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Eleventh Edition



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to string together like beads ~ vt : to form into a bead ~ **bead-er** *n* (1845) 1 : a beaded molding 2 : material or a part or a piece consisting of a bead 3 : an openwork trimming 4 : BEADWORK

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bea-gle *n* [ME *begle*] (15c) : any of a breed of small short-legged smooth-coated often black, white, and tan hounds

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be-all and end-all *adj* [ˈbē-ɔl-ən(d)-end-ɔl] *n* (1605) 1 : prime cause : essential element 2 : TOTALITY

beam *n* [ME *beem*, fr. OE *beam* tree, beam; akin to OHG *boum* tree] (bef. 12c) 1 a : a long piece of heavy often squared timber suitable for use in construction b : a wood or metal cylinder in a loom on which the warp is wound c : the part of a plow to which handles, standard, and coulter are attached d : the bar of a balance from which scales hang e : one of the principal horizontal supporting members (as of a building or ship) <a steel ~ supporting a floor>; also : BOOM, SPAR (the ~ of a crane) f : the extreme width of a ship at the widest part g : an oscillating lever on a central axis receiving motion at one end from an engine connecting rod and transmitting it at the other 2 a : a ray or shaft of light b : a collection of nearly parallel rays (as X rays) or a stream of particles (as electrons) c : a constant directional radio signal transmitted for the guidance of pilots; also : the course indicated by a radio beam 3 : the main stem of a deer's antler 4 : the width of the buttocks — **on the beam** 1 : following a guiding beam 2 : proceeding or operating correctly

beam vt (15c) 1 : to emit in beams or as a beam 2 : to support with beams 3 a : to transmit esp. by satellite : BROADCAST b : to transmit (data) electronically c : to direct to a particular audience ~ vi 1 : to send out beams of light 2 : to smile with joy

beam-ends *n* [bēm-ɛndz] *n pl* (1750) : the ends of a ship's beams — **on her beam-ends** : inclined so much on one side that the beams approach a vertical position

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bean vt (1910) : to strike (a person) on the head with an object

bean-bag *n* [bēn-bæg] *n* (1871) 1 : a cloth bag partially filled typically with dried beans and used as a toy 2 : any of various pellet-filled bags used as furniture (as a chair) or household articles (as an ashtray base)

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2 bear vb bore *v* [bɔːr] *v* **borne** also **born** *v* [bɔːrn] *v* **bearing** [ME *beren* to carry, bring forth, fr. OE *beran*; akin to OHG *beran* to carry, L *ferre*, Grk *pherein*] *vt* (bef. 12c) 1 a : to move while holding up and supporting b : to be equipped or furnished with c : BEHAVE, CONDUCT <~ing himself well> d : to have as a feature or characteristic (<~s a likeness to her grandmother>) e : to give as testimony (<~ false witness>) f : to have as an identification (<~ore the name of John>) g : to hold in the mind or emotions (<~ malice>) h : DISSEMINATE 1 : LEAD, ESCORT j : RENDER, GIVE 2 a : to give birth to b : to produce as yield c (1) : to permit growth of (2) : CONTAIN <oil-bearing shale> 3 a : to support the weight of : SUSTAIN b : to accept or allow oneself to be subjected to esp. without giving way (<couldn't ~ the pain> <I can't ~ seeing you cry>) c : to call for as suitable or essential (<it ~s watching>) d : to hold above, on top, or aloft e : to admit of : ALLOW f : ASSUME, ACCEPT 4 : THRUST, PRESS ~ vi 1 : to produce fruit : YIELD 2 a : to force one's way b : to extend in a direction indicated or implied c : to be situated : LIE d : to become directed e : to go or incline in an indicated direction 3 : to support a weight or strain — often used with *up* 4 a : to exert influence or force b : APPLY, PERTAIN — often used with *on* or *upon* (<facts ~ing on the question>) — **bear a hand** : to join in and help out — **bear arms** 1 : to carry or possess arms 2 : to serve as a soldier — **bear fruit** : to come to satisfying fruition, production, or development — **bear in mind** : to think of esp. as a warning : REMEMBER — **bear with** : to be indulgent, patient, or forbearing with

syn BEAR, SUFFER, ENDURE, ABIDE, TOLERATE, STAND mean to put up with something trying or painful. BEAR usu. implies the power to sustain without flinching or breaking (<forced to bear a tragic loss>). SUFFER often suggests acceptance or passivity rather than courage or patience in bearing (<suffering many insults>). ENDURE implies continuing firm or resolute through trials and difficulties (<endured years of rejection>). ABIDE suggests acceptance without resistance or protest (<cannot abide their rudeness>). TOLERATE suggests overcoming or successfully controlling an impulse to resist, avoid, or resent something injurious or distasteful (<refused to tolerate such treatment>). STAND emphasizes even more strongly the ability to bear without discomposure or flinching (<unable to stand teasing>).

