
THE
OXFORD
AMERICAN
COLLEGE
DICTIONARY

Fisher & Paykel Ex. 1448
IPR Petition - USP 9,119,931

G. P. Putnam's Sons
Publishers Since 1838
a member of
Penguin Putnam Inc.
375 Hudson Street
New York, NY 10014

Copyright © 2002 by Oxford University Press, Inc.

Oxford is a registered trademark of Oxford University Press.

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 permission of Oxford University Press.

The Oxford American College Dictionary is based on *The New Oxford American Dictionary* published in 2001.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

The Oxford American college dictionary.

p. cm.

ISBN 0-399-14415-3 (acid-free paper)

1. English language—Dictionaries. I. Oxford University Press.

PE1628.O8614 2002 2002019080

423—dc21

This book includes some words that are, or are asserted to be, proprietary names or trademarks. Their inclusion does not imply that they have acquired for legal purposes a nonproprietary or general significance, nor is any other judgment implied concerning their legal status. In cases where the editor has some evidence that a word is used as a proprietary name or trademark, this is indicated by the designation trademark, but no judgment concerning the legal status of such words is made or implied thereby.

Printed in the United States of America

1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

This book is printed on acid-free paper. ☺

access charge (also **access fee**) ▶ n. a charge made for the use of computer or local telephone-network facilities.

access-ible /æks'essəbəl/ ▶ adj. 1 (of a place) able to be reached or entered. ■ (of an object, service, or facility) able to be easily obtained or used. ■ easily understood. ■ able to be reached or entered by people in wheelchairs. 2 (of a person, typically one in a position of authority or importance) friendly and easy to talk to; approachable. —**access-ibility** /-sə'sə'biliti/ n.; **access-ibly** /-blē/ adv.

access-ion /æks'seshən/ ▶ n. 1 the attainment or acquisition of a position of rank or power, typically that of monarch or president. ■ the action or process of formally joining or being accepted by an association, institution, or group. 2 a new item added to an existing collection of books, paintings, or artifacts. ■ an amount added to an existing quantity of something. 3 the formal acceptance of a treaty or agreement. ▶ v. [trans.] (usu. **be accessioned**) record the addition of (a new item) to a library, museum, or other collection.

access-or-ize /æks'sesə'raɪz/ ▶ v. [trans.] provide or complement (a garment) with fashion accessories. ■ serve as a fashion accessory to (a garment).

access-or-y /æks'ses(ə)rē/ (also **accessary**) ▶ n. (pl. **-ies**) 1 a thing that can be added to something else in order to make it more useful, versatile, or attractive. ■ a small article or item of clothing carried or worn to complement a garment or outfit. 2 Law someone who gives assistance to the perpetrator of a crime, without directly committing it, sometimes without being present. ▶ adj. [attrib.] chiefly technical contributing to or aiding an activity or process in a minor way; subsidiary or supplementary.

access-ory ▶ **accessory before (or after) the fact** Law, dated a person who incites or assists someone to commit a crime (or knowingly aids someone who has committed a crime).

access-ory nerve ▶ n. Anatomy each of the eleventh pair of cranial nerves, supplying certain muscles in the neck and shoulder.

access time ▶ n. Computing the time taken to retrieve data from storage.

acciac-cata-tura /ä.CHÄkä'tōōrə/ ▶ n. (pl. **acciaccaturas** or **acciaccature** /-rə; -rē/) Music a grace note performed as quickly as possible before an essential note of a melody.

accidence /'æksidəns/ ▶ n. the part of grammar that deals with the inflections of words.

accident /'æksidənt/ ▶ n. 1 an unfortunate incident that happens unexpectedly and unintentionally, typically resulting in damage or injury. ■ a crash involving road or other vehicles, typically one that causes serious damage or injury. ■ informal used euphemistically to refer to an incidence of incontinence, typically by a child or an animal. 2 an event that happens by chance or that is without apparent or deliberate cause. ■ the working of fortune; chance. 3 Philosophy (in Aristotelian thought) a property of a thing that is not essential to its nature.

accident ▶ **an accident waiting to happen** 1 a potentially disastrous situation, typically caused by negligent or faulty procedures. 2 a person certain to cause trouble. **accidents will happen** however careful you try to be, it is inevitable that some unfortunate or unforeseen events will occur. **by accident** unintentionally; by chance.

accident-al /'æksi'dentl/ ▶ adj. 1 happening by chance, unintentionally, or unexpectedly. 2 incidental; subsidiary. 3 Philosophy (in Aristotelian thought) relating to or denoting properties not essential to a thing's nature. ▶ n. 1 Music a sign indicating a momentary departure from the key signature by raising or lowering a note. 2 Ornithology another term for **VAGRANT**. —**accident-al-ly** adv.

accident-prone ▶ adj. tending to be involved in a greater than average number of accidents.

accidie /'æksidē/ ▶ n. **acedia**.

accip-iter /æks'sipitər/ ▶ n. Ornithology a hawk (*Accipiter* and related genera) of a group distinguished by short, broad wings and relatively long legs, adapted for fast flight in wooded country.

accip-itrine /æks'sipitrin/; -trɪn/ ▶ adj. [attrib.] Ornithology of or relating to birds of a family (*Accipitridae*) that includes most diurnal birds of prey other than falcons, New World vultures, and the osprey.

acclaim /ə'klām/ ▶ v. [trans.] (usu. **be acclaimed**) praise enthusiastically and publicly. ▶ n. enthusiastic and public praise.

acclamation /'æklə'mæʃən/ ▶ n. loud and enthusiastic approval, typically to welcome or honor someone or something.

acclamation ▶ **by acclamation** (of election, agreement, etc.) by overwhelming vocal approval and without ballot.

