

definitions



applied



# applied

[uh-plahyd]

[Synonyms](#) [Examples](#) [Word Origin](#)

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## adjective

1. having a practical purpose or use; derived from or involved with actual phenomena (distinguished from **theoretical**, opposed to **pure**):  
*applied mathematics; applied science.*
2. of or relating to those arts or crafts that have a primarily utilitarian function, or to the designs and decorations used in these arts.

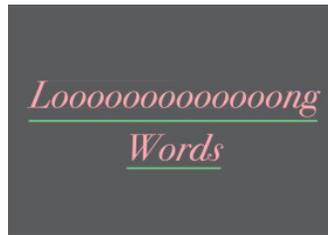
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## Origin of applied

First recorded in 1490–1500; **apply** + **-ed**<sup>2</sup>

## Related forms

**un-ap-plied** , adjective

**well-ap-plied** , adjective

# apply

[*uh-plahy*]

verb (used with object), **ap-plied**, **ap-ply-ing**.

1. to make use of as relevant, suitable, or pertinent:  
*to apply a theory to a problem.*
2. to put to use, especially for a particular purpose:  
*to apply pressure to open a door.*
3. to bring into action; use; employ:  
*He applied the brakes and skidded to a stop.*
4. to use a label or other designation:  
*Don't apply any such term to me.*
5. to use for or assign to a specific purpose:  
*He applied a portion of his salary each week to savings.*
6. to put into effect:  
*They applied the rules to new members only.*
7. to devote or employ diligently or with close attention:  
*to apply one's mind to a problem; to apply oneself to a task.*
8. to place in contact with; lay or spread on:  
*to apply paint to a wall; to apply a bandage to a wound.*
9. to bring into physical contact with or close proximity to:  
*to apply a match to gunpowder.*
10. to credit to, as an account:  
*to apply \$10 to his account at the store.*

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verb (used without object), **ap·plied**, **ap·ply·ing**.

11. to be pertinent, suitable, or relevant:  
*The argument applies to the case. The theory doesn't apply.*
12. to make an **application** or request; ask:  
*to apply for a job; to apply for a raise.*
13. to lay or spread on:  
*The plastic coating is easy to apply on any surface.*
14. to be placed or remain in contact:  
*This paint doesn't apply very easily.*

## Origin of apply

1350–1400; Middle English *ap(p)lien* < Anglo-French, Old French *ap(p)lier* < Latin *applicāre*, equivalent to *ap-* *ap*<sup>-1</sup> + *plicāre* to fold; see *ply*<sup>2</sup>

## Related forms

**ap·pli·a·ble** , adjective

**ap·pli·a·ble·ness** , noun

**ap·pli·a·bly** , adverb

**ap·pli·er** , noun

**pre·ap·ply** , verb (used with object), **pre·ap·plied**, **pre·ap·ply·ing**.

**re·ap·ply** , verb, **re·ap·plied**, **re·ap·ply·ing**.

**un·ap·pli·a·ble** , adjective

**un·ap·pli·a·bly** , adverb

## Synonyms for apply

[See more synonyms for on Thesaurus.com](#)

**3.** utilize. **5.** appropriate, allot, assign, dedicate. **12.** petition, sue, entreat.

Dictionary.com Unabridged

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## Related Words for applied

tested, enforced, practiced, devoted, related, adapted, adjusted, correlated, activated, exercised

## Examples from the Web for applied

### Contemporary Examples of applied

They should have pointed the nose of the Airbus down and *applied* more power.



Flight 8501 Poses Question: Are Modern Jets Too Automated to Fly?

Clive Irving

January 4, 2015

Elauf, who is Muslim, had *applied* for a job at an A&F store in Tulsa, Oklahoma when she was 17.



Muslims & Jews Unite vs. Abercrombie & Fitch

Dean Obeidallah

December 16, 2014

The committee recommended a single—and simple—principle be *applied* to the law, that of consent.



The Castration of Alan Turing, Britain's Code-Breaking WWII Hero

Clive Irving

November 29, 2014

But Herx showed that this “gender-neutral” rule had never been *applied* against men.



Catholic Church: Religious Freedom Trumps Civil Rights

Jay Michaelson

November 23, 2014

After Spahn had obtained the movie ranch, Ruby *applied* for a job there and was hired.



Gay Talese on Charlie Manson's Home on the Range

Gay Talese

October 31, 2014

### Historical Examples of applied

I did not, sir, apply it to a gentleman; I *applied* it to Mr Chatterton.

Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, No. 327

Various

(a) Explain in full the meaning of stock as *applied* to soup.

Woman's Institute Library of Cookery, Vol. 3

Woman's Institute of Domestic Arts and Sciences

They should be *applied* to the cake in the same way as icings.

Woman's Institute Library of Cookery, Vol. 4

A test that can be *applied* by the housewife is illustrated in Fig. 4.

Woman's Institute Library of Cookery, Vol. 5

Woman's Institute of Domestic Arts and Sciences

As we go swiftly on we realize the appropriateness of the epithet ever *applied* to the Rhne.

The Roof of France

Matilda Betham-Edwards

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## British Dictionary definitions for applied

# applied

## adjective

1. related to or put to practical use : *applied mathematics* Compare pure (def. 5)

# apply

## verb **-plies, -plying** or **-plied**

1. (**tr**) to put to practical use; utilize; employ
2. (**intr**) to be relevant, useful, or appropriate
3. (**tr**) to cause to come into contact with; put onto
4. ( **intr** often foll by *for* ) to put in an application or request
5. (**tr** often foll by *to*) to devote (oneself, one's efforts) with diligence
6. (**tr**) to bring into operation or use : *the police only applied the law to aliens*
7. (**tr**) to refer (a word, epithet, etc) to a person or thing

## Derived Forms

**applier** , noun

## Word Origin for apply

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