# The New Oxford Dictionary of English 

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agreement. etc.) by overwhelming vocal app. al and without ballot. 2 Canaoian (of election) by virsue and without ballot. 2 dindide
of being the sole candidate.

- oricin mid 16 th cent.: from Latin acclamation-l. from acclamare 'shout at'. later 'shout in approval' (see Accualm).
acclimate $/$ akimen. ${ }^{2}$ 'khump/ - vert ino obj.| thiefly N. Amer. acclimatize: we had to give the soldiers time to occlimate.
- Brology respond physiologically or behaviourally to a change in a single environmental factor: trees may actimate to hish $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ levels by reducing the number of stomaca. Compare with acelimatize. I [win DD.|] Boany \& hothicullues harden off (a plancl.
- derivatives acelimation noun.
- Derivatives acelimation noun.
- ORIGIN late lbih cent.: from french acclimater. from a-(from Latin ad 'to. at') - elimat climate'.
acclimatize (also -ise) vert fino oul.) become accustomed to a new climate or to new conditions: it's unknown whether peopie will acdimatize to increasingly warm weather | they like to acclimatize increasingly warm weatives properly before doing anything.
a Bology respond physiologically or behaviourally 10 changes in a complex of environmental factors. Compare with acelimate. ( [with obi.) Boiany \& Honiculure harden off (a plans).
- derivatives aeclimatization noun.
- oricin mid 19th cent.: from French acclimater 'acclimatize' - -ize.

- DERIVATIVES acelivitous adjective.
- oricin early 17 th cent.: from Latin acclivitas. from acclivis. from od- 'towards' - clivas 'a slope'.
accolade ['aksled. akjolend/ noun 1 an award or privilege granted as a special honour or as an acknowledgement of merit: the ultimate official accolade of a visit by the Queen.
-an expression of praise or admiration.
2 a touch on a person's shoulders with a sword at the bestowing of a knighthood.
- ORICIN early 17th cent.: from French. from OrICIN early ath cent.: from Provencal acolada, literally embrace around the Provencal acolada, interally embrace and
neck (when bestowing knighthood), from Latin ad. 'at, to' + collum 'neck'.
accommodate vert [mith obi] 1 fof physical accommodate especially a buildingl provide lodging or sufficient space for: the cortages accommodati up to six prople.
2 fic in with the wishes or needs of: any lariguage must accommodate new concepts.
- |no obi.] [accommodate to) adapt to: making users accommodace to the realities of today's marketplace.
- derivatives accommodative adjective.
- oricin mid l6th cent.: from Latin accommodar'made fitting'. from the verb accommodore, from ad. 'made titting. from the
'to' commodus 'fitting'.
accommodating adjective fitring in with someone's wishes or demands in a helpful way. - DERIVATIVES accommodatingly adverb.
accommodation noun 1 (mass noun) a room. group of rooms, or building in which someone may live or sray: they were living in temporary accommodation
- (accommodations) chuelly N. Amer. lodgings. sometimes - (accommodations) Entely N. Aner. Iodgings. Somenting board: the company offers o number of guest house accommodations in Oberammergau. Ethe guest house accommodations in oberammergau available space for occupants in a building. vehicle. available space for occupants in a building. vehicie.
or vessel: there was lifetoas accommodation for 1.178 or vessel: there was lifeboas accommodation for
people.
the providing of a room or lodgings: the peopie. © the providing of a room or lodgings: the
building is used exclusively for the accommodation of guests.
2 a convenient arrangement: a settlement or compromise: the prime minister was sceking an accommodation with Labour.
-|mass noun) the process of adapling or adjusting to -|mass noun $]$ the process of adapting or adjun to separate
someone or something: accommodation to a someone or somechung: accommodation to a separate political entity was not possible. 1 (mass noun) the automatic adjustment of the focus of the eye by flatening or thickening of the lens.
