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EDITION



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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. — Eleventh ed.

p. cm.

Includes index.

ISBN 0-87779-807-9 (Laminated unindexed : alk. paper). — ISBN 0-87779-808-7 (Jacketed hardcover unindexed : alk. paper). — ISBN 0-87779-809-5 (Jacketed hardcover with CD-ROM : alk. paper). — ISBN 0-87779-810-9 (Leatherlook with CD-ROM : alk. paper). — 0-87779-813-3 (Canadian). — 0-87779-814-1 (international).

1. English language—Dictionaries. I. Title: Collegiate dictionary. II. Merriam-Webster, Inc.

PE1628.M36 2003

423—dc21

2003003674

CIP

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latent *n* (1923) : a fingerprint (as at the scene of a crime) that is scarcely visible but can be developed for study — called also *latent fingerprint*, *latent print*
latent heat *n* (ca. 1757) : heat given off or absorbed in a process (as fusion or vaporization) other than a change of temperature
latent period *n* (1837) 1 : the incubation period of a disease 2 : the interval between stimulation and response
latent root *n* (1883) : an eigenvalue of a matrix
later *adv* (13c) : at some time subsequent to a given time : SUBSEQUENTLY, AFTERWARD (one week ~) <they ~ regretted the decision> — often used with *on* (experience that will be useful ~ *on*)
-later *n comb form* [F *-latre*, fr. LL *-latres*, fr. Gk *-latrēs*; akin to Gk *latron* pay] : worshiper <bibliolater>
lat-er-ād \lā-tə-rād\ *adv* [L *later*, *latus*] (1814) : toward the side
lat-er-al \lā-tə-rəl\ *also* \lā-trəl\ *adj* [ME *laterale*, fr. L *lateralis*, fr. *later*, *latus* side] (15c) 1 : of or relating to the side 2 : situated on, directed toward, or coming from the side 3 : extending from side to side <the ~ axis of an airplane> 4 : produced with passage of breath around the side of a constriction formed with the tongue <\l is ~> — **lat-er-al-ly** *adv*
lateral *n* (1851) 1 : a branch from the main part (as in an irrigation or electrical system) 2 : a pass in football thrown parallel to the line of scrimmage or in a direction away from the opponent's goal 3 : a lateral speech sound
lateral *vi* (1944) : to throw a lateral
lateral bud *n* (1875) : a bud that develops in the axil between a petiole and a stem
lat-er-al-i-za-tion \lā-tə-rə-lō-zā-shən, \lā-trə- \i\ *n* (ca. 1899) : localization of function or activity on one side of the body in preference to the other — **lat-er-al-ize** \lā-tə-rə-līz, \lā-trə- \i\ *vt*
lateral line *n* (1752) : a canal along the side of a fish containing pores that open into tubes supplied with sense organs sensitive to low vibrations; also : one of these tubes or sense organs
lat-er-ite \lā-tə-rīt\ *n* [L *later* brick] (1807) : a residual product of rock decay that is red in color and has a high content in the oxides of iron and hydroxide of aluminum — **lat-er-ite-ic** \lā-tə-rī-tik\ *adj*
lat-er-i-za-tion \lā-tə-rī-zā-shən\ *n* (ca. 1882) : the process of conversion of rock to laterite
latest *adj* (1588) 1 *archaic* : LAST 2 : most recent
latest *n* (1801) 1 : the latest acceptable time — usu. used in the phrase *at the latest* 2 : something that is the most recent or currently fashionable <the ~ in diving techniques>
late-wood \lāt-wūd\ *n* (1929) : SUMMERWOOD
lat-er \lā-təks\ *n*, *pl* **lat-er-ices** \lā-tə-sēz, \lā- \i\ or **lat-er-es** [NL *latic*, *latex*, fr. L, fluid] (1835) 1 : a milky usu. white fluid that is produced by cells of various seed plants (as of the milkweed, spurge, and poppy families) and is the source of rubber, gutta-percha, chicle, and balata 2 : a water emulsion of a synthetic rubber or plastic obtained by polymerization and used esp. in coatings (as paint) and adhesives
