

Office Edition

# Webster's II New Riverside Dictionary

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## Table of Contents

Abbreviations Used in This Dictionary  
Pronunciation Guide

DICTIONARY  
Abbreviations  
Biographical Names  
Geographical Names

Tables  
Bible  
Currency  
Measurement

factor, part, or idea. 8. A purpose, objective, or reason. 9. A separate item, element, or detail. 10. A distinguishing quality or feature. 11. A single unit, as in counting, measuring, or evaluating. 12. a. A punctuation mark indicating a full stop. b. A decimal point. 13. One of the 32 direction marks on a compass. —*v.* 1. To aim; direct. 2. To call attention to. 3. To indicate the direction or position of, esp. by using the finger. 4. To emphasize; stress. 5. To be turned or directed. —*beside the point*. Not pertinent. —*to the point*. Pertinent.  
**point-blank** (point'blangk') *adj.* 1. Aimed straight at or being close to a mark or target. 2. Fortright. —*adv.* 1. With a direct aim. 2. Without hesitating.  
**point-ed** (point'id) *adj.* 1. Having a sharp or tapered end. 2. To the point; incisive. 3. Clearly aimed at a particular person or group. 4. Clearly evident; marked. —*point'ed-ly adv.* —*point'ed-ness n.*  
**point-er** (point'ər) *n.* 1. A marker or device that indicates a number, as on a watch. 2. A long, slender rod for pointing to a chart or blackboard. 3. A hunting dog with a short-haired smooth coat. 4. A helpful hint. 5. *Computer Sci.* A word that directs the user to a core storage location.  
**point-ill-ism** (point'il-iz'am, pwān'-) *n.* A theory or technique of applying small strokes or dots of paint to a canvas so that they blend together when viewed from a distance. —*point'ill-ist n. & adj.*  
**point-less** (point'lis) *adj.* Devoid of meaning or purpose. —*point'less-ly adv.*  
**point of no return** *n.* A crucial point, as in an action, beyond which return or reversal is no longer possible.  
**point of view** *n.* 1. A position from which things are considered. 2. One's way of viewing things.  
**poise** (poiz) *v.* poised, *pois-ing*. To bring into or be maintained in equilibrium; balance. —*n.* 1. Balance; equilibrium. 2. a. Composure. b. Bearing; carriage.  
**poi-son** (poi'zən) *n.* A substance that causes injury, illness, or death, esp. by chemical means. —*v.* 1. To kill or injure with poison. 2. To put poison on or into. 3. To have a destructive influence on; corrupt. —*poi'son-er n.* —*poi'son-ous adj.*  
**poison ivy** *n.* A North American shrub or vine, *Rhus radicans*, bearing greenish flowers, whitish berries, and shiny trifoliate leaflets that cause a skin rash on contact.  
**poison oak** *n.* A North American shrub, *Rhus toxicodendron* or *R. diversiloba*, related to poison ivy and causing a similar skin rash.  
**poison sumac** *n.* A swamp shrub, *Rhus venifera*, of the SE U.S., with greenish-white berries and compound leaves that cause a skin rash similar to that caused by the related poison ivy.  
**poke** (pök) *v.* poked, *pok-ing*. 1. To push or prod, as with an implement or finger. 2. To