- ORIGIN early t7rh cent.: from Latin accommodatio( $n \div$. from accommodare 'fir one thing to another' (see accommodate).
accommodation address noun Bril an address for correspondence used by a person who wishes to conceal or does not have a permanent address.
accommodationist $\rightarrow$ noun US a person who seeks compromise with an opposing point of view. rppically a policical one.
accommodation ladder noun a ladder or

氏light of steps up the side of a ship allowing ...ess from a small boat or a quayside.
accommodation platform noun an offshore platform serving as accommodation for workers in offshore oil or gas production.
accompaniment noun 1 a musical part which supports or partners a solo instrument, voice. or supports or partners a solo accomponiment i [mass noun] group; she sang to a gutior accompaniment
somatas for piano with nolin accomponiment.
a piece of music plaved as a complement or background to an activity: lush sting accompaniments 10 romantis scenes in films.
2 something that supplements or complemencs something else. especially food: these biscuits are a lovely accompaniment to tea.

- PHRASES to the accompaniment of with - PHRASES to the accompaniment of win accompanying or background meme filed out to the accompaniment of the organ. - with another event happening at the same time as:
- ORIGIN_ early 18 th cent.: from french accompagnemenl, from accompagner accompany'.
accompanist noun a person who provides a musical accompaniment to anocher musician or to a singer.
accompany vert (-ies. -ied) [with obl.] 1 go somewhere with (someone) as a companion or somewhere with (someonel the sisters were to accompany us to London. escort: the two sisters were to accompany us to Londor
2 (usu. be accompanied) be present or occur at 2 (usu. be accompanied) be present or occur $2 t$ the same time as (something else): the illness is ofich accomponied by nausea.
- provide \{something\} as a complement or addition to something else: home-cooked ham accompanied by bomething


## 3 play a musical accompaniment for.

- oricin late Middle English: from Old French accompagner, from $a$ - (from Latin ad 'ro. at'). compagne. from Old French compaignon 'companion'. The spelling change was due to association with COMPANY.
accomplice 1 'kimplis. a'kom-1 noun 2 person who helps anorher commit a crime.
- origin mid 16th cent.: alteration (probably by association with ACCOMPANY of Middle English complice 'an associate', via Old French from late Latin complex, complic- 'allied', from com- 'together' * the root of plicare 'to fold'.
accomplish verb [with obi.) achieve or complete successfully: the planes accomplished their mission.
- origin late Middle English: from Old French acompliss., lengthened stem of acomplir, based on Latin ad. "to" + complere ' to complete".
accomplished adjective highly trained or skilled in a parricular activity: an accomplished pianist.
awell educated and having good social skills.
accomplishment $>$ noun something that has been achieved successfully: the reduction of inflation was a remarikable accomplishment.
- [mass noun the successful achievement of a task: the accomplishment of planned objectives. a an activity that a person can do well. typically as a result of siudy or practice: typing was another of het accomplishments. - [mass noun] skill or ability in an accivity: a poet of considerable accomplishment.
accord verb 1 [with obi.] give or grant someone (power, status. of recognition): the powers accorded to the head of state I [mith two ob,s) the national assembly accorded the General more power.
2 (no obj.) (accord with) (of a concept or fact) be 2 no obj. (accord with)
- noun an official agreement or treaty.
$u$ |mass noun\} agreement or harmony: the government and the rebels are in accord on one point.
- PRRASES in accord with according to. of one's - PRRASES accord voluntarily or without outside intervention: he would not seek trearment of his own accord. with one accord in a united way.
- orcora. with one accord in a unglish. from Old French acorder - ORICIN Old English. from Old French acorder cord- 'heart': influenced by comcorn.
accordance noun (in phrase in accordance accordance noun (in phrase in accordance
with) in a manner conforming with: the ballot was held in accordance with trade union rules.
- Oricin Middle English: from Old French acordance. from acorder 'bring to an agreement' (see Accoro).
accordant adjective archaic agreeing or comparible: I found the music accordant with the words of the service.
