

Also Available

THE OXFORD DESK DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS
THE OXFORD ESSENTIAL BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY
THE OXFORD ESSENTIAL DICTIONARY OF FOREIGN TERMS IN ENGLISH
THE OXFORD ESSENTIAL GEOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY
THE OXFORD ESSENTIAL QUOTATIONS DICTIONARY
THE OXFORD ESSENTIAL SPELLING DICTIONARY
THE OXFORD ESSENTIAL THESAURUS
THE OXFORD FRENCH DICTIONARY
THE OXFORD GERMAN DICTIONARY
THE OXFORD ITALIAN DICTIONARY
THE OXFORD PORTUGUESE DICTIONARY
THE OXFORD RUSSIAN DICTIONARY
THE OXFORD NEW SPANISH DICTIONARY

Most Berkley Books are available at special quantity discounts for bulk purchases for sales promotions, premiums, fund-raising or educational use. Special books, or book excerpts, can also be created to fit specific needs.

For details, write: Special Markets, The Berkley Publishing Group, 375 Hudson Street, New York, New York 10014.

THE OXFORD

Essential
Dictionary

AMERICAN EDITION



BERKLEY BOOKS, NEW YORK

If you purchased this book without a cover, you should be aware that this book is stolen property. It was reported as "unsold and destroyed" to the publisher, and neither the author nor the publisher has received any payment for this "stripped book."

THE OXFORD ESSENTIAL DICTIONARY

A Berkley Book / published in mass market paperback
by arrangement with Oxford University Press, Inc.

PRINTING HISTORY

Berkley edition / August 1998

Copyright © 1998 by Oxford University Press, Inc.

Oxford is a registered trademark of Oxford University Press, Inc.

Published by Oxford University Press, Inc., as

The Oxford American Desk Dictionary. Derived from

The Oxford Desk Dictionary and Thesaurus.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of Oxford University Press, Inc.

For information address: Oxford University Press, Inc.,
198 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016.

The Penguin Putnam Inc. World Wide Web site address is
<http://www.penguinputnam.com>

ISBN: 0-425-16420-9

BERKLEY®

Berkley Books are published by The Berkley Publishing Group,
a division of Penguin Putnam Inc.,
375 Hudson Street, New York, New York 10014.

BERKLEY and the "B" design
are trademarks belonging to Penguin Putnam Inc.

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

Contents

Preface	vii
How to Use the <i>Oxford Essential Dictionary: American Edition</i>	ix
Abbreviations Used in This Book	xi
Key to the Pronunciations	xvi
<i>Oxford Essential Dictionary: American Edition</i>	1-702
Biographical Entries	705
Geographical Entries	741
Special Reference Sections	
Standard Weights and Measures with Metric Equivalents	780
Conversion from Standard to Metric Measurements	781
Metric Weights and Measures with Standard Equivalents	782
Conversion from Metric to Standard Measurements	783
Signs and Symbols	784
Temperature	786
Heat Index	787
Windchill Temperatures	787
Mathematical Notation	788
Multiplication Tables	788
Arabic and Roman Numerals	790
Greek Alphabet	790
Books of the Bible	791
Terms for Groups of Animals, etc.	792
Chemical Elements	794
Presidents of the United States of America	796
Leaders and Rulers	797
States of the United States of America	798
Area Codes	800
Countries of the World	803
Time Periods	809
Wedding Anniversary Gifts	810

pa-tri-ot'-i-cal-ly *adv.* **pa'tri-ot-ism** *n.*
pa-trol /pə'trɒl/ • *n.* 1 act of walking or travel-

pawl /pawl/ *n.* lever with a catch for the teeth of a wheel or bar.

clidine hydrochloride (phenyl cyclohexyl piperidine). 2 pneumocystis carinii pneumonia

precious thing; finest example. **3** anything resembling a pearl, e.g., a dewdrop, tear, etc.
 • *v. intr.* fish for pearl oysters. □ **pearl-er** *n.*