make by or as if by poking. 3. To thrust forward; stick out. 4. To snoop or intrude. 5. To rummage in a leisurely way. 6. To proceed slowly. —*n.* A quick push, thrust, or jab.  
**poker** (pö'kar) *n.* A metal stick or bar for stirring a fire.  
**poker** (pö'kar) *n.* A card game played by 2 or more players who bet on the value of their hands in order to win a pool.  
**poker face** *n.* An expressionless face, as that of an expert poker player. —*pok'er-faced' adj.*  
**poke-weed** (pök'wed') *n.* A North American plant, *Phytolacca americana*, with blackish-red berries, small white flowers, and a poisonous root.  
**poky** also *pöke-y* (pök'ē) *adj.* -*er*, -*i-est*. Informal. 1. Irritatingly slow. 2. Lacking adequate space.  
**pol** (pöl) *n.* Informal. A politician.  
**po-lar** (pö'lar) *adj.* 1. Of or measured in relation to a pole, as of a magnet or sphere. 2. Of or situated near the North or South Pole. 3. Completely opposite.  
**po-lar bear** *n.* A large white-furred bear, *Thal-arctos maritimus*, of Arctic regions.  
**Po-lar-is** (pö-lär'is, -lär'-) *n.* A bright star near the N celestial pole, at the tip of Ursa Minor.  
**po-lar-i-ty** (pö-lär'i-tē, -lär'-) *n.*, *pl.* -*ties*. 1. Basic division or separation into opposing or contrary types, esp. of a physical property <math>\langle \text{magnetic polarity} \rangle</math>. 2. The demonstration of 2 contrary tendencies. 3. A designated polar extreme.  
**po-lar-ize** (pö-lär-iz') *v.* -*ized*, -*iz-ing*. 1. To cause polarity in. 2. To set at opposite extremes. 3. To acquire polarity; become polarized. 4. To cause (light or radiation waves) to oscillate in a definite way. —*po-lar-i-za-tion n.*  
**po-le** (pöl) *n.* 1. Either extremity of an axis through a sphere, as the earth. 2. Either of the earth's geographic poles. 3. Either of 2 regions in a magnet at which the magnetism is concentrated. 4. Either of a pair of oppositely charged electric terminals. 5. Either of 2 forces in opposition.  
**po-le** (pöl) *n.* 1. A long, slender rod. 2. An upright post. —*v.* poled, *pol-ing*. 1. To push or move along (e.g., a boat) with a pole. 2. To use poles in skiing.  
**po-le-ax** or **po-le-axe** (pöl'aks) *n.* A medieval battle-axe consisting of an ax and hammer combination on a long pole.  
**po-le-cat** (pöl'kät') *n.* 1. A carnivorous Old World mammal, *Mustela putorius*, with dark fur. 2. A skunk.  
**po-lem-ic** (pö-lēm'ik) *n.* 1. A verbal attack, esp. on opposing doctrines or opinions; controversy. 2. *po-lem-ics* (*sing. or pl. in number*). The art or practice of controversy or debate. —*po-lem'ic*, *po-lem'ical adj.* —*po-lem'ic-ist n.*  
**po-le-star** (pöl'stär) *n.* 1. The North Star. 2. A guiding or determining principle.  
**po-le vault** *n.* An athletic contest in which each participant uses a long pole to vault over

