

## Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary

## TENTH EDITION

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opposing extremes of groups or interests formerly ranged on a continu-

um po-lar-ize \'pô-la-<sub>1</sub>rīz \ vb -ized; -iz-ing [F polariser, fr. NL polaris polar] w (1811) 1: to cause (as light waves) to vibrate in a definite pattern 2 : to give physical polarity to 3: to break up into opposing factions or groupings (a campaign that polarized the electorate) 4: CONCEN-TRATE 1 < recreate a cohesive rock community by polarizing ... an amorphous, fragmented audience --Ellen Willis)  $\sim wi$ : to become po-larized -- po-lar-iz-abil-ity \pô-la-<sub>1</sub>rī-za-<sup>b</sup>l-i-t(n -- po-lar-iz-abile \po-la-<sup>1</sup>rī-za-bal\ adj nolar nucleus w (182): either of the two nuclei of a seed plant embryo

larized — polariz.abil·i·ty \po-lo-,rī-za-bi-lo-tē\ n — polar-iz.abile \po-la-vī-za-bol\ adj polar nucleus n (1822) : either of the two nuclei of a seed plant embryo sac that are destined to form endosperm polar oucleus n (1822) : either of the two nuclei of a seed plant embryo sac that are destined to form endosperm polarog-ra.phy \po-lo-viā-gra-fē\ n [ISV, fr. polarization] (1936) : a method of qualitative or quantitative analysis based on current-voltage curves obtained during electrolysis of a solution with a steadily increas-ing electromotive force — polaro-ographic \po-lar-o-graphic \adj m po-lar-o-graphy.jeb-lo-lič\ ady Po-lar-o-graphic \po-la-rib(182) = add add add add add add Po-lar-o-graphical-ly \fr.k(o-)lč\ ady Po-lar-o-graphical-ly \fr.k(o-)lč\ ady Po-lar-on \fro-la-rin \n [ISV polar + 2-on] (1946) : a conducting elec-tron in an ionic crystal together with the induced polarization of the surrounding lattice pol-der \froj-lo-lar\ n [D] (1604) : a tract of low land (as in the Nether-lands) reclaimed from a body of water (as the sea) <sup>1</sup>pole \froj l \ n [ME, fr. OE pil stake, pole, fr. L palus stake; akin to L pangere to fix — more at PACT] (bef. 12c) 1 a: a long slender usu, cy-lindrical object (as a length of wood) b: a shaft which the wag-on is drawn : TONGUE c: a long staff of wood, metal, or fiberglass used in the pole vault 2 a: a varying unit of length; egy: one measur-ing 16½ feet (5.03 meters) b: a unit of area equal to a square rod (25.293 square meters) 3: a tree with a breast-high diameter of from 4 to 12 inches (10 to 30 centimeters) 4: the inside front row position on the starting line for a race <sup>2</sup>pole v poled; pol-ling vt (1573) 1: to act upon with a pole 2: to im-

ing 16½ feet (5.03 meters) **b**: a unit of reacquit to a square rod (25.293 square meters) **3**: a tree with a breast-high diameter of to 12 inches (10 to 30 centimeters) **4**: the inside front row position on the starting line for a race **\*pole** vb poled; poling vt (1573) 1: to act upon with a pole 2: to im-pel or push with a pole  $\sim$  vi 1: to propel a boat with a pole 2: to im-pel or push with a pole  $\sim$  vi 1: to propel a boat with a pole 2: to im-pel or push with a pole  $\sim$  vi 1: to propel a boat with a pole 2: to use ski poles to gain speed **\*pole** n [ME, fr. L polus, fr. Gk polos pivot, pole; akin to Gk pelesthai to become, Skt carati he moves, wanders — more at WHEEL] (14c) 1: ei-ther extremity of an axis of a sphere and esp. of the earth's axis 2 a : either of two related opposites **b**: a point of guidance or attraction **3 a**: either of the two terminals of an electric cell, battery, generator, or motor **b**: one of two or more regions in a magnetized body at which the magnetic flux density is concentrated **4**: either of two mor-phologically or physiologically differentiated areas at opposite ends of an axis in an organism or cell — see BLASTULA illustration **5 a**: the if fixed point in a system of polar coordinates that serves as the origin **b** : the point of origin of two tangents to a conic section that determine a polar — **poles apri**: as diametrically opposed as possible **Pole**  $vp\overline{ol}$ , laks, n [ME polax, pollax, fr. pol, polle pol1 + ax] (14c) **1** : a battle-ax with a short handle and often a hook or spike opposite the blade; *also* : one with a long handle used as an ornamental weapon **2** : an ax used in slaughtering cattle **\*poleax** vt (1882): to attack, strike, or fell with or as if with a poleax **pole bean** n (ca. 1770) : a cultivated bean that is usu. trained to grow upright on supports **pole-eat** \vbol-kat n, pl **polecats** or **polecat** [ME polcat, prob. fr. MF poul, pol cock + ME cat; prob. fr. its preying on poultry — more at **t** thatstela or Vormela) of the weasel family; esp : a br

pol-e-mize \'pä-la-1mīz\ vi -mized; -miz-ing (1828) : POLEMICIZE

pol-e-mize \pai-lo-miz\yi-mized; -miz-ing (1828): POLEMICIZE pol-e-mo-ni-um \pai-lo-mo-nē-m\ n [NL, fr. Gk polemönion, a plant] pol-e-mo-ni-um \pai-lo-mo-nē-m\ n [NL, fr. Gk polemönion, a plant] pol-en-ta \poi-len-ta, po-, -,tä\ n [It, fr. L, crushed and hulled barley; akin to L pollen fine flour] (1764): mush made of chestnut meal, corn-meal, semolina, or farina pol-er \poi-lor\n (1848): one that poles; esp: one that poles a boat pol-estar \poi-lostiat\ n 1: NORTH STAR 2 a: a directing principle : GUIDE b: a center of attraction pole vault n (ca. 1890): a vault with the aid of a pole; specif: a field event consisting of a vault for height over a crossbar — pole-vault vi

