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portion



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portion

[noun](#)

por·tion | \ 'pɔr-shən  \


Definition of *portion*

(Entry 1 of 2)

- 1 : an individual's part or share of something: such as
- a : a share received by gift or inheritance
- b : [dowry](#)
- c : enough food especially of one kind to serve one person at one meal
- 2 : an individual's lot, fate, or fortune : one's share of good and evil
- 3 : an often limited part of a whole

portion





[verb](#)

portioned; portioning \ 'pɔr-sh(ə-)niŋ  \

Definition of *portion* (Entry 2 of 2)

[transitive verb](#)

- 1 : to divide into [portions](#) : [distribute](#) portioned out the food equally
- 2 : to allot a dowry to : [dower](#)

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Synonyms & Antonyms for *portion*

Synonyms: Noun

[circumstance](#), [destiny](#), [doom](#), [fate](#), [fortune](#), [kismet](#), [lot](#)

Synonyms: Verb

[administer](#), [allocate](#), [apportion](#), [deal \(out\)](#), [dispense](#), [distribute](#), [dole out](#), [hand out](#), [mete \(out\)](#), [parcel \(out\)](#), [prorate](#)

Antonyms: Verb

[misallocate](#)

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Choose the Right Synonym for *portion*

[part](#), [portion](#), [piece](#), [member](#), [division](#), [section](#), [segment](#), [fragment](#) mean something less than the whole. [part](#) is a general term appropriate when indefiniteness is required. they ran only *part* of the way [portion](#) implies an assigned or allotted part. cut the pie into six *portions* [piece](#) applies to a separate or detached part of a whole. a puzzle with 500 *pieces* [member](#) suggests one of the functional units composing a body. a structural *member* [division](#) applies to a large or diversified part. the manufacturing *division* of the company [section](#) applies to a relatively small or uniform part. the entertainment *section* of the newspaper [segment](#) applies to a part separated or marked out by or as if by natural lines of cleavage. the retired *segment* of the population [fragment](#) applies to a part produced by or as if by breaking off. only a *fragment* of the play still exists

[fate](#), [destiny](#), [lot](#), [portion](#), [doom](#) mean a predetermined state or end. [fate](#) implies an inevitable and usually an adverse outcome. the *fate* of the submarine is unknown [destiny](#) implies something foreordained and often suggests a great or noble course or end. the country's *destiny* to be a model of liberty to the world [lot](#) and [portion](#) imply a distribution by fate or destiny, [lot](#) suggesting blind chance it was her *lot* to die childless , [portion](#) implying the apportioning of good and evil. remorse was his daily *portion* [doom](#) distinctly implies a grim or calamitous fate. if the rebellion fails, his *doom* is certain

Examples of *portion* in a Sentence

Noun

A *portion* of the donations will be given to the orphanage. *Portions* of land were used for farming.

See More  

Recent Examples on the Web: Noun

There didn't seem to be any distortion near the small *portion* of the screen with the most physical bend, either. — [Mark Hachman, PCWorld, "Victory, Royole: The FlexPai is the first folding phone we've seen," 10 Jan. 2019](#) The National Wildlife Federation's Artemis initiative works to recruit, train and spotlight sportswomen who have traditionally made up a small *portion* of hunters. — [Zusha Elinson, WSJ, "Put Down the Kombucha and Pick Up a Crossbow: Hipsters Are the New Hunters," 9 Jan. 2019](#)

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'portion.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback](#).

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First Known Use of *portion*

Noun

14th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Verb

14th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

History and Etymology for *portion*

Noun

Middle English *porcioun*, from Anglo-French, from Latin *portio*- *portio*: akin to Latin *part*- *pars* *part*

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Resources for *portion*



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More Definitions for *portion*

portion

[noun](#)



English Language Learners Definition of *portion*

(Entry 1 of 2)

: a part of a larger amount, area, etc.

: a part of something that is shared with other people

: the amount of food that is served to a person at one time

portion

[verb](#)


English Language Learners Definition of *portion* (Entry 2 of 2)

: to divide (something) into parts and give those parts to people

[See the full definition for *portion* in the English Language Learners Dictionary.](#)

portion

[noun](#)

por·tion | \ 'pōr-shən  \

Kids Definition of *portion*

(Entry 1 of 2)

1 : a part or share of a whole

2 : [serving](#) a large *portion* of pasta

portion

[verb](#)

portioned; portioning

Kids Definition of *portion* (Entry 2 of 2)

: to divide into parts : [distribute](#) Kimki *portioned* work for each one in the tribe ...— Scott O'Dell, *Island of the Blue Dolphins*

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