a high crossbar. —*po-le'-vault' v.* —*po-le'-vault'er n.*  
**po-lice** (pö-les') *n.*, *pl.* -*ice*. 1. a. A division of government organized for maintenance of law and order and the prevention and investigation of crime. b. (*pl. in number*). The members of such a governmental division. 2. An organized group functioning like a police force. 3. Soldiers detailed to perform a specified task, as cleaning. —*v.* -*iced*, -*ic-ing*. 1. To guard or patrol, esp. to maintain order or enforce the law. 2. To make (e.g., a military area) neat or clean.  
**po-lice-man** (pö-les'men) *n.* A member of a police force.  
**po-lice state** *n.* A repressive totalitarian political state utilizing a secret police force.  
**po-lice-wom-an** (pö-les'wōm'ən) *n.* A woman who is a member of a police force.  
**po-li-cy** (pö'lī-sē) *n.*, *pl.* -*cies*. 1. A principle or course of action chosen to guide decision making. 2. Prudent management.  
**po-li-cy** (pö'lī-sē) *n.*, *pl.* -*cies*. A written insurance contract.  
**po-li-cy-holder** (pö'lī-sē-hōl'dər) *n.* A holder of an insurance policy.  
**po-li-o** (pö-lē-ō') *n.* Poliomyelitis.  
**po-li-o-my-e-li-tis** (pö-lē-ō-mī-ä-lī'tis) *n.* A contagious viral disease, esp. of children, that attacks the central nervous system and can result in paralysis.  
**po-lish** (pöl'ish) *v.* 1. To make or become smooth and shiny, as by rubbing or chemical action. 2. To develop or refine to a high degree. —*n.* 1. A smooth, shiny surface; sheen. 2. A substance used for polishing. 3. Refinement of style or manners. —*pol-ish off*. Informal. To finish or get rid of quickly. —*pol'-ish-er n.*  
**pol-it-bu-ro** (pöl'it-byōrō, pöl'it'-) *n.* A Communist Party executive committee that determines policy.  
**po-lite** (pö-lit') *adj.* -*lit-er*, -*lit-est*. 1. Marked by good manners and tactful behavior; courteous. 2. Refined; urbane. —*po-lit'e-ly adv.* —*po-lit'e-ness n.*  
**po-li-tesse** (pö'lī-tēs', pöl'it-) *n.* Formal courtesy; decorum.  
**po-li-tic** (pöl'it-ik) *adj.* 1. Wisely discerning, as in matters of policy. 2. Shrewdly expedient. —*pol'i-tic-ly adv.*  
**po-lit-i-cal** (pö-lit'ik-əl) *adj.* 1. Of or concerning the structure or affairs of government. 2. Of or concerning politics, political parties, or politicians. —*po-lit'i-cal-ly adv.* —*pol'i-ti-cize'* (-siz') *v.*  
**political action committee** *n.* A committee formed by special-interest groups to raise money and make contributions to the campaigns of selected political candidates.  
**political science** *n.* The study of government and political institutions. —*political scientist n.*  
**pol-i-ti-cian** (pöl'itish'an) *n.* A person active in government or politics, esp. one holding a political office.



**street-car** (strēt'cār) *n.* A car on rails that provides public transportation usu. along the streets.

**street-walk-er** (strēt'wò'kər) *n.* A prostitute who solicits in the street.

**street-wise** (strēt'wiz') *adj.* Capable of surviving in the frequently violent environment of a large city.

**strength** (stréngkth, stréngth) *n.* 1. The quality, state, or property of being strong; power. 2. a. The power to resist force, stress, or wear. b. The power to resist attack. 3. Concentration or potency, as of a drug. 4. Intensity. 5. Firmness; toughness. 6. A source of power or force. 7. Numerical force <a battalion at half strength>

**strength-en** (stréngk'than, stréng'-) *v.* To make or become strong or stronger. —**strength-en'er** *n.*

**strept-o-us** (strépt'yóo'-s) *adj.* Requiring or marked by vigorous effort or exertion. —**strept-u-ous-ly** *adv.*

**strep-throat** (strép) *n.* A throat infection caused by streptococci and marked by fever and inflammation of the tonsils.

**strepto-coc-cus** (strép'to-kòk'as) *n., pl. -coc-ci (-kòk'sit, -kòk'it).* Any of various round to ovoid pathogenic bacteria of the genus *Streptococcus*, occurring in pairs or chains. —**strep-to-coc-cal** *adj.*

**strep-to-my-cin** (strép'to-mis'n) *n.* An antibiotic produced from mold cultures of bacteria of the genus *Streptomycetes* and used esp. in the treatment of tuberculosis.

**stress** (strés) *n.* 1. Importance or emphasis. 2. Emphasis placed on a sound or syllable. 3. A force that tends to strain or deform. 4. Mental, emotional, or physical tension, strain, or distress. —*v.* 1. To put emphasis on. 2. To subject to strain or pressure. 3. To accent. —**stress'ful** *adj.*

**stretch** (strétch) *v.* 1. a. To draw out to the full or a fuller length, breadth, or extent. b. To become or be capable of becoming stretched. 2. To extend or cause to extend, as from one place to another. 3. To put forth; hold out. 4. To exert to the utmost; strain. 5. To extend beyond proper or reasonable limits. —*6.* To prolong. —*n.* 1. The act of stretching or state of being stretched. 2. The degree to which something can be stretched. 3. A continuous or unbroken expanse of space or time. 4. A straight section of a racecourse, esp. the section just before the finish line. —**stretch'able** *adj.* —**stretch'y** *adj.*

**stretch-er** (strétch'ər) *n.* 1. One that stretches. 2. A litter, usu. of canvas stretched over a frame, for transporting the sick, wounded, or dead.

