

Easily Confused Words

WORD	MEANING	WORD	MEANING
accept	to receive, take	except	excluding
access	entrance; opportunity	excess	more than needed
addition	something added	edition	a certain production of something
adopt	to legally take on, accept	adapt	to change to be more suitable
advice	a recommendation	advise	to give a recommendation
adverse	bad; unfavorable	averse	opposed to
affect	to influence	effect	a result
afflict	to cause suffering	inflict	to force something harmful
aisle	space between rows	isle	island
allude	to make an indirect reference	elude	to avoid
allusion	an indirect reference	illusion	a false idea or vision
already	happened before now	all ready	to be entirely prepared
altar	table for religious ceremony	alter	to change
altogether	completely; entirely	all together	all things with each other

a lot	a large number of something	allot	to give out an amount of something
ambivalent	to have two different feelings about something	ambiguous	having more than one possible meaning
amoral	having no sense or right and wrong	immoral	having intentionally bad morals
anecdote	a short personal story	antidote	a substance or activity that stops something bad
angel	a spiritual creature	angle	space between intersecting lines measured in degrees
apart	separated, into pieces	a part	a piece of something
appraise	to examine and judge	apprise	to tell someone of something
are	3rd person plural of "to be"	our	belonging to us
accent	how someone pronounces words	ascent	movement up
		assent	agreement/approval
assistance	help	assistants	helpers
attribute	a quality/characteristic	contribute	to give something
auditory	related to hearing	audible	able to be heard
aural	related to hearing	oral	spoken, or related to the mouth
balmy	pleasantly warm	barmy	crazy or silly

bare	not covered	bear	to carry or accept something
bated	in suspense, excited	baited	to harass (past tense)
bazaar	a market	bizarre	very strange and surprising
berth	a bed on a boat/train	birth	time when a baby is born
beside	next to something	besides	in addition to something
boar	a wild pig	bore	a dull person
board	a long, flat piece of wood	bored	feeling uninterested
born	to have been birthed	borne	carried
bough	a large branch of a tree	bow	bend upper body forward
breath	air that comes from lunch	breathe	to take air in and out
brake	part of a vehicle that stops it	break	to separate into pieces
buy	to purchase	by	shows a person who does something
canvas	a strong cloth	canvass	to ask people their opinions
censure	to criticize formally	censor	to remove offensive things from public
capital	city where government is based, or money	capitol	state legislature building
choose	to decide or pick	chose	past tense of choose

climactic	an important or exciting time	climatic	relating to the weather
coarse	rough and thick	course	a series of lessons
collaborate	to work together	corroborate	to provide supporting information
command	to order	commend	to praise
complacent	feeling you don't need to try hard	complaisant	willingness to please others
complement	something that goes well with something else	compliment	saying something to show praise
comprehensive	thorough	comprehensible	easy to understand
conscience	the part of you that makes you feel guilty	conscious	aware; awake
contemptuous	showing contempt	contemptible	extremely bad
corps	a group of people or military force	corpse	a dead body
council	an elected group of people	counsel	to give advice
credible	able to be believed	credulous	gullible
dairy	milk products	diary	a book of personal thoughts
descent	a movement down	dissent	disagreement
desirous	wanting something	desirable	attractive
dessert	sweet food	desert	hot, dry area

device	equipment used for a particular purpose	devise	to design or invent something
discreet	secretive	discrete	separate and different
disinterested	impartial	uninterested	not interested
do	a helping verb	dew	drops of water
		due	expected or planned
dominant	most important or wanting control	dominate	to control or have power over
die	to stop living	dye	substance used to change color
dyeing	to change the color of	dying	present participle of "die"
elicit	to get info or a reaction from someone	illicit	not legal
eminent	respected	imminent	about to happen
		immanent	permanent part of something
emit	to send out gas/heat/light	omit	exclude
envelop	cover something	envelope	what letters go in
everyday	commonplace	every day	each day
exhaustive	comprehensive	exhausting	tiring
expandable	gets bigger	expendable	non-essential
explicit	clear, detailed	implicit	implied or suggested

