō-vō) n., pl. •vos. A Provisional.

pro•vo•ca•teur (prō-vōk'ə-tūr') n. An agent provocateur.

prov·o·ca·tion (prov'ə-kā'shən) n. 1. The act of provoking or inciting. 2. Something that provokes. [Ult. < Lat. provocatio, provocation, a challenging < provocatus, p.part. of provocation, a challenging < provocatus, p.part. of provocation continuous continuous continuous provocation (pro-voc'a-tive (pro-voc'a-tive) adj. Tending to provoke.

— pro-voc'a-tive n. — pro-voc'a-tive-ly adv. — pro-voc'a-tive-tive-tive-roce.

- pro·voc'a·tive n. - pro·voc'a·tive·ly adv. - pro·voc'a·tive·ness n.

pro·voke (pra·vōk') tr.v. -voked, -vok·ing, -vokes. 1. To incite to anger or resentment. 2. To stir to action or feeling.

3. To give rise to; evoke. 4. To bring about deliberately; induce. [ME provoken < OFr. provoquer < Lat. provocāre, to challenge: prō-, forth; see PRO-1 + vocāre, to call; see wekw.*]

wekw.*.]

pro•vok•ing (pro-vō/king) adj. Troubling the nerves or peace
of mind, as by repeated vexations. —pro•vok/ing•ly adv.

pro•vo•lo•ne (prō/vo-lō/nē) n. A hard, usu. smoked Italian
cheese. [Ital., aug. of provola, a kind of cheese.]

pro•vost (prō/vost/, -vost, prov/vost) n. A university administrator of high rank. 2. The highest official in certain cathedrals or collegiate churches. 3. The keeper of a prison. 4. The
chief magnifyrate of certain Scottish circle [MS < OR profers chief magistrate of certain Scottish cities. [ME < OE profost and OFr. provost, both < Med.Lat. proposities, alteration of Lat. praepositus, superintendent < p.part. of praeponere, to

place over: prae-, pre- + ponere, to put; see apo-*.]
pro-vost marshal (pro voi n. The head of a unit of military

prow (prou) n. 1. Naut. The forward part of a ship's hull; the bow. 2. A projecting forward part, such as the front end of a ski. (Fr. proue < OFr. < Ital. dial. prua < VLat. *prōda, alteration of Lat. prōra < Gk. prōira. See per **.]

prow•ess (prou is) n. 1. Superior skill or ability. 2. Superior

strength, courage, or daring, esp. in battle. [ME prowesse < OFr. proesse < prud, prou, brave. See PROUD.]

prowi (proul) v. prowled, prowling, prowls. — tr. To roam through stealthily, as in search of prey. — intr. To rove furtively or with predatory intent. — n. The act or an instance of prowling. — *idiom*. on the prowl. Actively looking for something. [ME prollen, to move about.] — prowl'er n. prowl car n. See squad car.

prox. abbr. Proximo.
prox.i.mal (prok. so-mol) adj. 1. Nearest; proximate. 2. Anat.
Nearer to a point of reference such as an origin, a point of

realer to a point of interface and as an origin, a point of attachment, or the midline of the body. [< Lat. proximus, nearest. See FROXIMATE.] — prox/i·mal·ly adv.

prox-i·mate (prök/sɔ-mit) adj. 1. Closely related in space, time, or order; very near. See Syns at close. 2. Approximate. [Lat. proximātus, p.part. of proximāre, to come near < proximus, nearest. See per¹*.] — prox/i·mate·ly adv. — prox/i-mate·ly adv. — prox/i-mate·ly adv. i mate ness n.

prox•im•i•ty (pròk-sim/i-tē) n. The state, quality, sense, or fact of being near or next; closeness. See Usage Notes at close, redundancy. [ME < OFr. proximite < Lat. proximitās

< proximus, nearest. See PROXIMATE.]</p>
proximity fuze n. An electronic device for detonating a war

proximity fuze n. An electronic device for defonating a war-head as it approaches a target, used in antiaircraft shells. prox·y (prök/sē) n., pl. -les. 1. A person authorized to act for another; an agent or a substitute. 2. The authority to act for another. 3. The written authorization to act in place of an-other. [ME proccy, contraction of earlier procracie, annual payment to a prelate < AN procuracie < Med.Lat. procura-tic electrics of Let procuration of the p tia, alteration of Lat. procurătio < procurătus, p.part. of pro-curăre, to take care of. See procure.]

