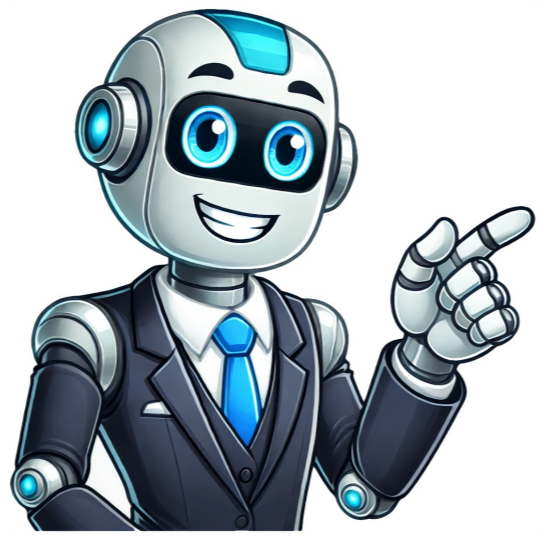


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Browse#aabccddeeffghhijjkkllmmnnoooppqrrsstuuvwxyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day! 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC 1 : the idea that is represented by a word, phrase, etc. [count] What is the precise/exact meaning of this word in English? Many words have developed more than one meaning. [=sense] an old word that has taken on a new meaning The word has both literal means and figurative meanings. [noncount] a word with various shades of meaning 2 a : the idea that a person wants to express by using words, signs, etc. [count] Don't distort her meaning by taking her words out of context. Do you get my meaning? = (chiefly Brit) Do you take my meaning? [=do you understand what I'm telling you?] I didn't understand the meaning of his remark/gesture. [noncount] a glance full of meaning [=a meaningful glance] b : the idea that is expressed in a work of writing, art, etc. [count] Literary critics disagree about the meanings of his poems. [noncount] a poem with subtle shades of meaning 3 [noncount] a : the true purpose of something What is the meaning of life? It's a story about the true meaning of Christmas. b : a quality that gives something real value and importance He began to feel that his life had lost its meaning, a life without meaning = a life devoid of meaning [=a meaningless life] Working with children has given her life new meaning. c : the reason or explanation for something What is the meaning of this intrusion? know the meaning of (something) : to understand (something) because you have experienced it I know the meaning of loneliness. [=I know what it is like to be lonely] often used in negative statements Those people don't know the meaning of hard work. often used in an exaggerated way to make a forceful statement He doesn't know the meaning of fear. [=he is very brave] I'll never stop trying. I don't know the meaning of the word failure. [=I am determined not to fail] A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z WordReference Random House Learner's Dictionary of American English 2025meaning/min/USA pronunciation n. what is intended to be or is expressed: [countable]Most meanings of a word are given in the dictionary.[uncountable]Did you understand the meaning of that play? the end, purpose, or significance of something:[uncountable]His life no longer had meaning after his children died. meaningless, adj. WordReference Random House Unabridged Dictionary of American English 2025meaning (ming), USA pronunciation. what is intended to be, or actually is, expressed or indicated; signification; import:The three meanings of a word. the end, purpose, or significance of something:What is the meaning of life? What is the meaning of this intrusion? Linguistics the nonlinguistic cultural correlate, reference, or denotation of a linguistic form; expression, linguistic content (opposed to expression), adj.intended (usually used in combination):She's a well-meaning person. fig. of significance: expressive:a meaning look. 12501300; Middle English (noun, nominal); see mean1. -ing1. -ing2 meaningly, adv. meaningfulness, n. 1. tenor; gist, drift, trend. Meaning, purport, sense, signification denote that which is expressed or indicated by something. Meaning is the general word denoting that which is intended to be or actually is expressed or indicated:the meaning of a word or glance.Sense may be used to denote a particular meaning (among others) of a word or phrase:The word is frequently used in this sense.Sense may also be used loosely to refer to intelligible meaning:There's no sense in what he says.Significance refers particularly to a meaning that is implied rather than expressed:the significance of her glance;or to a meaning the importance of which may not be easy to perceive immediately:The real significance of his words was not grasped at the time.Purport is mainly limited to the meaning of a formal document, speech, important conversation, etc., and refers to the gist of something fairly complicated:the purport of your letter to the editor. Collins Concise English Dictionary HarperCollins Publishers::meaning /min/ n the sense or significance of a word, sentence, symbol, etc; import; semantic or lexical content the purpose underlying or intended by speech, action, etc the inner, symbolic, or true interpretation, value, or message valid content; efficacy adj expressive of some sense, intention, criticism, etc: a meaning lookSee also well-meaningWordReference Random House Learner's Dictionary of American English 2025mean1/min/USA pronunciation v., meant/mnt/USA pronunciationmeaning. to have as its meaning or its sense; to signify; [~+object][not: be+~ing]The word "klock" in Swedish means "smart; wise."[-+(that)clause]That gesture means that the person hates you. to desire to express or indicate; to refer: [-+object][not: be+~ing]Which book did you mean?[-+(that)clause]By "perfect" I mean there should be no mistakes. to have in mind as one's purpose or intention; intend: [-+object][She meant no harm.[~+to+verb]:I've been meaning to call you, but things got too busy.