lath \lath\ *also* \lath\ *n*, *pl* **laths** or **lath** [ME, fr. OE **lathth*; akin to OHG *latta* lath, W *lath* yard] (13c) 1 : a thin narrow strip of wood nailed to rafters, joists, or studding as a groundwork for slates, tiles, or plaster 2 : a building material in sheets used as a base for plaster 3 : a quantity of laths — **lath** *vt*
lathe \lath\ *n* [prob. fr. ME *lath* supporting stand] (1611) : a machine in which work is rotated about a horizontal axis and shaped by a fixed tool
lathe *vt* **lathed**; **lath-ing** (ca. 1903) : to cut or shape with a lathe
lath-er \lā-thər\ *n* [ME **lathur*, fr. OE *lathor*; akin to L *lavere* to wash — more at LYE] (bef. 12c) 1 *a* : a foam or froth formed when a detergent (as soap) is agitated in water *b* : foam or froth from profuse sweating (as on a horse) 2 : an agitated or overwrought state : DITHER (worked himself into a ~) — **lath-ery** \lath-ərē\ *adj*
lather *vb* **lath-ered**; **lath-er-ing** \lath-ər-ɪŋ\ *vt* (bef. 12c) 1 : to spread lather over 2 : to beat severely : FLOG ~ *vt* : to form a lather or a froth like lather — **lath-er-er** \lath-ər-ər\ *n*
lath-y-rism \lā-thā-rī-zəm\ *n* [NL *Lathyrus*, fr. Gk *lathyros*, a type of pea] (ca. 1888) : a diseased condition of humans, domestic animals, and esp. horses that results from poisoning by an amino acid found in some legumes (genus *Lathyrus* and esp. *L. sativus*) and is characterized esp. by spastic paralysis of the hind or lower limbs — **lath-y-ris-tic** \lā-thī-ri-tik\ *adj*
lat *pl* of LATS
latices *pl* of LATEX
lat-ic-i-fer \lā-tī-sə-fər\ *n* [ISV *latici-* (fr. NL *latic*, *latex*) + *-fer*] (ca. 1928) : a plant cell or vessel that contains latex
lat-i-tun-dio \lā-tə-fūn-dē-ō\ *n*, *pl* **-di-os** [Sp, fr. L *latifundium*] (ca. 1924) : a latifundium in Spain or Latin America
lat-i-tun-di-um \lā-tə-fūn-dē-əm\ *n*, *pl* **-dia** \l-dē-ə\ [L, fr. *latus* wide + *fundus* piece of landed property, foundation, bottom — more at BOTTOM] (1869) : a great landed estate with primitive agriculture and labor often in a state of partial servitude
lat-i-go \lā-tī-gō\ *n*, *pl* **-gos** *also* **-goes** [Sp *látigo*] (1873) chiefly West : a long strap on a saddletree of a western saddle to adjust the cinch
Lat-in \lā-tīn\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE, fr. L *Latinius*, fr. *Latium*, ancient country of Italy] (bef. 12c) 1 *a* : of, relating to, or composed in Latin *b* : ROMANCE 2 : of or relating to Latium or the Latins 3 : of or relating to the part of the Catholic Church that until recently used a Latin rite and forms the patriarchate of the pope 4 : of or relating to the peoples or countries using Romance languages; *specif* : of or relating to the peoples or countries of Latin America
Latin *n* (bef. 12c) 1 : the Italic language of ancient Latium and of Rome and until modern times the dominant language of school, church, and state in western Europe — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table 2 : a member of the people of ancient Latium 3 : a Catholic of the Latin rite 4 : a member of one of the Latin peoples; *specif* : a native or inhabitant of Latin America 5 : LATIN ALPHABET
La-ti-na \lā-tē-nə\ *n* [AmerSp, fem. of *latino* Latino] (1983) 1 : a woman or girl who is a native or inhabitant of Latin America 2 : a woman or girl of Latin-American origin living in the U.S. — **Latina** *adj*
Latin alphabet *n* (1823) : an alphabet that was used for writing Latin and that has been modified for writing many modern languages
Latin Americanist *n* (1972) : a specialist in Latin American civilization