bear-able *adj* [ber-ə-bəl] *adj* (ca. 1550) : capable of being borne — **bear-abil-ity** *n* [ber-ə-bi-lə-tē] *n* — **bear-ably** *adv* [ber-ə-bli] *adv*

bear-baiting *n* [ber-bā-tiŋ] *n* (14c) : the practice of setting dogs on a chained bear

bear-ber-ry *n* [ber-ē-, -ber-rē] *n* (1625) : a trailing evergreen plant (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) of the heath family with astringent foliage and red berries

bear claw *n* (1936) : a filled pastry that is cut and fanned to resemble a bear's foot

2 beard *v* [berd] *v* [ME *berd*, fr. OE *beard*; akin to OHG *bart* beard, L *barba*] (bef. 12c) 1 : the hair that grows on a man's face often excluding the mustache 2 : a hairy or bristly appendage or tuft 3 : FRONT 7a — **bearded** *adj* [ˈber-dəd] *adj* — **bearded-ness** *n* — **beard-less** *adj* [ˈber-dləs] *adj*

2 beard vt (15c) 1 : to confront and oppose with boldness, resolution, and often effrontery : DEFEY 2 : to furnish with a beard

bearded collie *n* (1880) : any of a breed of large herding dogs of Scottish origin that have a long rough coat and drooping ears

bearded iris *n* (1923) : any of numerous wild or cultivated irises with a growth of short hairs on each fall

bearded seal *n* (1853) : a large arctic hair seal (*Erigonathus barbatus*) with a tuft of long whiskers on each side of the muzzle

bear down vt (14c) : OVERCOME, OVERWHELM ~ vi : to exert full strength and concentrated attention — **bear down on** 1 : EMPHASIZE 2 : to weigh heavily on : BURDEN

bear-d-tongue *n* [berd-tŋŋ] *n* (1821) : PENSTEMON

bear-er *n* [ber-ər] *n* (13c) : one that bears: as a : PORTER 1 b : a plant yielding fruit c : PALLBEARER d : one holding a check, draft, bond, or other order for payment esp. if marked payable to bearer — often used attributively (<~ bonds>)

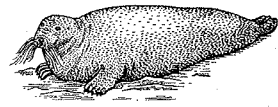
bear grass *n* (1750) : any of several plants (genera *Yucca*, *Nolina*, or *Xerophyllum*) of the lily or agave families chiefly of the southern and western U.S. with foliage resembling coarse blades of grass

bear-hug *n* [ber-hag] *n* (1927) : to embrace in a bear hug

bear hug n (1921) : a rough tight embrace

bearing n (13c) 1 : the manner in which one bears or comports oneself 2 a : the act, power, or time of bringing forth offspring or fruit b : a product of bearing : CROP 3 a : an object, surface, or point that supports b : a machine part in which another part (as a journal or pin) turns or slides 4 : a figure borne on a heraldic field 5 : PRESURE, THRUST 6 a : the situation or horizontal direction of one point with respect to another or to the compass b : a determination of position c *pl* : comprehension of one's position, environment, or situation d : RELATION, CONNECTION; also : PURPORT 7 : the part of a structural member that rests on its supports

syn BEARING, DEPARTMENT, DEMEANOR, MIEN, MANNER, CARRIAGE mean the outward manifestation of personality or attitude. BEARING is the most general of these words but now usu. implies characteristic posture (<a woman of regal bearing>). DEPARTMENT suggests actions or behavior as formed by breeding or training (<your department was atrocious>). DEMEANOR suggests one's attitude toward others as expressed in outward behavior (<the haughty demeanor of the headwaiter>). MIEN is a literary term referring both to bearing and demeanor (<a



bearded seal