[no object]I'm sure they meant well, but they didn't finish the job. to be expected to happen in a certain way:[be+ meant][not: be+~ing]The couple were meant for each other. to produce (something) as a result. [-+object][not: be+~ing]Further budget cuts will mean more layoffs.[~+(that)clause]Does this traffic jam mean we'll be late? to show that something exists as a cause: [-+object][not: be+~ing]A grinding noise could mean a damaged disk drive.[~+(that)clause]A flickering screen could mean that your computer cables are not connected tightly. to have the value of; to have the importance of:[not: be+~ing;~+object]Money means everything to them. mean2/min/USA pronunciation adj. -er, -est. having evil or unkind intentions; malicious:a mean, cruel remark. small-minded:mean motives. stingy; miserly:mean with one's money. low in status:of mean and humble birth. bad-tempered:a mean old horse. excellent; toponch:plays a mean game of tennis. meanly, adv. meanness, n.[uncountable] mean3/min/USA pronunciation n.[countable], pl.means. Usually,means. [plural] an instrument, thing, or method used to achieve something:They have the means, but do they have the will?[countable; singular; used with a singular verb]The quickest means of travel into the jungle is by canoe.[plural* used with a plural verb]The means of winning that election are many: bribery, threats, and smear tactics. means, [plural] available resources, esp. money:We don't have sufficient means to send our children to college. considerable financial resources:a person of means. something located in the middle between two extremes:in the mean. an average, esp. the arithmetic mean. adj.[before a noun]occupying a middle position:the mean amount of rainfall for that region. Idioms Idioms by all means, certainly:By all means, help yourself, but save some for me. Idioms by means of, by the way or method of, by the use of or by using. Idioms by no means or not by any means, not at all; definitely not:By no means is he ready to retire. He is not by any means ready to retire. WordReference Random House Unabridged Dictionary of American English 2025mean1 (mn), USA pronunciationv., meant, meaning.v.i.to have in mind as one's purpose or intention; intend:i meant to compliment you on your work to intend for a particular purpose, destination, etc.:They were meant for each other. to intend to express or indicate:What do you mean by "liberal" ? to have as its sense or signification; signify:The word "freedom" means many things to many people. to bring, cause, or produce as a result:This bonus means that we can take a trip to Florida. to have (certain intentions) toward a person:He didn't mean you any harm. to have the value of; assume the importance of:Money means everything to them. She means the world to him. v.i.to be minded or disposed; have intentions:Beware, she means ill, despite her solicitous manner. Idiomsmean well, to have good intentions; try to be kind or helpful:Her constant queries about your health must be tiresome, but I'm sure she means well. bef. 900; Middle English meen, Old English mnan; cognate with German meinen, Dutch meenen 1. contemplate. Seeintend.2. destine, forsoordain. 4. denote, indicate; import, imply, connote. mean2 (mn), USA pronunciationadj., -er, -est. offensive, selfish, or unaccommodating; nasty; malicious:a mean remark; He gets mean when he doesn't get his way. small-minded or ignoble:mean motives. penurious, stingy, or miserly:a person who is mean about money. inferior in grade, quality, or character:no mean reward. low in status, rank, or dignity:mean servitors. of little importance or consequence:mean little details. unimposing or shabby;a mean abode. small, humiliated, or ashamed:You should feel mean for being so stingy. Informal Termsin poor physical condition. troublesome or vicious; bad-tempered:a mean old horse. Slang Termsskillful or impressive:He blows a mean trumpet. bef. 900; Middle English mene, aphetic variant (see y-) of imene, Old English gemne; cognate with Dutch gemeen, German gemein common, Gothic gamains in common; compare common 2. contemptible, despicable. Mean, low, base, sordid, and vile all refer to ignoble characteristics worthy of dislike, contempt, or disgust. Mean suggests pettiness and small-mindedness:to take a mean advantage.Low suggests coarseness and vulgarity:low company.Base suggests selfish cowardice or moral depravity:base motives.Sordid suggests a wretched uncleanness, or sometimes an avariciousness without dignity or moral scruples:a sordid slum; sordid gain.Vile suggests disgusting foulness or repulsiveness:vile insinuation; a vile creature. 3. niggardly, close, tight, parsimonious, illiberal, ungenerous, selfish. Seestingy. 5. common, humble; undignified, piebeian. 6. inconsequential, insignificant, petty, paltry, little, poor, wretched. 7. squalid, poor. mean3 (mn), USA pronunciation. Usually,means.