Lat-in-ate \lā-tə-nāt\ *adj* (1904) : of, relating to, resembling, or derived from Latin
Latin cross *n* (1797) : a figure of a cross having a long upright shaft and a shorter crossbar traversing it above the middle — see CROSS illustration
Lat-in-ism \lā-tə-ni-zəm\ *n* (ca. 1570) 1 *a* : a characteristic feature of Latin occurring in another language *b* : a word or phrase derived from Latin 2 : Latin quality or character
Lat-in-ist \lā-tə-nist, \lāt-nist\ *n* (15c) : a specialist in the Latin language or Roman culture
la-tin-i-ty \lā-tī-nə-tē, lō-\ *n*, *often cap* (1540) 1 : a manner of speaking or writing Latin 2 : LATINISM 2
lat-in-ize \lā-tə-nīz\ *vb* **-ized**; **-iz-ing** *often cap*, *vt* (1589) 1 *a obs* : to translate into Latin *b* : to give a Latin form to *c* : to introduce Latinisms into *d* : ROMANIZE 2 2 : to make Latin or Italian in doctrine, ideas, or traits; *specif* : to cause to resemble the Roman Catholic Church ~ *vi* 1 : to use Latinisms 2 : to exhibit the influence of the Romans or of the Roman Catholic Church — **lat-in-i-za-tion** \lā-tə-nə-zā-shən, \lāt-nə-\ *n*, *often cap*
La-ti-no \lō-tē-(n)ō\ *n*, *pl* **-nos** [AmerSp, prob. short for *latinoamericano* Latin American] (1946) 1 : a native or inhabitant of Latin America 2 : a person of Latin-American origin living in the U.S. — **Latino** *adj*
Latin square *n* (1890) : a square array which contains *n* different elements with each element occurring *n* times but with no element occurring twice in the same column or row and which is used esp. in the statistical design of experiments (as in agriculture)
lat-ish \lā-tish\ *adj* (1611) : somewhat late
lat-i-si-mus dor-si \lō-tī-sī-məs-dōr-sī\ *n*, *pl* **lat-is-si-mi dor-si** \l-mī-\ [NL, lit., broadest (muscle) of the back] (1684) : a broad flat superficial muscle chiefly of the middle and lower back that extends, adducts, and rotates the arm medially and draws the shoulder downward and backward
lat-i-tude \lā-tə-tūd, -tūd\ *n* [ME, fr. L *latitudo*, *latitudo*, fr. *latus* wide; akin to OCS *postlati* to spread] (14c) 1 *archaic* : extent or distance from side to side : WIDTH 2 : angular distance from some specified circle or plane of reference : as *a* : angular distance north or south from the earth's equator measured through 90 degrees *b* : angular distance of a celestial body from the ecliptic *c* : a region or locality as marked by its latitude 3 *a* : SCOPE, RANGE *b* : the range of exposures within which a film or plate will produce a negative or positive of satisfactory quality 4 : freedom of action or choice (students are allowed considerable ~ in choosing courses) — **lat-i-tu-di-nal** \lā-tə-tūd-nəl, -tūd-; -tū-dō-nəl, -tū-tū-\ *adj* — **lat-i-tu-di-nal-ly** *adv*
lat-i-tu-di-nar-i-an \lā-tə-tū-dō-nər-ē-ən, -tū-tū-\ *adj* (1697) : not insisting on strict conformity to a particular doctrine or standard : TOLERANT; *specif* : tolerant of variations in religious opinion or doctrine — **latitudinarian** *n* — **lat-i-tu-di-nar-i-an-ism** \lō-tū-ni-zəm\ *n*
lat-ke \lāt-kə\ *n* [Yiddish, pancake, fr. Ukrainian *oladka*] (1927) : POTATO PANCAKE
lat-o-sol \lā-tə-sōl\ *n* [irreg. fr. L *later* brick + E *-sol* (as in *podsol*, var. of *podzol*)] (1949) : a leached red and yellow tropical soil — **lat-o-sol-ic** \lā-tə-sō-līk\ *adj*
lat-rine \lā-trēn\ *n* [F, fr. L *latrina*, contr. of *lavatrina*, fr. *lavare* to wash — more at LYE] (1642) 1 : a receptacle (as a pit in the earth) for use as a toilet 2 : TOILET 3
-latry *n comb form* [F *-latrie*, fr. LL *-latria*, fr. Gk, fr. *latreia*; akin to Gk *latron* pay] : worship (heliolatry)
lats \lāts\ *n*, *pl* **la-ti** \lā-tē\ or **la-tū** \lā-tū\ [Latvian (nom. pl. *lati*, gen. pl. *latu*), fr. *Latvija* Latvia] (1923) — see MONEY table
lat-te \lā-(t)ā\ *n* (1991) : CAFFE LATTE
lat-ten \lā-tən\ *n* [ME *laton*, fr. AF] (14c) : a yellow alloy identical to or resembling brass typically hammered into thin sheets and formerly much used for church utensils
lat-ter \lā-tər\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *latra*, compar. of *laet* late] (bef. 12c) 1 *a* : belonging to a subsequent time or period : more recent (the ~ stages of growth) *b* : of or relating to the end (in their ~ days) *c* : RECENT, PRESENT (affected by ~ calamities) 2 : of, relating to, or being the second of two groups or things or the last of several groups or things referred to (of ham and beef the ~ is cheaper today) <of ham and beef the ~ is cheaper today>
lat-ter-day \lā-tər-dā\ *adj* (1832) 1 : of present or recent times <~ prophets> 2 : of a later or subsequent time
Lat-ter-day Saint *n*, *often cap D* (1834) : a member of any of several religious bodies tracing their origin to Joseph Smith in 1830 and accepting the Book of Mormon as divine revelation : MORMON
lat-ter-ly \lā-tər-lē\ *adv* (1678) 1 : LATER 2 : of late : RECENTLY
lat-tice \lā-təs\ *n* [ME *latis*, fr. AF *latiz*] (14c) 1 *a* : a framework or structure of crossed wood or metal strips *b* : a window, door, or gate having a lattice *c* : a network or design resembling a lattice 2 : a regular geometrical arrangement of points or objects over an area or in space; *specif* : the arrangement of atoms in a crystal 3 : a mathematical set that has some elements ordered and that is such that for any two elements there exists a greatest element in the subset of all elements less than or equal to both and a least element in the subset of all elements greater than or equal to both — **lattice** *vt* — **lat-ticed** \lā-tīst\ *adj*
lattice girder *n* (1852) : a girder with top and bottom flanges connected by a lattice-work web
lat-tice-work \lā-təs-wərk\ *n* (15c) : a lattice or work made of lattices