**strew** (strō) *v.* strewed, strewed or strewn (strōn), strewing. 1. To scatter here and there. 2. To cover by scattering. 3. To be or become dispersed.

**stri-a** (strī'ə) *n., pl. stri-ae (strī'ē). 1. A shallow groove or channel. 2. A thin line or band, esp. one of a group that are parallel. —**stri-at'ed** *adj.* —**stri-a-tion** *n.**

**strick-en** (strīk'an) *v. var. n.p. of STRIKE.* —*adj.* 1. Struck or injured, as by an arrow or bullet. 2. Afflicted with strong emotion, illness, or trouble.

**strict** (strikt) *adj.* 1. Exact; precise. 2. Kept within specific and narrow limits. 3. a. Imposing rigorous standards. b. Rigorously maintained or enforced; stringent. —**strict'ly** *adv.* —**strict'ness** *n.*

**stric-ture** (strikt'char) *n.* 1. A restraint, limit, or restriction. 2. An adverse criticism. 3. *Pathol.* An abnormal constriction in a bodily duct or passage.

**stride** (strīd) *v. strode (strōd), **strid-den** (strīd'n), **strid-ing.** To walk vigorously with long steps. ★ *syns:* MARCH, STALK —*n.* 1. a. A long step. b. The distance covered in a stride. 2. *often* strides. A step forward; advance. —**strid'er** *n.**

**strid-ent** (strīd'nt) *adj.* Harsh, grating, and loud; shrill.

**strife** (strīf) *n.* 1. Discord; conflict. 2. A struggle; contention.

**strike** (striik) *v. struck (strūk), **struck** or **strick-en** (striik'an), **strick-ing.** 1. a. To hit with or as if with the hand. b. To inflict (a blow). 2. a. To collide with. b. To cause to collide. 3. To afflict suddenly, as with a disease or disorder. 4. To indicate by a sound <a clock striking the hour>. 5. To produce by stamping, printing, or punching <strike a coin>. 6. To ignite (a match) by friction. 7. To expunge or remove. 8. To impress, esp. strongly or anew. 9. To discover <struck oil>. 10. To affect deeply with (an emotion). 11. To make or conclude <struck a deal>. 12. To assume (e.g., a pose). 13. To stop working in protest against something or in support of demands made of an employer. 14. To start out, esp. in a new direction. —*n.* 1. An act or instance of striking. 2. An attack, esp. a military air attack. 3. A sudden achievement or valuable discovery, as of a precious mineral. 4. a. *Baseball.* A pitched ball counted against the batter. b. The knocking down of all the pins in bowling with the first ball. —**strike out.** *Baseball.* To put or be put out with 3 strikes. —**strike up.** 1. To start or cause to start to sing or play. 2. To initiate. —**strike'er** *n.**

**strike-break-er** (striik'brā'kər) *n.* One who works or provides an employer with workers during a strike; scab. —**strike'break'ing** *n.*

**strike-out** (striik'out') *n.* *Baseball.* An act or instance of striking out.

**striking** (striik'ing) *adj.* Extraordinarily impressive <a striking resemblance> —**strikingly** *adv.* —**strikingness** *n.*