"Gin Middle English: from Old French acordan),
rom acorder 'bring to an agreement" (see accorol.
from acorder bang to an agteernent lsee Accorol.
accarding $\rightarrow$ advert 1 laccording tol as stated by or in: the outlook for investors is not bright. according to financial experts.
an a manner cortesponding or conforming to: rook the rice according to the instructions. in proportion or relation to: salary will be fixed according to expenence. 2 (occording as) depending on whether.
accordingly $\rightarrow$ adver 1 in a way that is appropriate to the particular circumstances: we have to discover what his plans are and act aciordingly. 2 [sentence abvert] consequently; therefore: there was no breact of the rules; actordingly: there will be no discrplinary inguiry
accordion $/ \mathrm{s}^{\circ} \mathrm{k} \cdot \mathrm{d}$ an/ noun a musical instrument played by strerching and squeezing with the hands to work a central bellows that blows air over metal reeds. the melody and chords being sounded by burtons or keys. Compare with concertina.
burtons or keys. Compare with CONCERTINA.
alas modilier) folding like the bellows of an accordion: an - |as modilier) foldin
accordion pleat.
- Derivatives accordionist noun.
- oricin mid 19th cenc.: from German Akkordion, from Italian accordare 'to tune'.
accost verb [with obji.] approach and address (someone) boldly or aggressively: reporters accosted
him in the street (a man tried to accost the girl on the him in the stre
way to school
- origin late 26 th cent. (originally in the sense 'lie or go alongside $\cdot$ : from French accoster. from litalian accostare. from Latin ad. 'to' - costa 'rib, side'.
accouchement $\{2 \times \mathrm{ku}: \mathrm{Jmoj} /$ noun [mass noun] archaic the action of giving birth to a baby.
- Oricin late 1 ith cent.: French, from accoucher 'act as midwife'. from $a$. (from Latin ad 'to. at') + coucher 'put to bed' (see couen'\}.
accoucheur /aku: $\int \mathrm{f}$ / noun a male midwife.
- ORIGIN mid 18 th cent.: French. from accoucher (see - ORIGIN mid 18 th
accouchementi.
account $\downarrow$ noun 1 a report or description of an event or experience: a detoiled account of what has been achieved.
an interpretation or rendering of a piece of music: a lively account of Offenbach's score.
2 a record or siatement of financial expenditure and receiprs relating to a particular period or purpose: the baman was doing his accounts I he submirted a quarteri)' account.
- (Accounts) the department of a company that deals with such records. © chielly Bul a bill taking the form of such a record: there's no money to pay the tradesmen's accounts this month
3 an arrangement by which a body holds funds on behalf of a client or supplies goods or services to behalf of a client or supplies goods or services to
them on credit: a bonk account I charge it to my account | | began buying things on account.
a a client having such an arrangement with a supplier. seling bibles to escablished accounts in the North 12 contract to do work periodically for a client: another agency- were awarded the account. - Stock Extange, Bnt a fixed period on a stock exchange. at the end of which payment must be made for stock that h2s been payment
bought.
4 (miss noun) importance: money was of no account to her.
-vert 1 [with obj. and complemenl] consider or regard in a specified way: her visit could not be accounted a success | he accounted himself the unluckiest man alive. 2 [no obi.) archaic give or receive an account for money received: after 1292 he accounted to the Westminster exchequer.
- PHRASES by (or from all accounts according to what one has heard or read: by all accounrs he is a pretty nice guy. call (or bring) someone to account require someone to explain a mistake or poor performance. give a good (or thad) account of oneself make a favourable (or unfavourable) impression through one's performance. keep an account of keep a record of. leave something out of account fail or decline to consider a factor. money of account denominations of money used in reckoning but not current as coins. on someone's account for a specified person's benefit: don't bother on my account on account of because of. on no account under no circumstances: on no account lei anyone know we're interested on one's own account with one's own money or assets. racher than for an employer or client: he began trading on his oun account. settle (or square) accounts with pay money owed to
unwanted $A C$ distortion or oscilla with a common power supply.
decoy - noun /di:ks. di"krl/ 1 a bird or mammal. or an imitation of one, used by hunters to attract other birds or mammals: \{as modifier) a decoy duck.