latitude 2a: hemisphere marked with parallels of latitude

\ə\ about \v\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ā\ ace \ā\ mop, mar \ə\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \ē\ easy \g\ go \h\ hit \ī\ ice \j\ job \ŋ\ sing \ō\ go \ō\ law \oi\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ū\ loot \ū\ foot \y\ yet \zh\ vision, beige \k, ʰ, œ, w, ʷ\ see Guide to Pronunciation

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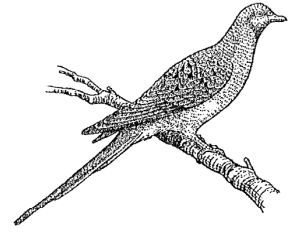
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Pash-tun also **Push-tun** \pəsh-'tūn\ n, pl **Pashtuns** also **Pushtuns** or **Pashtun** also **Pushtun** [Pashto *paštun*, *paštun*] (1815) : a member of a people of eastern and southern Afghanistan and adjacent parts of Pakistan
Pa-siph-aë \pə-'si-fə-'ē\ n [L, fr. Gk *Pasiphæ*] (14c) : the wife of Minos and mother of the Minotaur by a white bull
pasque-flower \pəsk-'flaʊ(-ə)r\ n [modif. of MF *passefleure*, fr. *passer* to pass + *flower*] (1597) : any of several anemones with palmately compound leaves and large usu. white or purple early spring flowers
pas-qui-nade \pas-kwə-'nād\ n [MF, fr. It *pasquinata*, fr. *Pasquino*, name given to a statue in Rome on which lampoons were posted] (1658) 1 : a lampoon posted in a public place 2 : satirical writing
SATIRE — pasquinade vt
pass \pas\ vb [ME, fr. AF *passer*, fr. VL **passare*, fr. L *passus* step — more at **PACE**] vi (13c) 1 : MOVE, PROCEED, GO 2 a : to go away ; DEPART b : DIE — often used with *on* 3 a : to move in a path so as to approach and continue beyond something : move past; esp. : to move past another vehicle going in the same direction b : to run the normal course — used of time or a period of time <the hours ~ quickly> 4 a : to go or make one's way through (allow no one to ~) b : to go uncensured, unchallenged, or seemingly unnoticed <let the remark ~> 5 : to go from one quality, state, or form to another <~es from a liquid to a gaseous state> 6 a : to sit in inquest or judgment b (1) : to render a decision, verdict, or opinion <the court ~ed on the legality of wiretapping> (2) : to become legally rendered (judgment ~ed for the plaintiff) 7 : to go from the control, ownership, or possession of one person or group to that of another <the throne ~ed to the king's son> 8 : to take place or be exchanged as or in a social, personal, or business b : to take place or be exchanged as or in a social, personal, or business b : to take place or be exchanged as or in a social, personal, or business interaction <words ~ed> 9 a : to become approved by a legislature or body empowered to sanction or reject <the proposal ~ed> b : to undergo an inspection, test, or course of study successfully 10 a : to serve as a medium of exchange b : to be accepted or regarded <drivel that ~es for literature> c : to identify oneself or be identified as something one is not <tried to ~ as an adult> <Mom could ~ as my sister> 11 a *obs* : to make a pass in fencing b : to throw or hit a ball or puck to a teammate — often used with *off* 12 a (1) : to decline to bid, double, or redouble in a card game (2) : to withdraw from the current poker pot b : to let something go by without accepting or taking advantage of it — often used with *on* <~ed on the cheesecake> <thanks for the offer, but I'll ~> ~ vt 1 : to go beyond : as a : SURPASS, EXCEED <~es all expectations> b : to advance or develop beyond c : to go past (one moving in the same direction) 2 a : to go by : proceed or extend beyond <~ the school on their way to work> b (1) : *obs* : NEGLECT, OMIT (a dividend) 3 a : to go across, over, or through c : CROSS b : to live through (as an experience or peril) : UNDERGO c : to go through (as a test) successfully 4 a : to secure the approval of <the bill ~ed the Senate> b : to cause or permit to win approval or legal or official sanction <~ a law> c : to give approval or a passing grade to <~ the students> 5 a : to let (as time or a period of time) go by esp. while involved in a leisure activity <I'll read to ~ the time> b : to let go unnoticed : OVERLOOK, DISREGARD 6 a : PLEDGE b : to transfer the right to or property in <~ title to a house> 7 a : to put in circulation <~ bad checks> b (1) : to transfer or transmit from one to another <~ the salt> <~ing the savings on to customers> (2) : to relay or communicate (as information) to another c : to cause or enable to go : TRANSPORT d : to throw or hit (a ball or puck) esp. to a teammate 8 a : to pronounce (as a sentence or opinion) esp. judicially b : UTTER <~ed a cutting remark> 9 a : to cause or permit to go past or through a barrier b : to move or cause to move in a particular manner or direction <~ed my hand over my face> <~ the rope through the loop> c : to cause to march or go by in order <~ the troops in review> 10 : to emit or discharge from a bodily part and esp. the bowels 11 a : to give a base on balls to b : to hit a ball past (an opponent) in a game (as tennis) — **pass-er** n — **pass-muster** : to gain approval or acceptance — **pass the buck** : to shift a responsibility to someone else — **pass the hat** : to take up a collection for money — **pass the time of day** : to exchange greetings or engage in pleasant conversation
pass n [ME, fr. AF *pas*, fr. L *passus*] (14c) 1 : a means (as an opening, road, or channel) by which a barrier may be passed or access to a place may be gained; esp. : a low place in a mountain range 2 : a position to be held usu. against odds
pass n [*pass*] (1523) 1 : REALIZATION <brought his dream to ~> 2 : the act or an instance of passing : PASSAGE 3 : a usu. distressing or bad state of affairs <what has brought you to such a ~?> 4 a : a written permission to move about freely in a place or to leave or enter it b : a written leave of absence from a military post or station for a brief period c : a permit or ticket allowing free transportation or free admission 5 *archaic* : a thrust or lunge in fencing 6 a : a transference of objects by sleight of hand or other deceptive means b : a moving of the hands over or along something 7 *archaic* : an ingenious sally (as of wit) 8 : the passing of an examination or course of study; also : the mark or certification of such passing 9 : a single complete mechanical operation; also : a single complete cycle of operations (as for processing, manufacturing, or printing) 10 a (1) : a transfer of a ball or a puck from one player to another on the same team (2) : a ball or puck so transferred b : PASSING SHOT 11 : BASE ON BALLS 12 : an election not to bid, bet, or draw an additional card in a card game 13 : a throw of dice in the game of craps that wins the bet for the shooter — compare **CRAP** 2, **MISSOUT** 14 : a single passage or movement (as of an airplane) over a place or toward a target 15 a : EFFORT, TRY b : a sexually inviting gesture or approach 16 : PASE
pass abbr **passenger**
pass-able \pə-sə-'bəl\ adj (15c) 1 a : capable of being passed, crossed, or traveled on <~ roads> b : capable of being freely circulated 2 : good enough : ADEQUATE — **pass-ably** \-'bli\ adv
pas-sa-ca-glia \pə-sə-'käl-yə-, pə-sə-'käl-yə\ n [modif. of Sp *passacalle*, fr. *pasar* to pass + *calle* street, fr. L *callis* path — more at **PASE**] (1659) 1 a : an old Italian or Spanish dance tune b : an instrumental musical composition consisting of variations usu. on a ground bass in moderately slow triple time 2 : an old dance performed to a passacaglia