accli-mate /'æklə'mæt/ ▶ v. [intrans.] (usu. **be acclimated**) become accustomed to a new climate or to new conditions. ■ Biology respond physiologically or behaviorally to a change in a single environmental factor. Compare with **ACCLIMATE**. ■ [trans.] Botany Horticulture harden off (a plant). —**accli-mation** /'æklə'mæʃən/ n.

accli-mat-ize /'æklə'maɪz/ ▶ v. [intrans.] acclimate. ■ Biology respond physiologically or behaviorally to changes in a complex of environmental factors. ■ [trans.] Botany & Horticulture harden off (a plant). —**accli-mat-ization** /'æklə'maɪzə'shən/ n.

accliv-ity /ə'klivɪtē/ ▶ n. (pl. **-ies**) an upward slope. —**accliv-i-tous** /-itəs/ adj.

ac-co-lade /'ækə,lād; -lād/ ▶ n. 1 an award or privilege granted as a

special honor or as an acknowledgment of merit. ■ an expression of praise or admiration. 2 a touch on a person's shoulders with a sword at the bestowing of a knighthood.

ac-com-mo-date /ə'kāmə,dæt/ ▶ v. [trans.] 1 (of physical space, esp. a building) provide lodging or sufficient space for. 2 fit in with the wishes or needs of: *it's hard to accommodate the new management style*. ■ [intrans.] (**accommodate to**) adapt to. —**ac-com-mo-da-tive** /-dətɪv/ adj.

ac-com-mo-dat-ing /ə'kāmə,dætɪŋ/ ▶ adj. fitting in with someone's wishes or demands in a helpful way. —**ac-com-mo-dat-ing-ly** adv.

ac-com-mo-da-tion /ə'kāmə'dæʃən/ ▶ n. 1 an action of accommodating or the process of being accommodated. ■ (usu. **accommodations**) a room, group of rooms, or building in which someone may live or stay. ■ (**accommodations**) lodging; room and board. ■ the available space for occupants in a building, vehicle, or vessel. ■ the provision of a room or lodging. 2 a convenient arrangement; a settlement or compromise. ■ the process of adapting or adjusting to someone or something. ■ the automatic adjustment of the focus of the eye by flattening or thickening of the lens.

ac-com-mo-da-tion-ist /ə'kāmə'dæʃənɪst/ ▶ n. a person who seeks compromise with an opposing point of view, typically a political one.

ac-com-mo-da-tion lad-der ▶ n. a ladder or stairway up the side of a ship allowing access, esp. to and from a small boat, or from a dock.

ac-com-pa-ni-ment /ə'kæmp(ə)nɪmənt/ ▶ n. 1 a musical part that supports or partners a solo instrument, voice, or group. ■ music played to complement or as background to an activity. 2 something that is supplementary to or complements something else, typically food.

ac-com-pa-nist /ə'kæmpənɪst/ ▶ n. a person who provides a musical accompaniment to another musician or to a singer.

ac-com-pa-ny /ə'kæmp(ə)nē/ ▶ v. (-ies, -ied) [trans.] 1 go somewhere with (someone) as a companion or escort. 2 (usu. **be accompanied**) be present or occur at the same time as (something else). ■ provide (something) as a complement or addition to something else. 3 play a musical accompaniment for.

ac-com-plice /ə'kæmplɪs/ ▶ n. a person who helps another commit a crime.

accomplice

Word History

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.'

ac-com-plish /ə'kæmplɪʃ/ ▶ v. [trans.] achieve or complete successfully.

ac-com-plished /ə'kæmplɪʃt/ ▶ adj. highly trained or skilled. ■ dated having a high level of education and good social skills.

ac-com-plish-ment /ə'kæmplɪʃmənt/ ▶ n. something that has been achieved successfully. ■ the successful achievement of a task. ■ an activity that a person can do well, typically as a result of study or practice. ■ skill or ability in an activity.

ac-cord /ə'kɔrd/ ▶ v. 1 [trans.] give or grant someone (power, status, or recognition): *the powers accorded to the head of state*. 2 [intrans.] (**accord with**) (of a concept or fact) be harmonious or consistent with. ▶ n. an official agreement or treaty. ■ agreement or harmony.

accord ▶ **of its own accord** without outside intervention: *the rash may go away of its own accord*. **of one's own accord** voluntarily: *he would not seek treatment of his own accord*.

ac-cord-ance /ə'kɔrdns/ ▶ n. (in phrase **in accordance with**) in a manner conforming with: *the product is disposed of in accordance with federal regulations*.

ac-cord-ant /ə'kɔrdnt/ ▶ adj. [predic.] archaic agreeing or compatible.

ac-cord-ing /ə'kɔrdɪŋ/ ▶ adv. 1 (**according to**) as stated by or in. ■ in a manner corresponding or conforming to. ■ in proportion or relation to. 2 (**according as**) depending on whether.

ac-cord-ing-ly /ə'kɔrdɪŋlē/ ▶ adv. 1 in a way that is appropriate to the particular circumstances. 2 [sentence adverb] consequently; therefore.

ac-cord-ion /ə'kɔrdɪən/ ▶ n. a portable musical instrument with metal reeds blown by bellows, played by means of keys and buttons. ■ [as adj.] folding like the bellows of an accordion. —**ac-cord-ion-ist** /-nɪst/ n.

ac-cost /ə'kɔst; ə'kæst/ ▶ v. [trans.] approach and address (someone) boldly or aggressively. ■ approach (someone) with hostility or harmful intent. ■ approach and address (someone) with sexual intent.

ac-cou-che-ment /ə'kooʃmənt; ə'kooʃmənt/ ▶ n. archaic the action of giving birth to a baby.



accordion

See page xiii for the **Key to the pronunciations**