- a person or thing used to lure an animal or person
into a trap. Ba fake or non-working article. especially a weapon, used to mislead or misdirect. 2 a pond from which narrow nerted channels lead. into which wild duck may be enciced for caprure.
- vert /dikas. dïkol/ |min obl. and adverbial of direction lure or entice (a person or animal) away from their intended course. oppically into a trap: thry would try to decoy the enemy towards the hidden group.
- ORIGIN mid 16th cent. (earlier as coy): from Dutch de kooi 'the decoy'. from Middle Dutch de kouw 'the cage'. from Latin covea 'cage'. Sense 1 is from the practice of using tamed ducks to lead wild ones along channels into captivity.
decrease verb/dikri:s/ (no obl.) become smaller or fewer in size. amount, intensity. or degree: the population of the area has decreased radically.
- [wath ob.) make smaller or fewer in size, amount. intensig. or degree: the ausles were decteased in heighs. noun /di:kri:s/an inscance or example of becoming noun di:kri:s/an instance or in births.
amass noun) the action or process of becoming smaller - [mass noum) the action or process of becomin
or fewer. the rase of decrease became greater.
- PHRASES on the decrease becoming less common or widespread: decreasing.
- DERIVatives decreasingly advert [as submodilier] voters have proved decreasingly willing to support the party.
- ORICIN late Middle English: from Old French decreis (noun). decteistre (verb). based on Latin dectescere. (noun), decteistre (verb). based
from de- 'down' + ctescere 'grow'.
decree $r$ noun an official order issued by a ruler or authority that has the forse of law.
- [mass nown the issuing of such an order. the king ruled - mass nown the issuing of such an order. the cing ruled
by decrec. a judgement or decision of certain law by decrec. - a judgement or decision of
courts. especially in matrimonia! cases.
courts. especially in matrimonial coldecrees, decreed, decreeing) [with obi.] order vert (decrees, decreed, decreeing) (with ob,.) order
(something) by decree: the govermment decreed a bon on any contart with the guertilles I [with clause] the president decreed that the military was to be streamlined.
- origin Middle English (denoting an edict issued by an ecclesiastical council to semie a point of docrine or discipline): from Old French decre. decret. from Larin decretum 'something decided'. from decernere 'decide'.
decree absolute noun ( pl . decrees absolute) English Law a final order by a court of law which officially ends a marriage, enabling either party to remarty.
decree nisi - noun (pl. decrees nisi) English Law an order by a court of law that states the date on which a marriage will end. unless a good reason to prevent a divorce is produced.
- ORIGIN late 19th cent: Latin nisi unless'.
decrement /dekrom(o)nt/ noun a reduction or diminution: relaxation produces a decrement in sympatheric netvous activity.
man amount by which something is reduced or diminished: the dose was reduced by 10 mg weekly decrements. EPmsies the ratio of the amplitudes in

-vert ;wilh obj.] chielly Compuling cause a discrete reduction in (a numerical quantiry): the instruction reduction in a numerical quan
dectements the acomulator by one.
- ORICIN early 17 ch cent. (as a noun): from Latin dectementum 'diminution:, from the stem of dectescere to decrease'.
decrepit /d'kreput/-adjective (of a person) elderly and infirm: a rather decrepit old man.
- wom our or ruined because of age or neglect: a row of decrepir houses.
- DERIVATIVES decrepitude noun.
- Oricin late Midde English: from Latin decrepirus. from de. 'down' + crepitus, past participle of crepare 'ractle. creak.
decrepitate /dikrcpitent/-verb [no obj.] lechnical (of a crystal or an inclusion of someching within a crystal | disintegrate audibly when heated.
- DERIVATIVES decrepitation noun.