(used with a sing. or pl. v.) an agency, instrument, or method used to attain an end:The telephone is a means of communication. There are several means of solving the problem. means: available resources, esp. money:They lived beyond their means. considerable financial resources; riches:a man of means. something that is midway between two extremes; something intermediate:to seek a mean between cynicism and blind faith. [Math.] a quantity having a value intermediate between the values of other quantities; an average, esp. the arithmetic mean. either the second or third term in a proportion of four terms. Statisticsexpected value. Seemathematical expectation(def. 2). Philosophy[Logic.]the middle term in a syllogism. by all means: Idioms(in emphasis) certainly:Go, by all means. Idiomsat any cost; without fail. Idiomsby any means, in any way; at all:We were not surprised at the news by any means. Idiomsby means of, with the help of; by the agency of; through:We crossed the stream by means of a log. Idiomsby no means, in no way; not at all:The prize is by no means certain. adj.occupying a middle position or an intermediate place, as in kind, quality, degree, or time:a mean speed; a mean course;the mean annual rainfall. Latin medius; see median Middle French meen, variant of meien Middle English mene 130050 Collins Concise English Dictionary HarperCollins Publishers::mean /min/ vb (means, meaning, meant) (mainly tr) (may take a clause as object or an infinitive) to intend to convey or express (may take a clause as object or an infinitive) to intend: I didn't mean to hurt you (may take a clause as object) to say or do in all seriousness: the management mean what they say about strikes (often passive) often followed by for: to destine or design (for a certain person or purpose): she was meant for greater things (may take a clause as object) to denote or connote; signify; represent (may take a clause as object) to produce; cause: the weather will mean long traffic delays (may take a clause as object) to foretell; portend; those dark clouds mean rain to have the importance of; meany means nothing to him (intransitive) to have the intention of behaving or acting (esp in the phrases mean wellormean ill)Etymology: Old English mnan; compares Old Saxon mnan to intend, Dutch meenenUSACEIn standard English, mean should not be followed by for when expressing intention: I didn't mean this to happen (not I didn't mean for this to happen)mean /min/ adj chiefly Brit miserly, ungenerous, or petty despicable, ignoble, or callous: a mean action poor or shabby: mean clothing, a mean abode informal chiefly US Canadian bad-tempered; vicious informal ashamed: I felt mean about not letting the children go to the theme park slang excellent; skifful: he plays a mean tromboneno mean of high quality: no mean performer difficult: no mean featEtymology: 12th Century: from Old English gemne common; related to Old High German gimeini, Latin communis common, at first with no pejorative sensemeanly adv meanness n mean /min/ n the middle point, state, or course between limits or extremes moderation the second and third terms of a proportion, as b and c in a/b = c/danother name for average See also geometric mean a statistic obtained by multiplying each possible value of a variable by its probability and then taking the sum or integral over the range of the variable adj intermediate or medium in size, quantity, etc occurring halfway between extremes or limits; averageEtymology: 14th Century: via Anglo-Norman from Old French moien, from Late Latin medius median Look up meaning in Wiktionary, the free dictionary.Meaning most commonly refers to:Meaning (linguistics), meaning which is communicated through the use of languageMeaning (non-linguistic), a general term of art to capture senses of the word "meaning", independent from its linguistic usesMeaning (philosophy), definition, elements, and types of meaning discussed in philosophyThe meaning of life, the significance, purpose, or worth of human existenceMeaning may also refer to:Meaning (psychology), epistemological position, in psychology as well as philosophy, linguistics, semiotics and sociologyMeaning (semiotics), the distribution of signs in sign relationsMeaning (existential), the meaning of life in contemporary existentialismMeaning, the product of a process of a meaning-makingMeaning, "the individual's sense of understanding events in which he is engaged" described in Social alienation MeaninglessnessMeanings (album), a 2004 album by Gad Elbaz"Meaning" (House), a 2006 episode of the TV series HouseMeaning (music), the philosophical question of meaning in relation to music"Meaning", a 2007 song by Gavin DeGraw from Chariot"The Meaning", a song on Discipline (Janet Jackson album) (2008)The Meaning (album), a 2011 album by Layzie BoneWikiquote has quotations related to Meaning.ContronymHermeneutics, the theory of text interpretationImportance, a property of entities that matter or make a differenceLinguistics, the scientific study of languageLogotherapy, psychotherapy based on an existential analysisSemantics, the study of meaningMeaningless (disambiguation)All pages with titles containing MeaningTopics referred to by the same termThis disambiguation page lists articles associated with the title Meaning.If an internal link led you here, you may wish to change the link to point directly to the intended article.Retrieved from " of political science for traditional scholars. 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