**string** (strīng) *n.* 1. A cord, as of twisted fibers, for fastening, tying, or lacing. 2. Something resembling a string. 3. A set of objects with a cord running through them <a string of pearls>. 4. A series of related events, acts, or items arranged or falling in a line <a string of defeats>. 5. *Computer Sci.* A set of data arranged in ascending or descending sequence according to a key within the data. 6. a. A

cord stretched across the sounding board of a musical instrument that produces a tone when caused to vibrate. b. strings. Musical instruments with strings. 7. *often* strings. Hidden conditions or provisions. 8. A cord or fiber in a plant. —*v.* strung (strīng), **strīng-ing.** 1. To furnish, fasten, or tie with strings. 2. To thread on a string. 3. To make tense; tighten. 4. To extend; stretch. 5. To remove the strings from (vegetables). —**strīnged** *adj.* —**strīng'y** *adj.*

**string-bean** *n.* A bushy or climbing plant, *Phaseolus vulgaris*, cultivated for its narrow, green, edible pods.

**string-ent** (strīn'jənt) *adj.* 1. Rigorously exacting; strict. 2. Marked by scarcity, esp. of money. —**strīng'en-ty** *n.*

**strip'** (striip) *v. stripped, strip-ping.* 1. To remove the covering or clothing from. 2. To divest, as of rank. 3. To take or pull off; remove. 4. To make bare, as by separating leaves from a stalk. 5. To damage the threads or teeth of (e.g., a gear). 6. To rob; despoil. 7. To remove all one's clothes. —**strip'per** *n.*

**strip'** (striip) *n.* 1. A long, slender piece, usu. of uniform width. 2. An airstrip.

**stripe** (striip) *n.* 1. A long, narrow band distinguished, as by color, from its background. 2. A strip of cloth worn on the sleeve of a uniform to show rank or length of service; chevron. 3. Type; kind. —*v.* striped, **strip-ping.** To mark or provide with stripes.

**striped bass** *n.* A food and game fish, *Rococcus saxatilis*, of North American coastal waters, with dark stripes along its sides.

**strip-pling** (striip'ling) *n.* A youth.

**strip-mine** *n.* An open mine, esp. a coal mine, whose seams or outcrops run close to ground level and are exposed by the stripping of topsoil. —**strip-mine'** *v.*

**strip-tease** *also strip tease* (striip'tēz') *n.* An entertainment featuring a person who slowly removes clothing usu. to a musical accompaniment. —**strip-teas'er** *n.*

**strive** (strīv) *v. strove (strōv) or **strived, striv-en** (strīv'an) or **strived, strīv-ing.** 1. To exert strenuous efforts; labor. 2. To struggle against; contend. —**striv'er** *n.**

**strobe** (strōb) *n.* 1. A stroboscope. 2. A strobe light.

**strobe light** *n.* A flash lamp that produces high-intensity short-duration light pulses by electric discharge in a gas.

**stro-bo-scope** (strō'bō-skōp') *n.* An instrument used to study moving objects by making them appear stationary, esp. with pulsed illumination or devices that intermittently interrupt observation. —**stro'boscopic** (-skōp'ik) *adj.*

**stroke** (strōd) *v. p.t. of STRIDE.*

**stroke** (strōk) *n.* 1. An act of striking; blow. 2. A sudden process, event, or action having a powerful effect <a stroke of luck>. 3. A single complete movement over or through water or air <a swimming stroke>. 4. A single movement or mark made by or as if by a pen



out warning. 3. To cause to feel astonishment; amaze. —*n.* 1. A feeling of astonishment; amazement. 2. Something that surprises. 3. An attack made without warning. —**surprisingly** *adv.*

**surreal** (sə-rē'əl) *adj.* Having the characteristics and qualities associated with surrealism; grotesque.

**surrealism** (sə-rē'ə-liz'əm) *n.* A 20th-century and artistic movement in which fantastic imagery and incongruous juxtapositions are meant to express the workings of the subconscious. —**surrealist** *n.* —**surrealistic** *adj.* —**surrealistically** *adv.*

**surrender** (sə-rēn'dər) *v.* 1. To give up control or possession of to another on demand or under compulsion. 2. To give (oneself) over, as to an emotion; yield. —*n.* The act of surrendering.