- ORIGIN mid 17th cent.: from DE. 'away' + Latin crepicar. 'crackled', from the verb crepitare. frequentative of crepare 'ratrle' (see DECREPIT).
decrescendo /, di:krs']endau/ noun (pl. -os), advert. adjective. \& verb (-os, oed) another cerm for diminuendo: [as noun] the dectescendo of distan:
thunder | [as ad|.] a decrescendo heart murmur ||
he decrescendos down to a whisper.
- OrIGIN early i9th cent.: Iralian. literally 'decreasing'.
decrescent /di'krcs(a)nt/ adjective [ancol.) (of the moon) waning.
- origin early 17 ith cent.: from Latin decrescent-
'growing less'. from the verb dectescere lsee decrease).
decretal |d'kri:l|ail| noun a papal decree concerning a point of canon law.
- adjective of the narure of a decree.
- oricin Middle English: from late Latin decretale. neuter of decretalis (adjective), from Latin decret. 'decided'. from the verb decemere.
Decretum /dikritim/ p noun a collection of decisions and judgements in canon law.
- oricin Latin, literally 'something decreed'.
decriminalize (also -ise) vert [with obi.] cease to treat (something) as illegal: a batte to decriminalize drags.
- DERIVATIVES decriminalization noun.
decry $\mid d$ 'kral $\rightarrow$ verb (-ies, ied) [win obi.] publicly denounce: they decried human rights abuses.
- derivatives decrier noun.
- ORIGIN early 17th cent. (in the sense decrease the value of coins by royal proclamation'): from DE'down' - cry, on the pattern of French dearier 'cry down'.
decrypt /di:'kript/ verb [with obj.] make (a coded or unclear message) intelligible: the computcr can be used to encrypt and decrypl sensitive transmissions.
- nown 2 text that has been decoded.
- Derivatives decryption noun.
- ORICIN 1930s: from de. (expressing reversal) + crypt as in encrypt.
decubitus /dikju:brios] noun [mass noun] chietly Medicine the posture adopted by a person who is lying down: [as modifier) lumbar puncture with the patient in the lateral decubitus position.
- origin late 19th cent.: modern Latin, from Latin decumbere 'lie down'. on the pattern of words such as acoubitus 'reclining at tabie'.
decubitus ulcer noun technical term for gedsofe.
decumbent $/ \mathrm{di}$ 'kambiaint $/ \rightarrow$ adjective Bolamy (of a plant or part of a plant) lying along the ground or along $a$ surface, with the extremity curving along ${ }^{2}$
- oricin late 18 th cent.: from Latin decumbent- 'lying down'. from the verb decumbere, based on de- 'down' + a verb related to cubare to lie'.
decumbiture /di'kambitfo/ Doun Astrology a chart made for the time of onset of an illness. to aid in making a prognosis and determining appropriate trearment
$y$ \{mass noun) arctaic the action of taking to one's bed with an illness.
-oricin mid inth cent.: formed itregularly from Latin decumbere 'lie down' + -URE.
decurrent $/ \mathrm{d} \cdot{ }^{*} \mathrm{kar}(\mathrm{z}) \mathrm{n} / />$ adjective Botany fof a fungus gill. leaf, etc.) extending down the stem below the point of attachment.
n(of a shrub or the crown of a tree) having several roughly equal branches.
-origin mid 18 th cent.: from Latin decurtent'running down', from the verb decurrere.
decurved adjective Biology (especially of a bird's bill) curved downwards.
decussate lechnical vert /di kasent. dekaseit/ [no obij]. (of two or more things) cross or intersect each other to form an $X$ : the fibres decussate in the collar.
- adjective /di'kassi// shaped like an $X$.
- Botany (of leaves) arranged in opposite pairs. each pair being at right angles to the pair below.
- derivatives decussation noun.
- ORIGIN mid 17 th cent. (as a verb): from Latin decussatus. past participle of decussare divide crosswise', from decussis (describing the figure $X$. i.e. the Roman numeral for the number 10), from decem 'ren'.
decyl f'dissıl, -sil/ $\rightarrow$ noun [as modifier] Chemistry of or denoting an alkyl radical $\rightarrow \mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{23}$, derived from decane.