pas-sa-do \pə-'sā-(j)dō\ n, pl -dos or -does [modif. of MF *passade* (fr. Olt *passata*) or Olt *passata*, fr. *passare* to pass, fr. VL (1588) *archaic* : a thrust in fencing with one foot advanced
pas-sage \pə-'sij\ n (13c) 1 a : a way of exit or entrance : a road, path, channel, or course by which something passes b : a corridor or lobby giving access to the different rooms or parts of a building or apartment 2 a : the action or process of passing from one place, condition, or stage to another b : DEATH 1a c : a continuous movement or flow <the ~ of time> 3 a (1) : a specific act of traveling or passing esp. by sea or air (2) : a privilege of conveyance as a passenger : ACCOMMODATIONS b : the passing of a legislative measure or law : ENACTMENT 4 : a right, liberty, or permission to pass 5 a : something that happens or is done : INCIDENT b : something that takes place between two persons mutually 6 a : a usu. brief portion of a written work or speech that is relevant to a point under discussion or noteworthy for content or style b : a phrase or short section of a musical composition c : a detail of a work of art (as a painting) 7 : the act or action of passing something or undergoing a passing 8 : incubation of a pathogen (as a virus) in culture, a living organism, or a developing egg
passage vb **pas-saged**; **pas-sag-ing** vi (1824) : to go past or across : CROSS ~ vt : to subject to passage <passaged a virus>
pas-sage-way \-'wā\ n (ca. 1606) : a way that allows passage
pas-sage-work \-'wə\k\ n (1865) : a section of a musical composition characteristically unimportant thematically and consisting esp. of ornamental figures
pas-sant \pə-'sənt\ adj [ME *passant*, fr. AF *passant*, fr. prp. of *passer* to pass] (15c) : walking with the farther forepaw raised — used of a heraldic animal
pass-band \-'bænd\ n (1922) : a band of frequencies (as in a radio circuit or a light filter) that is transmitted with maximum efficiency
pass-book \-'bük\ n (1828) : BANKBOOK
pass degree n (1868) : a bachelor's degree without honors that is taken at a British university
pas-sé \pə-'sā\ adj [F, fr. pp. of *passer*] (1775) 1 : past one's prime 2 a : OUTMODED b : behind the times
passed ball n (1861) : a baseball pitch not hit by the batter that passes the catcher when it should have been caught and allows a base runner to advance — compare **WILD PITCH**
passed pawn n (1797) : a chess pawn that has no enemy pawn in front of it on its own or an adjacent file
pas-sel \pə-'səl\ n [alter. of *parcel*] (1835) : a large number or amount
passe-men-terie \pas-'men-(ə)-rē\ n [F, fr. *passement* ornamental braid, fr. *passer*] (1794) : an ornamental edging or trimming (as tassels) made of braid, cord, gimp, beading, or metallic thread
pas-sen-ger \pə-'səŋ-jər\ n, often attrib [ME *passager*, fr. AF, fr. *passage* path, way, passage, fr. *passer*] (14c) 1 : WAYFARER 2 : a traveler in a public or private conveyance
passenger pigeon n (1802) : an extinct but formerly abundant No. American migratory pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*)
pas-se-par-tout \pas-'pər-'tü-, 'pər-\ n [F, fr. *passer partout* pass everywhere] (1675) 1 : MASTER KEY 2 a : MAT b : a method of framing in which a picture, a mat, a glass, and a back (as of cardboard) are held together by strips of paper or cloth pasted over the edges 3 : a strong paper gummed on one side and used esp. for mounting pictures
pass-er-by \pə-'sər-'bi-, 'pər-'sə-\ n, pl **pass-ers-by** \-'səz-\ (1567) : one who passes by
pas-ser-ine \pə-'sə-'rīn\ adj [L *passerinus* of sparrows, fr. *passer* sparrow] (1776) : of or relating to the largest order (Passeriformes) of birds which includes over half of all living birds and consists chiefly of atricial songbirds of perching habits — compare **OSCINE** — **passerine** n
pas-sel \pə-'səl-, 'sər-(ə)\ n [F, lit., solo step] (1809) : a solo dance or dance figure
pass-fail \pas-'fāil\ adj (1959) : being a system of grading whereby the grades "pass" and "fail" replace the traditional letter grades — **pass-fail** n
pas-si-ble \pə-'sə-bəl\ adj [ME, fr. MF & LL; MF *passibile*, fr. LL *passibilis*, fr. L *passus*, pp. of *patis* to suffer — more at **PATIENT**] (14c) : capable of feeling or suffering
pas-sim \pə-'səm; 'pə-'sīm, 'pə-\ adv [L, fr. *passus* scattered, fr. pp. of *pandere* to spread — more at **FATHOM**] (1634) : HERE AND THERE
pass-ing \pə-'sɪŋ\ n (14c) : the act of one that passes or causes to pass; esp. : DEATH 1a — **in passing** : by the way : INCIDENTALLY 2 : having a brief duration <a ~ whim> 3 *obs* : SURPASSING 4 : SUPERFICIAL <a ~ acquaintance> <a ~ resemblance> 5 a : of, relating to, or used in or for the act or process of passing <~ lanes> b : given on satisfactory completion of an examination or course of study <a ~ grade>
passing adv (14c) : to a surpassing degree : EXCEEDINGLY <~ strange>
passing note n (1730) : a nonharmonic tone interposed between essential harmonic tones of adjacent chords — called also **passing tone**
passing shot n (1928) : a stroke (as in tennis) that drives the ball to one side and beyond the reach of an opponent
pas-sion \pə-'shən\ n [ME, fr. AF, fr. LL *passion-*, *passio* suffering, being acted upon, fr. L *patis* to suffer — more at **PATIENT**] (13c) 1 *often cap* a : the sufferings of Christ between the night of the Last Supper and his death b : an oratorio based on a gospel narrative of the Pas-