Pro-zac (pro-zak'). A trademark used for the hydrochloride

form of fluoxetine

prude (prood) n. One who is excessively concerned with being or appearing proper, modest, or righteous. [Fr., short for prude femme, virtuous woman: OFr. prude, fem. of prud, virtuous; see PROUD + Fr. femme, woman (< Lat. femina; see

FRINKINEJ.] FRUNKINEJ.] The state, quality, or fact of being prudent. 2. Careful management; economy.
Syns: prudence, discretion, foresight, forethought, circumspection. These nouns refer to the exercise of good judgment, common sense, and even caution, especially in practical forms. matters. Prudence is the most comprehensive: "She had been forced into prudence in the most comprehensive: "She had been forced into prudence in her youth, she learned romance as she grew older" (Jane Austen). Discretion suggests wise self-restraint, as in resisting a rash impulse: "The better part of valor is discretion" (Shakespeare). Foresight implies the ability to foresee and make provision for what may happen: the presight to play. Forestought supposes advance consideration. foresight to plan. Forethought suggests advance consideration of future eventualities: An empty refrigerator illustrates a lack of forethought. Circumspection implies discretion, as out of concern for moral or social repercussions: "The necessity of the times . . . calls for our utmost circumspection" (Samuel Adams)

Adams).

Pru-dent (prood'nt) adj. 1. Wise in handling practical matters; exercising good judgment or common sense. 2. Careful in regard to one's own interests; provident. 3. Careful about one's conduct; circumspect. [ME < OFr. < Lat. prüdeñs, prüdent-, contraction of providens, pr.part. of providere, to provide for. See fronde.] — pru'dent-ly adv.

pru•den•tial (proo-dĕn characterized by prudence

ment, or common sense. prud·er·y (proo'də-rē) n., being prudish. Z. An insta pruderie < prude, prude.

Pruderie < prude, prude.

Prudenie Bay (prood/ho
Ocean on the N coast of
prudeish (prood/dish) adj.

acteristics of a prude; prig

ish ness n.

pru inose (proo' a nos')

covering or bloom. [Lat.
frost. See preus-*.]

prune (proon) n. 1.a. The prune (proon) n. 1.a.

varieties of the common pl of plum that can be dried tempered, stupid, or incor prun ing, prunes. Slang. iting ill temper or disgust.
Lat. prünum, plum.]

prune (proon) v. pruned, poff or remove dead or livin

example) to improve shap out as superfluous. 3. To r out as superfluous. 3. To r remove what is superfluou OFr. proignier, perh. < V. front; see PRO-1 + Lat. ro. ret-*].] - prun'er n. pru-nel·la (prō-nĕl/a) also los. A heavy fabric of uppers, clerical robes, and a prunelle, sloe < OFr., dim prun-ing hook (proightfus).

prun ing hook (proo ning) blade and usu. a clipping me pruning small trees.

pru·ri·ent (proor/ē-ant) adj ters of sex; lascivious. 2.a interest in sex: prurient thou an inordinate interest in sex

an mordinate interest in sex vof prürre, to yearn for, it pru'ri•en•cy n. — pru'ri•pru•ri•go (proo-ri'gō) n. A ous causes, marked by the severely. [Lat. prürigō, an preus-*.] — pru•rigfi•nous pru•ri•tus (proo-ri'tus) n. Se elin II at prürius < n. nart

skin. [Lat. prūrītus < p.part - pru•rit' ic (-rīt' ik) adi. Prus sia (prush's). A historic N-central Europe including land. The kingdom of Prus

became a republic in 1918; World War II. Prus•sian (prűsh/ən) adj. 1. Baltic or German inhabitant

the Junkers and the military the western Balts inhabiting and Neman rivers in ancient Prussian blue n. 1. An insoluteric ferrocyanide or one colle. 3. Color. A moderate

priis-si-ate (prŭs/ē-āt') n. 1 2. A salt of hydrocyanic a

prus sic acid (prus ik) n. See cause it was first obtained fr Prut (proot). A river rising in km (550 mi) to the Danube pru•tah (proo-ta') n., pl. -tott used in Israel, equal to one Heb. pěrutâ.]

pry (pri) intr.v. pried (prid), r inquire closely, curiously, or manner; snoop: always prying pli pries (priz). 1. The act of quisitive person; a snoop. [M pry2 (prī) tr.v. pried (prīd), pr move, or force open with a le

difficulty. -n., pl. pries (pribar, that is used to apply lev pryer (pril') n. Var. of prier rynne (prin), William. 1600—phleter whose attack on the

resulted in his imprisonment : Ps or Ps. abbr. Bible. 1. Psalm. Ps. abbr. Passenger steamer. Ps. abbr. 1. Permanent secretar

or p.s. Postscript. 4. Public so Psalm (säm) n. 1: A sacred song

