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Merriam-Webster

SINCE 1828



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free

[adjective](#)

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\ 'frē \
freer; freest

Definition of *free*

(Entry 1 of 3)

- 1 : **not costing or charging anything** a free school a free ticket
- 2a : having the legal and political rights of a citizen For many African Americans, celebrating the Fourth of July as the day Americans became free from British rule feels inapplicable since our ancestors were not free.— Christen A. Johnson
- b : enjoying civil and political liberty free citizens
- c : enjoying political independence or [freedom](#) from outside domination This is a free country.
- d : enjoying personal freedom : not subject to the control or domination of another You are free to do whatever you want.
- 3a : not determined by anything beyond its own nature or being : choosing or capable of choosing for itself a player free to negotiate a contract with any team
- b : determined by the choice of the actor or performer free actions
- c : made, done, or given voluntarily or spontaneously gave his free consent
- 4a : relieved from or lacking something and especially something unpleasant or burdensome free from pain a

- b : not bound, confined, or detained by force The prisoner is now free.
 - 5a : having no trade restrictions duty-free imports
 - b : not subject to government regulation free competition
 - c of foreign exchange : not subject to restriction or official control
 - 6a : having no obligations (as to work) or commitments I'll be free this evening
 - b : not taken up with commitments or obligations a free evening
 - 7 : having a scope not restricted by qualification a free variable
 - 8a : not obstructed, restricted, or impeded free to leave
 - b : not being used or occupied waved with his free hand
 - c : not hampered or restricted in its normal operation
 - 9a : not fastened the free end of the rope
 - b : not confined to a particular position or place in twelve-tone music, no note is wholly free for it must hold its place in the series— J. L. Stewart
 - c : capable of moving or turning in any direction a free particle
 - d : performed without apparatus free tumbling
 - e : done with artificial aids (such as pitons) used only for protection against falling and not for support a free climb
 - 10a : not parsimonious free spending
 - b : [outspoken](#) is free in his criticism
 - c : availing oneself of something without stint she's very free with her money
 - d : [frank, open](#)
 - e : overly familiar or forward in action or attitude a young man who had been much too free with the ladies of the town— Harvey Graham
 - f : [licentious](#) inexcusably free talk before the ladies
 - 11a(1) : not united with, attached to, combined with, or mixed with something else : [separate](#) free ores a free surface of a bodily part
 - (2) : [freestanding](#) a free column
 - b : chemically uncombined free oxygen free acids
 - c : not permanently attached but able to move about a free electron in a metal
 - d : capable of being used alone as a meaningful linguistic form the word *hats* is a free form — compare [bound entry 1 sense 7](#)
 - 12a : not literal or exact free translation
 - b : not restricted by or conforming to conventional forms free skating
 - 13 : [favorable](#) —used of a wind blowing from a direction more than six points from dead ahead
 - 14 : not allowing slavery was admitted to the Union as a free state
 - 15 : open to all comers that most pleasurable of Anglo-Saxon pastimes, a free fight— Winston Churchill
- for free
- : without charge

free

[adverb](#)

Definition of *free* (Entry 2 of 3)

- 1 : in a free manner
- 2 : without charge
- 3 : with the wind more than six points from dead ahead sailing free

free

[verb](#)

freed; freeing; frees

Definition of *free* (Entry 3 of 3)

1a : to cause to be free

b : to relieve or rid of what restrains, confines, restricts, or embarrasses free a person from debt —often used with *up* free up space on the hard drive

c : [disentangle](#), [clear](#)


2 obsolete : [banish](#)

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Other Words from *free*

Adjective

freeness \ 'frē-nəs  \ noun

Synonyms & Antonyms for *free*

Synonyms: Adjective

- [autonomous](#),
- [freestanding](#),
- [independent](#),
- [self-governed](#),
- [self-governing](#),
- [self-ruling](#),
- [separate](#),
- [sovereign](#)
- (also [sovrän](#))

Synonyms: Verb

- [discharge](#),
- [disenthral](#)
- (also [disenthral](#)),
- [emancipate](#),
- [enfranchise](#),
- [enlarge](#),
- [liberate](#),
- [loose](#),
- [loosen](#),
- [manumit](#),
- [release](#),
- [spring](#),
- [unbind](#),

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