passenger pigeon

\ə\ abut \ʌ\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ə\ ace \ə\ mop, mar
 \ə\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \ē\ easy \g\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \j\ job
 \j\ sing \d\ go \d\ law \oi\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ü\ loot \ü\ foot
 \y\ yet \zh\ vision, beige \k, ʰ, œ, ʷ\ see Guide to Pronunciation

duct). RIGOROUS implies the imposition of hardship and difficulty (the rigorous training of recruits). STRICT emphasizes unyielding conformity to rules, standards, or requirements (strict enforcement of the law). STRINGENT suggests severe, tight restriction or limitation (stringent standards of admission). *syn* see in addition STIFF

rig-id-i-ty \rɪ-ˈdɪ-ˌdaɪ-ˌtɪ/ *n*, *pl* -tɪz (1842) : to make rigid ~ *vi* : to become rigid — **rig-id-i-fi-ca-tion** \rɪ-ˈdɪ-ˌfa-ˈkə-shən/ *n*

rig-id-i-ty \rɪ-ˈdɪ-ˌtɪ/ *n*, *pl* -tɪz (1624) 1 : the quality or state of being rigid 2 : one that is rigid (as in form or conduct)

rig-ma-rol also **rig-a-ma-rol** \rɪ-ˈgə-mə-ˌrɒl, ˈrɪ-gə-mə-ˌrɒl/ *n* [alter. of obs. *ragnan roll* long list, catalog] (ca. 1736) 1 : confused or meaningless talk 2 : a complex and sometimes ritualistic procedure

rig-or \rɪ-ˈɡɔr/ *n* [ME *rigour*, fr. AF, fr. L *rigor*, lit., stiffness, fr. *rigere* to be stiff] (14c) 1 a (1) : harsh inflexibility in opinion, temper, or judgment : SEVERITY (2) : the quality of being unyielding or inflexible : STRICTNESS (3) : severity of life : AUSTERITY b : an act or instance of strictness, severity, or cruelty 2 : a tremor caused by a chill 3 : a condition that makes life difficult, challenging, or uncomfortable; esp : extremity of cold 4 : strict precision : EXACTNESS [logical ~] 5 a obs : RIGIDITY, STIFFNESS b : rigidity or torpor of organs or tissue that prevents response to stimuli c : RIGOR MORTIS

rig-or-ism \rɪ-ˈɡɔr-ɪ-zəm/ *n* (1704) : rigidity in principle or practice — **rig-or-ist** \rɪ-ˈɡɔr-ɪ-st/ *n* or *adj* — **rig-or-ist-ic** \rɪ-ˈɡɔr-ɪ-st-ɪk/ *adj*

rig-or-mor-tis \rɪ-ˈɡɔr-ˈmɔr-təs/ also **chiefly Brit** \rɪ-ˈɡɔr-ˌn/ *n* [NL, stiffness of death] (1847) : temporary rigidity of muscles occurring after death

rig-or-ous \rɪ-ˈɡɔr-əs/ *adj* (15c) 1 : manifesting, exercising, or favoring rigor : very strict 2 a : marked by extremes of temperature or climate b : HARSH, SEVERE 3 : scrupulously accurate : PRECISE *syn* see RIGID — **rig-or-ous-ly** *adv* — **rig-or-ous-ness** *n*

rig-our *chiefly Brit var of RIGOR*

ri-jet-ta-ble \rɪ-ˈdʒɛ-tə-ˌbəl/ *n* [D, fr. *rijet* rice + *tafel* table] (1889) : an Indonesian meal consisting of rice and a variety of accompanying dishes (as meat, seafood, and vegetables)

Riiks-mål or **Riiks-maal** \rɪ-ˈks-mɔl, ˈrɛks-ˌn/ *n* [Norw. fr. *riik* kingdom + *mål* speech] (1913) : BOKMÅL

rile \rɪ-ˈlɪ/ *n* *v* riled; **rill-ling** [var. of *roll*] (1624) 1 : to make agitated and angry : UPSET 2 : ROIL 1 *syn* see IRRITATE

rill-ey \rɪ-ˈli-ˌeɪ/ *adj* (1805) 1 : TURBID 2 : ANGRY

rill \rɪ-ˈlɪ/ *n* [D *rill* or LG *rille*; akin to OE *rith* rivulet] (1538) : a very small brook

rill *vt* (1610) : to flow like a rill

rill \rɪ-ˈlɪ/ or **rille** \rɪ-ˈlɪ/ *n* [G *Rille*, lit., channel made by a small stream, fr. LG *rill*] (1868) : any of several long narrow valleys on the moon's surface