**surreptitious** (sūr'əp-tish'əs) *adj.* Made, done, or acting in secret; stealthy. —**surreptitiously** *adv.*

**surrey** (sūr'ē, sūr'ē) *n., pl. -reys.* A horse-drawn 4-wheeled carriage with 2 seats.

**surrogate** (sūr'ə-gīt, -gāt, sūr'ē) *n.* 1. A substitute. 2. A judge in some U.S. states with jurisdiction over the probate of wills and settlement of estates.

**surround** (sa-round') *v.* 1. To extend around all edges of. 2. To shut in on all sides so as to prevent escape; confine. ★ **syns:** CIRCLE, COMPASS, ENCIRCLE, ENCLOSE, GIRD, RING

**surroundings** (sa-round'ingz) *pl.n.* The conditions that surround one.

**sur-tax** (sūr'tāks') *n.* A tax imposed in addition to a normal tax.

**surveillance** (sar-vā'lyans) *n.* Close observation, esp. of a person or group under suspicion.

**survey** (sar-vā', sūr'vā') *v.* 1. a. To look over and examine in detail. b. To study or view comprehensively. 2. To determine the position, boundaries, area, and elevation of a part of the earth's surface by measuring angles and distances. —*n.* (sūr'vā') *pl. -veys.*

1. A detailed examination; inspection. 2. A comprehensive view <a survey of European history>. 3. a. The process of surveying land. b. A map or plan of surveyed land. —**surveyor** *n.*

**surveying** (sar-vā'ing) *n.* The act, profession, or science of making land surveys.

**survive** (sar-viv') *v. -vived, -viving.* 1. To continue to live or exist. 2. To live longer than; outlive. —**survival** *n.* —**survivor** *n.*

**susceptible** (sə-sēp'tə-bəl) *adj.* 1. Easily influenced, moved, or affected; sensitive. 2. Prone to be subject <susceptible to infections>. 3. Capable of accepting or permitting <an argument not susceptible of proof>. —**susceptibility** *n.*

**sushi** (sū'shē) *n.* A dish of Japanese origin that consists of thin slices of fresh raw fish or seaweed wrapped around a cake of cooked rice.

**suspect** (sə-spēkt') *v.* 1. To believe without being sure; surmise. 2. To be suspicious about

or distrust. 3. To consider to be guilty without proof. —*n.* (sūs'pēkt'). Someone who is suspected, esp. of a crime. —*adj.* (sūs'pēkt'). Open to or considered with suspicion.

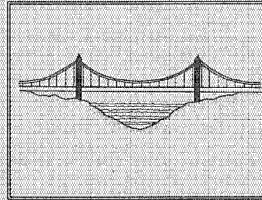
**suspend** (sə-spēnd') *v.* 1. To bar for a period from an office, privilege, or position. 2. To cause to stop temporarily; interrupt. 3. a. To put off for a time; postpone <suspend judgment>. b. To make temporarily ineffective <suspend parking regulations>. 4. To hang, esp. so as to allow free movement except at the point of attachment. 5. To keep from falling or sinking without apparent support <particles of cork suspended in wine>.

**suspenders** (sə-spēn'dəz) *n.* One of a pair of straps worn over the shoulders to support a skirt or trousers.

**suspense** (sə-spēns') *n.* 1. Suspension. 2. Apprehension resulting from uncertainty; anxiety. 3. A feeling of pleasurable excitement as to a result. —**suspenseful** *adj.*

**suspension** (sə-spēn'shən) *n.* 1. The act of suspending or state of being suspended. 2. A device by which something, as a mechanical part, is suspended. 3. *Chem.* A noncolloidal dispersion of solid particles in a liquid.

**suspension bridge** *n.* A bridge whose roadway is hung from cables stretched between supporting towers.



suspension bridge

**suspicion** (sə-spish'ən) *n.* 1. The act or an instance of suspecting something, esp. something wrong, without sufficient evidence or proof. 2. A minute trace; hint.

