

THIRD COLLEGE EDITION

# Webster's New World Dictionary™

OF AMERICAN ENGLISH

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THIRD COLLEGE EDITION

*Dedicated  
to David B. Guralnik  
lexicographical mentor  
and friend*

Webster's New World Dictionary, Third College Edition

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model, usually a full-sized replica, of a structure or apparatus used for instructional or experimental purposes

**mod** (mäd) *n.* [*< MOD(ERN)*] [*also M-*] any of the young people in England in the mid-1960s noted for their emphasis on stylish dress, often as a symbol of their alienation from conventional society — *adj.* 1 [*also M-*] of or characteristic of the mods or the styles they favored 2 of or relating to anything up-to-date, fashionable, stylish, etc., esp. clothes

**moderate** 1 moderate 2 *Music* *moderato* 3 modern

**mod** abbrev. 1 moderate 2 *Music* *moderato* 3 modern

**mod-acrylic** (mä'dä kril'ik) *adj.* [*mod(ified) acrylic*] designating or of any of various synthetic fibers that resist combustion, made from long-chain polymers composed primarily of acrylonitrile modified by other polymers; used in making fabrics, carpets, etc.

**modal** (mäd'äl) *adj.* [*ML modalis < L. modus, MODE*] 1 of or indicating a mode or mood 2 *Gram.* of or expressing mood [*a modal auxiliary*] 3 a) *Jazz* of or relating to compositions or improvisations based on an arrangement of modes rather than a series of chord progressions b) in popular music, of or characterized by the repetition of one or two chords as a harmonic base 4 *Logic* expressing or characterized by modality 5 *Music* of or composed in any of the medieval church modes 6 *Philos.* of mode, or form, as opposed to substance 7 *Statistics* having to do with a statistical mode — *n.* *Gram.* MODAL AUXILIARY — **mod'ally** *adv.*

**modal auxiliary** an auxiliary verb that is used with another verb to indicate its mood, as *can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, will, and would*; it has no special form in the third person singular and no present or past participle [*the modal auxiliary "would" indicates the subjunctive mood in "We would go if we could"*]

**modality** (mö dal'ä tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*ML modalitas*] 1 the fact, state, or quality of being modal 2 a special attribute, emphasis, etc. that marks certain individuals, things, groups, etc. 3 *Logic* the qualification in a proposition that indicates that what is affirmed or denied is possible, impossible, necessary, contingent, etc. 4 *Med.* a) the employment of, or the method of employment of, a therapeutic agent b) a specific sensory channel, as vision or hearing

**mode** (mäd) *n.* [*ME moede < L. modus, measure, manner, mode < IE base \*med-, to measure: see MEDICAL*] 1 a manner or way of acting, doing, or being; method or form 2 [*Fr < L. modus*] customary usage, or current fashion or style, as in manners or dress 3 *Geol.* the actual mineral composition of an unaltered igneous rock 4 *Gram.* MOOD<sup>2</sup> (sense 1) 5 *Logic* a) modality or the form of a proposition with reference to its modality b) MOOD<sup>1</sup> (sense 2) 6 *Metaphysics* the form, or way of being, of something, as distinct from its substance 7 *Music* a) the selection and arrangement of tones and semitones in a scale, esp. any of such arrangements in medieval church music b) a rhythmical system of the 13th cent. c) either of the two forms of scale arrangement in later music (MAJOR MODE and MINOR MODE) 8 *Statistics* the value, number, etc. that occurs most frequently in a given series — **SYN.** FASHION

**model** (mäd'l) *n.* [*Fr modèle < It modello, dim. of modo < L. modus, prec.*] 1 a) a small copy or imitation of an existing object, as a ship, building, etc., made to scale b) a preliminary representation of something, serving as the plan from which the final, usually larger; object is to be constructed c) ARCHETYPE (sense 1) d) a hypothetical or stylized representation, as of an atom e) a generalized, hypothetical description, often based on an analogy, used in analyzing or explaining something f) a piece of sculpture in wax or clay from which a finished work in bronze, marble, etc. is to be made 2 a person or thing considered as a standard of excellence to be imitated 3 a style or design; specif., any of a series of different styles or designs of a particular product [*a two-door model, a heavy-duty model, a 1969 model*] 4 a) a person who poses for an artist or photographer b) any person or thing serving as a subject for an artist or writer c) a person employed to display clothes by wearing them; mannequin — **adj.** 1 serving as a model, pattern, or standard of excellence [*a model student*] 2 representative of others of the same kind, style, etc. [*a model home*] — **vt. -eled or -elled, -eling or -elling** 1 a) to make a model of b) to plan, form, or design after a model c) to make conform to a standard of excellence [*to model one's behavior on that of one's elders*] 2 to shape or form in or as in clay, wax, etc. 3 to display (a dress, suit, etc.) by wearing 4 *Drawing, Painting, etc.* to create a three-dimensional image of on a flat surface through the use of color, shading, etc. — **vi.** 1 to make a model or models [*to model in clay*] \*2 to serve as a MODEL. (sense 4) — **mod'eler or mod'eler n.**

**SYN.**—model refers to a representation made to be copied or, more generally, to any person or thing to be followed or imitated because of excellence, worth, etc. **example** suggests that which is presented as a sample, or that which sets a precedent for imitation, whether good or bad; a **pattern** is a model, guide, plan, etc. to be strictly followed; **paradigm** is common now only in its grammatical sense of an example of a declension or conjugation, giving all the inflectional forms of a word; **archetype** applies to the original pattern serving as the model for all later things of the same kind; **standard** refers to something established for use as a rule or a basis of comparison in judging quality, etc.