- ORIGIN mid 19 ch cent.: from Greek deka• 'ten' • - YL.
dedans $\mid d o$ dō $\mid$ noun (in real rennis) an open gallery for spectators ar the service side of a court. gallery for spectators at the service side of a court
- oricin early 18 th cent.: French, literally 'inside'.
kind f'desdakind. Cerman de:dokint/. Richard 1-1916). German machemarician. one the founders of abstract algebra and modern mathematics.
dedendum /didend $m$ / noun Engineering the radial distance from the pitch circle of a cogwheel or wormwheel to the bottom of the rooth space or groove. Compare with adoendum.
- origin early 20th cenc.: from Larin. 'thing that can be surrendered', neuter gerundive of dedere.
dedicate vert [with odj.] devote (time, effor, or oneself) to a particular task or purpose: joan has dedicated her life to animals.
mdevote (somerhing) to 2 particular subject or purpose: volume four is dedicated to wasps. - \{usu. be dedicated) cite or nominate (a book or other arristic work) as being issued or performed in someone's honour: the novel is dedicated to the memory of my mother. - (usu. be dodteated) ceremonially assign (a church or other buildingl to a deity or saint: the parish churth is dedicated to si poul.
derivatives dedicatee noun. dedicator noun. dedicatory adjective.
- origin late Middle English (in the sense devote to sacred use by solemn rites'): from latin dedica'devated. consectated'. from the verb dedicare.
dedicated $\rightarrow$ adjective fof a person\} devoted to a task or purpose: a lam of dedicated doctors.
tof a thingl exelusively assigned or allocated to or intended for a parcicular service or purpose: a dedicated high-speed rail link from the Channel Tunnel. - DERIVATIVES dedicatediy adverb.
dedication noun [mass noun] 1 the quality of being dedicated or committed to a task or purpose: his dedicarion to his duries.
2 the action of dedicating a church or ocher building to a deity or saint: the dedication of a new cify church.
- [coum noun an inscription dedicating a building in this way, I [cound noum the words with which a book or other artistic work is dedicated.
- origin late Middle English: from Latin dedicátion $n$ ). from dedicare 'devote, consecrate' (see peDicate).
de dicto /der 'dikiou. di:/ adjective Philosopiny relating to the form of an assertion or expression itself. rather than any property of a thing it refers to. Compare with of re,
to. Compare with of re,
- origin Latin, from what is said
dedifferentiate $\mid$ didi[a'renjielt verb [no obi.] Biology (of a cell or tissue) undergo a reversal of differentiation and lose specialized characteristics. - derivatives dedifferentiation noum.
deduce vert [wih obj.\} arrive at (a fact or a conclusion) by reasoning: draw as a logical conclusion: litte can be safely deduced from these figures | |wilh clause] they deduced that the fish died because of water pollution.
Earhac trace the course or derivation of: he canno: deduce his descent wholly by heirs male.
- derivatives deducible adjective
- oricin late Middie English (in the sense 'lead or convey'): from Latin deducere. from de 'down' + ducers lead'.
deduct vert [with obl.] subtract or take away tan amount or part) from a total: tox has been deducted from the payments.
- origin late Midde English: from Latin deduct. 'taken or led away'. from the verb deducere. Dedua and deduce were not distinguished in sense until the mid 17 th cent.
deductible adjective able to be deducted. especially from taxable income or tax to be paid. - noun chuely $N$. Amer. the pars of an insurance claim to be paid by the insured; an excess.
- derivatives deductibility noun.
deduction noun |mass nounj 1 the action of deducting or subtracting something: the diviend will be paid without deduction of tax.
- [counl noun) an amount that is or may be deducted from something. especially from taxable income ot tax to be paid: tax deductions.
2 the inference of particular instances by reference to a general law or principle: the detective must uncover the murderer by deduction from facts. Often contrasted with imDUCTION.
- [coun! noun] a conclusion chat has been deduced.
- origin late Middle English: from Latin dedutio(n-l. from the verb deducere (see oeduee).
deductive adjective characterized by the