rill-et \rɪ-ˈlɪ-ət/ *n* (1538) : a little rill

rill-ettes \rɪ-ˈlɪ-ˌɛt-əs/ *n* *pl* [F, *pl.*, dim. of *rille*, sing., piece of pork, fr. MF, dial. var. of *reille* board, lath, fr. L *regula* straightedge — more at *RULE*] (1889) : cooked shredded meat (as pork or duck) or fish preserved in fat

rim \rɪ-ˈm/ *n* [ME, fr. OE *rima*; akin to ON *rimi* strip of land] (13c) 1 a : BRINK b : the outer often curved or circular edge or border of something 2 a : the outer part of a wheel joined to the hub usu. by spokes b : a removable outer metal band on an automobile wheel to which the tire is attached 3 : FRAME 4c(1) — **rim-less** \-ləs/ *adj*

rim *vb* rimmed; **rim-ming** \rɪ-ˈmɪŋ/ *vt* (1621) 1 : to run around the rim of (cups that ~ the cup) 2 : to serve as a rim for : BORDER (cliffs *rim-ming* the camp) ~ *vi* : to form or show a rim

rim \rɪ-ˈm/ *n* [ME *rim*, fr. OE *hrim*; akin to ON *hrim* frost] (bef. 12c) 1 : FROST 1b 2 : an accumulation of granular ice tufts on the windward sides of exposed objects that is formed from supercooled fog or cloud and built out directly against the wind 3 : CRUST, INCRUSTATION (a ~ of snow)

rim *vt* rimmed; **rim-ing** (ca. 1755) : to cover with or as if with rime

rime, **rimester** *var of RHYME, RHYMBSTER*

rim-fire \rɪ-ˈmɪ-ˌfaɪ-ər/ *adj* (1866) *of a cartridge* : having the priming distributed in the rim of the shell — **rim-fire** *n*

rim-land \rɪ-ˈm-ˌlənd/ *n* (1944) : a region on the edge of the heathland

rimmed \rɪ-ˈmɪd/ *adj* (1729) : having a rim — usu. used in combination (dark-rimmed glasses) (red-rimmed eyes)

rim-rock \rɪ-ˈm-ˌrɔk/ *n* (1860) 1 : a top stratum or overlying strata of resistant rock of a plateau that outcrops to form a vertical face 2 : the edge or face of a rimrock outcrop

rimy \rɪ-ˈmi/ *adj* **rim-ier**, **-est** (bef. 12c) : covered with rime : FROSTY

rind \rɪ-ˈnd/ *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *rinda* bark, and prob. to OE *rendan* to rend] (bef. 12c) 1 : the bark of a tree 2 : a usu. hard or tough outer layer : PEEL, CRUST (grated lemon ~) — **rind-ed** \rɪ-ˈnd-əd/ *adj*

rin-dar-pest \rɪ-ˈnɪ-dər-ˌpest/ *n* [G, fr. *Rindar*, *pl.*, cattle + *Pest* pestilence] (1865) : an acute infectious usu. fatal disease of ruminant mammals (as cattle) that is caused by a morbillivirus (species *Rinderpest virus*) and that is marked by fever, diarrhea, and inflammation of mucous membranes

ring \rɪŋ/ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hring*; akin to OHG *hring* ring, OCS *krǫgŭ* circle] (bef. 12c) 1 : a circular band for holding, connecting, hanging, pulling, packing, or sealing (a key ~) (a towel ~) 2 : a circlet usu. of precious metal worn esp. on the finger 3 a : a circular line, figure, or object (smoke ~) b : an encircling arrangement (a ~ of suburbs) c : a circular or spiral course — often used figuratively in *pl.* in the phrase *run rings around* to describe surpassing an opponent decisively 4 a (1) : an often circular space esp. for exhibitions or competitions; esp : such a space at a circus (2) : a structure containing such a ring b : a square enclosure in which a fighting contest (as a boxing or wrestling match) takes place 5 : a band of small objects revolving around a planet (as Saturn) and composed of dust and icy or rocky fragments 6 : ANNUAL RING 7 a : an exclusive combination of persons for a selfish and often corrupt purpose (as to control a market) (a wheat ~) b : GANG 8 : the field of a political contest : RACE 9 : food in the shape of a circle 10 : an arrangement of atoms represented in formulas or models in a cyclic manner — called also *cycle* 11 : a set of mathematical elements that is closed under two binary operations of which the first forms a commutative group with the set and the second is associative over the set and is distributive with respect to the first operation 12 *pl* a : a pair of usu. rubber-covered metal rings

suspended from a ceiling or crossbar to a height of approximately eight feet above the floor and used for hanging, swinging, and balancing feats in gymnastics b : an event in gymnastics competition in which the rings are used 13 : 'BOXING (ended his ~ career) — **ring-like** \rɪŋ-ˈli-k/ *adj*

ring *vb* ringed; **ring-ing** \rɪŋ-ɪŋ/ *vt* (14c) 1 : to provide with a ring : to place or form a ring around : ENCIRCLE (police ~ed the building) 2 : to surround (the doorbell rang) (cheers rang out) 2 a : to be filled with a reverberating sound : RESOUND (the halls rang with laughter) b : to have the sensation of being filled with a humming sound (his ear rang) 3 : to cause something to ring (~ for the butter) 4 a : to be filled with talk or report (the whole land rang with her fame) b : to have great renown c : to sound repetitiously (their praise rang in his ears) 5 : to have a sound or character expressive of some quality (a story that ~s true) 6 *chiefly Brit* : to make a telephone call — usu. used with *up* ~ *vt* 1 : to cause to sound esp. by striking 2 : to make (a sound) by or as if by ringing a bell 3 : to announce by or as if by ringing : to repeat often, loudly, or earnestly 5 a : to summon esp. by bell b *chiefly Brit* : TELEPHONE — usu. used with *up* — ring a bell : to arouse a response (that name rings a bell) — **ring down** the curtain : to conclude a performance or an action — **ring off** the hook : to ring frequently or constantly with incoming calls (the telephone was ringing off the hook) — **ring the changes** or **ring changes** : to run through the range of possible variations — **ring up** the curtain : to begin a performance or an action