fair	reasonable	fare	cost
farther	more distant (physical distance)	further	more
flaunt	exaggerate	flout	intentionally break the rules
formally	properly	formerly	before
foreboding	apprehension or anxiety	forbidding	unfriendly or hostile
forth	forwards	fourth	first, second, third.....
gorilla	large monkey	guerrilla	unofficial military group
hear	percieving sound	here	in this place or moment
heard	percieved sound (past tense of hear)	herd	flock/gaggle/group
hoard	collect/store	horde	large group
hole	hollow space in something	whole	complete
human	people/person	humane	kind
implicit	implied or suggested	complicit	involved in
imply	suggest	implicate	suggest someone is involved in something
		infer	guess something based on the information you have
incur	cause unpleasant consequences to oneself	occur	to happen

indeterminate	uncertain or unclear	interminable	lasting a long time, in a boring way
influence	impact	affluence	wealth
ingenious	really clever	ingenuous	innocent and trusting
its	belongs to	it's	it is
knew	past tense of "know"	new	not old
know	to be aware of something	no	a denial
laid	past tense of lay	lain	past tense of lie
later	occurring further along in time	latter	near the end of a period
lay	to put something down	lie	to recline horizontally
lead	to take charge	led	had taken charge
lessen	to reduce or decrease	lesson	what a teacher teaches
lightning	weather	lightening	becoming lighter or brighter
loose	not tight	lose	to not win
maybe	an adverb that means "perhaps"	may be	a verb phrase indicating that something could happen but is not certain
meat	flesh	meet	assemble
mete	administer a punishment		

metal	hard, shiny substance	medal	metal object given as a prize
		mettle	courage, strength, or fortitude
miner	someone who works in a mine	minor	not important; underage person
moral	right and wrongs	morale	confidence level in the success of an endeavor
passed	to go by something; alternatively, to qualify	past	something that's happened before now
patience	to stay calm	patients	sick people
peace	tranquility	piece	a part of
peak	the top	peek	a quick look
		perpetrate	annoyance
pedal	foot operated part of machine	petal	part of a flower
		peddle	to sell
perpetrate	do something bad	perpetuate	to sustain or preserve something
personal	relating to a person	personnel	staff
persecute	oppress or abuse	prosecute	to take legal action against someone
perspective	viewpoint	prospective	potential buyer, or applying to the future

plain	ordinary, unremarkable	plane	flying vehicle
pore	small hole, esp. in the skin	pour	make liquid flow from a container
precede	to happen before something else	proceed	to go forward
precedent	an example or model	president	the head of
prescribe	recommend or authorize medical treatment	proscribe	to forbid
presence	being in a place	presents	gifts
principal	most important	principle	fundamental rule
quiet	no noise	quite	completely
rain	precipitation	reign	to rule
		rein	straps that control a horse
raise	to lift	raze	completely destroy
rational	reasonable	rationale	the reason
reluctant	unwilling	reticent	saying little about what you feel
respectfully	showing respect	respectively	in the same order
reverend	Christian official	reverent	showing respect
right	correct	rite	traditional religious ceremony
		write	produce words

road	surface built for vehicles	rode	to have ridden
scene	location or site	seen	to have looked
sense	feeling or awareness of something; one of the 5 senses	since	between the past and now; because
sensible	practical or realistic	sensitive	delicate; responsive
		sensory	connected to the physical senses
sight	vision	site	a place
		cite	mention something as proof
simulate	to mimic	stimulate	to activate or energize a process
stationary	unmoving; still	stationery	office supplies, esp. paper
straight	not curved	strait	narrow waterway or channel connecting two bodies of water
suppose	assume or presume	supposed to	expected to do something
taught	educated, instructed	taut	stretched very tight
than	used to compare two things	then	at that time
their	belongs to them	there	at that place or location
		they're	they are

through	from one end to the other	threw	to have thrown
		thorough	completely
to	preposition used to describe a definition or identify the object of something	too	as well as
		two	comes after one
track	narrow path	tract	large area of land
visual	relating to seeing	visible	able to seen
waist	around the middle of your body	waste	a bad use of something
waive	give up or cede	wave	move hand from side to side
weak	not strong	week	7 days
weather	conditions in the air above the earth (wind, rain etc)	whether	if, or not
		wether	a castrated ram
where	to, at, or in what place	were	past tense of "to be"
which	determining pronoun	witch	woman with magical powers
whose	pronoun identifying what belongs to someone	who's	who is
your	belonging to you	you're	you are
		yore	a long time ago