**modem** (mö'dem; also, -dəm) *n.* [*MO(DULATOR) + DEM(ODULATOR)*] a device that converts data to a form that can be transmitted, as by telephone, to data-processing equipment where a similar device reconverts it

**Modena** (möd'n ä, möd'-; -ä') commune in N Italy, in Emilia-Romagna pop. 180,000

**moderate** (for *adj.* & *n.*, mäd'är it; for *v.*, -ät') *adj.* [*ME moderat < L. moderatus, pp. of moderare, to keep within bounds, restrain < modus: see MODE*] 1 within reasonable limits; avoiding excesses or extremes; temperate or restrained 2 mild; calm; gentle; not violent [*moderate weather*] 3 of average or medium quality, amount, scope, range, etc. [*moderate skills, moderate prices*] — *n.* a person holding moderate views or opinions, as in politics or religion — **vt. -ated, -at'**

**ing** 1 to cause to become moderate; make less extreme, violent, et cetera 2 to preside over (a meeting, etc.) — **vi.** 1 to become moderate **n.**

**SYN.**—moderate and temperate are often interchangeable in denoting staying within reasonable limits, but in strict discrimination, moderate gets deliberate self-restraint [moderate demands, a temperate reply] **ANT.** excessive, extreme

**moderate breeze** a wind whose speed is 13 to 18 miles per hour: BEAUFORT SCALE

**moderate gale** a wind whose speed is 32 to 38 miles per hour: BEAUFORT SCALE

**moderation** (mä'där ä'shän) *n.* 1 a moderating, or bringing into calmness — *in moderation* to a moderate degree; without excess 2 *Music* *moderato* 3 [*often M-*] designating the form of a language; most recent stage of development — *n.* 1 a person living in moderate times 2 a person having modern ideas, beliefs, standards, etc. 3 *Printing* a style of typeface characterized by heavy down stroke contrasting with narrow cross strokes — **SYN.** NEW — **mod'adv.** — **mod'ern-ness n.**

**modern dance** a form of dance as a performing art, var developed in the 20th cent. by Isadora Duncan, Ruth St. D. Martha Graham, etc., and characterized by bodily movement rhythms less formalized than in classical ballet and less firmly bound to predetermined musical form

**Modern English** the English language since about the mid-19th cent.: cf. EARLY MODERN ENGLISH

**Modern Greek** the Greek language as spoken and written in (since about 1500)

**Modern Hebrew** Hebrew as spoken and written in post-Biblical times; esp., the language of modern Israel

**mod-ern-ism** (mä'därn iz'əm) *n.* 1 a) modern practices, ideas, etc., or sympathy with any of these b) an instance of modern idiom, practice, or usage 2 [*often M-*] any of several movements variously attempting to redefine Biblical and Christian and traditional teachings in the light of modern science, his research, etc.: condemned in the Roman Catholic Church in 1864 as a negation of faith 3 the general trend in the methods, style, philosophy of modern artists and writers involving a break with traditions of the past and a search for new modes of expression — **mod'ern-ist n., adj.**

**mod-ern-is-tic** (mä'därn is'tik) *adj.* 1 of or characteristic of modernism or modernists 2 modern: used esp. to designate certain contemporary trends and schools of art, music, etc., sometimes in a derogatory sense — **SYN.** NEW — **mod'ern-is'ti-cally adv.**

**mod-er-ni-ty** (mä'där'nä tē, mä-) *n.* 1 the state or quality of being modern 2 *pl. -ties* something modern

**mod-er-nize** (mä'därn iz') *vt. -ized, -izing* [*Fr moderniser*] to modernize; bring up-to-date in style, design, methods, etc. — **vi.** to modernize; become modern — **mod'ern-i-za'tion or mod'ern-i-ty n.**

**Modern Latin** the Latin that has come into use since about 1500; chiefly in scientific literature

**mod-est** (mäd'ist) *adj.* [*Fr modeste < L. modestus, keeping down, modest < modus: see MODE*] 1 having or showing a true opinion of one's own value, abilities, achievements, etc.; no boastful; unassuming 2 not forward; shy or reserved [*modestly*] 3 behaving, dressing, speaking, etc. in a way that is correct or proper or decorous; decent 4 moderate or reasonable; not pretentious [*a modest request*] 5 quiet and humble in appearance, etc. — **SYN.** CHASTE, SHY — **mod'adv.**

**Mo-des-to** (mä des'tō) [*Sp, lit., modest: said to be with restraint*] Wm. C. Ralston's modest refusal to have the place named a city in central Calif.: pop. 106,000

**mod-est-y** (mäd'is tē) *n.* [*Fr modestie < L. modestia*] the state of being modest; specif., a) unassuming or humble because of modesty or pretensions; moderation c) decency

**ModGr** Modern Greek

**ModHeb** Modern Hebrew

**mod-i-cum** (mäd'i kam) *n.* [*LME < L, neut. of modicus, i. modus: see MODE*] a small amount; bit

**mod-i-fi-ca-tion** (mäd'ä fi kä'shän) *n.* [*MFR < L modifica*] a modifying or being modified; **mod'ifi-cate**: see MODIFY

**at.** äte, cär; ten, éve; is, ice; gö, hörn, look, tööl; o fur; a for unstressed vowels, as a in ago, u in focus; ' (lat'n); chin; she; zh as in azure (azh'är); thin, the; j as in etymologies: \* = unattested; < = derived from; > = Americanism

**See inside front and**