ring *n* (1549) 1 : a set of bells 2 : a clear resonant sound made by resembling that made by vibrating metal 3 : resonant tone : SOUNDRY 4 : a loud sound continued, repeated, or reverberated 5 : a sound or character expressive of some particular quality (the story had a familiar ~) 6 a : the act or an instance of ringing b : a telephone call (give me a ~ in the morning)

ring-a-lev-iv \rɪŋ-ə-ˈlɛ-vɪ-ˌv/ or **ring-a-lev-iv** \-ˈlɛ-(j)v/ *n* [alter. of earlier *ring relieve*, fr. *ring* + *relieve*] (ca. 1901) : a game in which players on one team are given time to hide and are then sought out by members of the other team who try to capture them, keep them in place of confinement, and keep them from being released by the teammates

ring-around-the-rosy \rɪŋ-ə-ˈraʊnd-ðə-ˈrɔs-ē/ also **ring-around-the-rosy** \rɪŋ-ə-ˈraʊn-də-ˌ/ *n* (1878) : a children's singing game which players dance around in a circle and at a given signal drop to the ground — called also *ring-a-rosy* \rɪŋ-ə-ˈrɔs-ē/

ring-bark \rɪŋ-ˈbɑrk/ *n* (1884) : GIRDLE 2

ring-billed gull \rɪŋ-ˈbɪld-ˌgʊl/ *n* (1844) : a No. American gull (*Larus delawarensis*) that as an adult is largely white with a gray mantle, dark web tips, yellowish feet and legs, and a yellowish bill with a black ring toward the tip

ring binder *n* (1929) : a loose-leaf binder in which split rings attach to a back hold the perforated sheets of paper

ring-bolt \rɪŋ-ˈbɔlt/ *n* (1599) : an eyebolt with a ring through its eye

ring-bone \-ˈbɔn/ *n* (1523) : a bony outgrowth on or near the articulating surface of the pastern or coffin bone of a horse that typically results from injury and usu. produces lameness

ring dance *n* (1600) : ROUND DANCE 1

ring-dove \rɪŋ-ˈdɔv/ *n* (1538) 1 : WOOD PIGEON 2 : RINGED TURTLE DOVE

ringed *adj* (1513) 1 : encircled or marked with or as if with rings 2 : composed or formed of rings

ringed turtle dove *n* (1983) : a small pale dove (*Streptopelia risoria*) that has a black ring around the sides and back of the neck; exists chiefly in domestication as a cage bird, and is prob. of African origin

ring-er \rɪŋ-ər/ *n* (15c) 1 : one that sounds esp. by ringing 2 a (1) : one that enters a competition under false representations (2) : IMPOSTER, FAKE b : one that strongly resembles another — often used with *dead* (he's a dead ~ for the senator)

ringer *n* (1863) : one that encircles or puts a ring around (as a quoit horseshoe that lodges so as to surround the peg)

Ring-er's solution \rɪŋ-ər-ˌsə-ˌlʊ-ʃən/ *n* [Sidney Ringer 1910 Eng. physicist (1892)] : a balanced aqueous solution that contains chloride, sodium potassium, calcium, bicarbonate, and phosphate ions and that is used in physiological experiments to provide a medium essentially isotonic to many animal tissues — called also *Ringer solution*

ring finger *n* (bef. 12c) : the third finger esp. of the left hand counted the index finger as the first

ring-git \rɪŋ-ˈɡɪt/ *n*, *pl* **ringgit** or **ringgits** [Malay, lit., serration, or with milled edge] (1967) — see MONEY table

ringing *adj* (14c) 1 : clear and full in tone : RESOUNDING (a ~ bass tone) 2 : vigorously unequivocal : DECISIVE (a ~ condemnation immorality) — **ring-ing-ly** \rɪŋ-ɪŋ-ˌli/ *adv*

ring-leader \rɪŋ-ˈli-ˌdər/ *n* (1503) : a leader of a ring of individuals engaged esp. in improper or unlawful activities

ring-let \rɪŋ-ˈlɛt/ *n* (1555) 1 : a small ring or circle 2 : CURL; esp. long curl of hair

ring-mas-ter \rɪŋ-ˈmɑs-tər/ *n* (1859) : one in charge of performances a ring (as of a circus); *broadly* : a supervisor or moderator esp. of a performance or presentation (the ~ of a talk show)

ring-neck \-ˈnek/ *n* (1791) : a ring-necked animal

ring-necked \rɪŋ-ˈnek-t/ or **ring-neck** \rɪŋ-ˈnek-ˌ/ *adj* (1817) : having a ring of color about the neck

ring-necked duck *n* (1831) : a No. American duck (*Aythya collaris*) that has a white ring around the bill and in the male a faint narrow chestnut ring encircling the neck

ring-necked pheasant *n* (1834) : a Eurasian pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) that has been widely introduced as a game bird in No. America and in which the males have a white neck ring and an iridescent green and purplish head with red wattles around the eyes

ring off *vt* (1882) *chiefly Brit* : HANG UP 1



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