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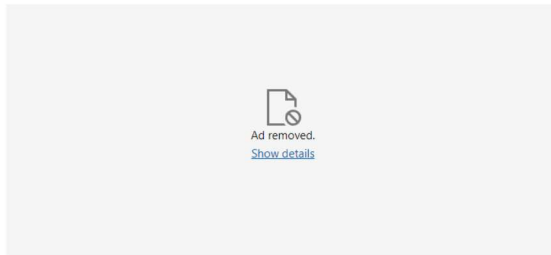
cavity noun

cav-ity (ˈkɑ-və-tē)

plural **cavities**

Synonyms of *cavity* >

- an unfilled space within a mass
especially: a hollowed-out space
- an area of decay in a tooth : **CARIES**



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Synonyms

concavity	dent	depression
dint	hole	hollow
indentation	indenture	pit
recess		

[See all Synonyms & Antonyms in Thesaurus >](#)

Examples of *cavity* in a Sentence

- Some birds nest in tree **cavities**.
- I had two **cavities** filled at the dentist's.

Recent Examples on the Web

- These examples are automatically compiled from online sources to illustrate current usage. Opinions expressed in the examples do not represent those of Merriam-Webster or its editors. Send us feedback about these examples.
- Changes in the balance of these bacteria can lead to dental issues, such as oral infections and **cavities**.
— Merve Ceylan, *Health*, 13 Oct. 2024
- The American Academy of Pediatrics highlighted key limitations to the review by the National Institutes of Health, as well as the lifelong effects that tooth decay and **cavities** – a common and preventable chronic disease – can have.
— Deldre McPhillips, *CNN*, 3 Oct. 2024
- Cleaning putty: on sale for \$6.89 Original price: \$7.99 Keep cleaning putty, on sale for less than \$8 at Walmart, to quickly pick up crumbs, dust and debris in all the crevices and **cavities** of your car.
— Nora Colomer, *Fox News*, 26 Sep. 2024
- Humans have two olfactory bulbs located in the forebrain, which are connected to each nasal **cavity** by the olfactory nerve.
— Sarah Kuta, *Smithsonian Magazine*, 18 Sep. 2024

[See all Example Sentences for *cavity* >](#)

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Etymology

borrowed from Middle French & Late Latin; Middle French *cavit *, borrowed from Late Latin *cavit t-*, *cavit s*, from Latin *cavus* "hollow, concave" + *-it t-*, *-it s* -ITY — more at HOLE entry 1

First Known Use

1541, in the meaning defined at sense 1

Time Traveler

The first known use of *cavity* was in 1541

See more words from the same year

Phrases Containing *cavity*

abdominal cavity body cavity pelvic cavity
segmentation cavity spinal cavity thoracic cavity

Dictionary Entries Near *cavity*

cavitoma
cavity
cavity oscillator

[See More Nearby Entries >](#)

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Style

"Cavity." *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cavity>. Accessed 5 Nov. 2024.

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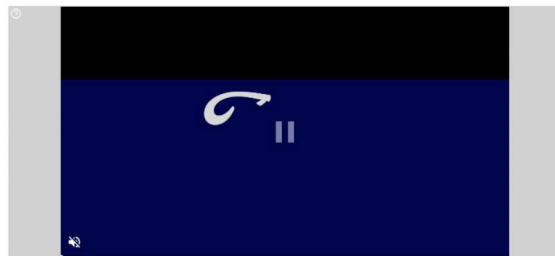
Kids Definition

cavity noun

cav-i-ty (ˈkav-ət-ē)

plural cavities

- : a hollow place
especially : an unfilled bodily space
| lung *cavity*
- : a hole hollowed out in a tooth by decay



Medical Definition

cavity noun

cav-i-ty (ˈkav-ət-ē)

plural cavities

- : an unfilled space within a mass

More from Merriam-Webster on *cavity*

English: Translation of *cavity* for Spanish Speakers
Britannica English: Translation of *cavity* for Arabic Speakers
Britannica.com: Encyclopedia article about *cavity*

Last Updated: 25 Oct 2024 - Updated example sentences

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