- pole-vaulter n

— pole-vaulter n pole-ward 'pöl-wərd' adv or adj (1875) : toward or in the direction of a pole of the earth (as the sun moves  $\sim$ ) ( $\sim$  variation in temperature) 'po-lice (po-lies) vr po-liced; po-licing [in sense 1, fr. MF po-licier, fr. police conduct of public affairs; in other senses, fr. 'police (1589) 1 archaic : GOVERN 2 : to control, regulate, or keep in order by use of police 3 : to make clean and put in order 4 a : to supervise the operation, execution, or administration of to prevent or detect and prosecute violations of rules and regulations b : to exercise such su-pervision over the policies and activities of 5 : to perform the func-tions of a police force in or over

<sup>2</sup>police *n*, *pl* police often attrib [F, fr. LL politia government, administration, fr. Gk politeia, fr. polites citizen, fr. polis city, state; akin to Skipa rampart, Lith pilis castle] (1716) 1a: the internal organization of reulation of a political unit through exercise of governmental power esp. with respect to general comfort, health, morals, safety, or proprese, with respect to general confort, health, morals, safety, or proprese, with control and regulation of affairs affecting the general order and welfare of any unit or area c: the system of laws for effecting and welfare of public order, safety, and health and enforcement a laws and possessing executive, judicial, and legislative powers b the department charged with prevention, detection by prosecution of public nuisances and crimes  $3a: POLICE FORCE bp rosecution of public the members of a private police organization force (campus <math>\rightarrow$ ) bpl: the members of a private police organization for a satistication or process of cleaning and putting in order b: military personnel detailed to perform this function  $\frac{1}{2}$  police action on the yeal art med forces against persons (a guerrillas or aggressors) held to be violators of international peace and order  $\frac{1}{2}$  police action of n (1823): a court of record that has jurisdiction or process or the sub-

police court n (1823) : a court of record that has jurisdiction over var, ous minor offenses (as breach of the peace) and the power to bind over for trial in a superior court or for a grand jury persons accused of more erious offens

police station n (1040): the nearguments of an epidemetry of a police force police wom-an (pol-les-wuman) n (1853): a woman who is a member of a police force policy. (F. MF, government, regulation, fr. LL politial (15c) 1 a: prudent or wisdom in the management of affairs b: management or proc dure based primarily on material interest 2 a: a definite course method of action selected from among alternatives and in light of given conditions to guide and determine present and future decisions b: a high-level overall plan embracing the general goals and acceptable pro-cedures esp. of a governmental body **policy** npl -cies [alter: of earlier police, fr. MF, certificate, fr. Oli polizza, modif. of ML apodixa receipt, fr. MGk apodeixis, fr. Gk, proof, fr. apodeiknynai to demonstrate — more at APODICTICI (1565). 1: a writing whereby a contract of insurance is made 2 a: a daily lottery a which participants bet that certain numbers will be drawn from a lot-tery wheel b: NUMBER 7a policy -hold-er \'pä-la-sē-hôl-dər\n (1851): the owner of an insurance policy esigned =  $(1950) \cdot a$  social science dealing with the making of

**policy science** n (1950) : a social science dealing with the making of birth layer and the m

policy-hold-er \'pā-lə-sō-hōl-dər\ n (1851) : the owner of an inspective science n (1950) : a social science dealing with the making of high-level policy (as in a government or business)
policy 'pô-lē-()ô n (1931) : POLIOMYELITIS
policy my-eli-tits \pô-lē-()ô-mi-ə-'lī-tas\ n [NL, fr. Gk polios gray + more at FALLOW, MYEL-] (1878) : an acute infections disease caused by the poliovirus and characterized by fever, motor at FALLOW, MYEL-] (1878) : an acute infections and deformity and marked by inflammation of nerve cells in the another or gray matter in each lateral half of the spinal cord — called allow famile paralysis.
polio-virus \'pô-lē-()ô-vi-rəs\ n [NL, fr. poliomyelitis + virus] (1933) : an enterovirus that occurs in several antigenically distinct strains of which one is the most frequent cause of human poliomyelitis = virus] (1933) : an enterovirus that occurs in several antigenically distinct strains of which one is the most frequent cause of human poliomyelitis = polis / pā-ləs\, n pl po-les (pā-ləs, n, pl poles) : a state or society esp. when characterized by a sense of community
polis n comb form [LL, fr. Gk, fr. polis] : city (megalopolis)
'polis n comb, soften, or refine in manners or condition 3: to bring the polish n (1704) 1 a : a smooth glossy surface : LUSTER b : freedment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/3 nerver ment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/4 nerver ment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/4 nerver ment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/4 nerver ment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/4 nerver ment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/4 nerver ment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/4 nerver ment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/4 nerver ment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/4 nerver ment or refinement 2 : the action or process of polishing 3/4 ner

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