**suspicious** (sə-spish'əs) *adj.* 1. Arousing or tending to arouse suspicion. 2. Given to suspicion; distrustful. 3. Expressing suspicion. —**suspiciously** *adv.*

**sustain** (sə-stān') *v.* 1. To hold up; support. 2. To keep up; maintain <couldn't sustain their interest>. 3. To supply with nourishment. 4. To support the spirits, courage, or resolution of. 5. To withstand; endure <sustain a disappointment>. 6. To undergo; suffer <sustained an injury>. 7. To uphold as valid, true, or legal. 8. To corroborate; confirm. ★ **syns:** BOLSTER, BUOY, PROP, SUPPORT, UPHOLD

**sustenance** (sūs'tə-nəns) *n.* 1. The act of sustaining or state of being sustained. 2. Something that nourishes; food. 3. Some-

thing that sustains, strengthens, or supports. 4. Means of maintaining life; livelihood.

**suture** (sū'chər) *n.* 1. Material or a stitch used to join the edges of a wound or incision. 2. A seamlike line of junction, as between 2 bones of the skull. —**suture** *v.*

**suzerain** (sū'zər-ən, -zər-ān') *n.* 1. A feudal lord. 2. A nation that controls the international affairs of another nation but permits it domestic sovereignty. —**suzerainty** *n.*

**svelte** (svelt) *adj.* svelt'er, svelt'est. Slender; willowy.

**swab** (swōb) *n.* 1. A small mass of absorbent material used esp. for cleaning or applying medicine. 2. A mop, as that used to clean decks. 3. *Slang.* A sailor. —**swabbed, swabbing.** To clean, treat, or remove with a swab.

**swaddle** (swōd'l) *v. -dled, -dling.* 1. To wrap closely; envelop. 2. To wrap (an infant) in strips of cloth.

**swaddling clothes** *pl.n.* 1. Strips of cloth wrapped around a newborn infant to hold its legs and arms still. 2. Restrictions imposed on the immature.

**swag** (swāg) *n.* *Slang.* Stolen money or property; booty.

**swage** (swāj) *n.* A tool used to shape metal. —**swage** *v.*

**swagger** (swāg'ər) *v.* 1. To walk with an insolent or conceited air; strut. 2. To brag; boast. —**swagger** *n.*

**Swahili** (swā-hē'lē) *n.* A Bantu language of E and C Africa that is widely used as a lingua franca.

**swain** (swān) *n.* 1. A country youth, esp. a shepherd. 2. A suitor.

**swallow** (swōl'ō) *v.* 1. To cause to pass into the stomach through the mouth. 2. To consume as if by swallowing; engulf. 3. To accept humbly; bear. 4. *Slang.* To believe without questioning. 5. To take back; retract <had to swallow his words>. —*n.* 1. The act of swallowing. 2. The amount that can be swallowed at one time.

**swallow** (swōl'ō) *n.* A bird of the family Hirundinidae, with long wings and a usu. forked tail.

**swallowtail** (swōl'ō-tāl') *n.* 1. A deeply forked tail of or like that of a swallow. 2. A butterfly of the family Papilionidae, with a taillike projection on each hind wing. 3. A man's black coat worn for formal daytime occasions and having a long rounded and split tail.

**swam** (swām) *v. p.t. of SWIM.*

**swami** (swā'mē) *n.* A Hindu mystic or religious teacher.

**swamp** (swōmp, swōmp) *n.* A wet lowland region; marsh. —*v.* 1. To cover with or drench in liquid. 2. To deluge; overwhelm. 3. To submerge by filling with water. —**swampiness** *n.* —**swampy** *adj.*

**swamp fever** *n.* Malaria.

**swan** (swōn) *n.* A large aquatic bird, esp. of the genera *Cygnus* or *Olor*, with webbed feet, a long slender neck, and usu. white plumage.

**swank** (swāngk) *also swanky* (swāng'kē)