public 1 of 2 adjective

pub·lic ('pə-blik ◄»)

Synonyms of *public* >

- 1 a : exposed to general view : OPEN
 - **b**: WELL-KNOWN, PROMINENT
 - **c** : **PERCEPTIBLE**, **MATERIAL**
- 2 a : of, relating to, or affecting all the people or the whole area of a nation or state*public* law
 - **b** : of or relating to a government
 - ${\bf c}\,$: of, relating to, or being in the service of the community or nation
- **3 a** : of or relating to people in general : UNIVERSAL
 - b : of, by, for, or directed to the public (see PUBLIC entry 2 sense 2): POPULAR
 in the *public* eye
 a campaign to raise *public* awareness of the issue
 He's certainly aware that *public opinion* has soured on him this year ...
 Bryan Rolli
- 4 : of or relating to business or community interests as opposed to private affairs :
 SOCIAL
- 5 : devoted to the general or national welfare : HUMANITARIAN
- 1



with go

7 : supported by public funds and private contributions rather than by income from commercials

public radio *public* television

publicness noun

public 2 of 2 noun

plural publics

- 1 : a place accessible or visible to the public \rightarrow usually used in the phrase *in public*

2 : the people as a whole : **POPULACE**

3 : a group of people having common interests or characteristics

specifically: the group at which a particular activity or enterprise aims

Synonyms

Adjective open

Noun	
folks	humanity
humankind	people
species	world



►

Examples of *public* in a Sentence

Adjective

Public outrage over the scandal eventually forced him to resign.

The ads are intended to increase *public* awareness of the risks of smoking.

She was elected to a *public* office.

See More ~

Recent Examples on the Web

Adjective

The money couldn't be used on issues such as affordable housing, homelessness or *public* safety, Council member Malcolm Graham said Monday.

- Mary Ramsey, Charlotte Observer, 5 June 2024

The district has refused to detail its allegations of misconduct against Phelps or release a copy of its investigation findings about Phelps in response to *public* record requests.

- Kristen Taketa, San Diego Union-Tribune, 5 June 2024

Noun

The executive order comes as Biden struggles in the polls against Donald Trump, whose hardline views on immigration can resonate with the American *public*.

- *TIME*, 4 June 2024

To see them actually be introduced to the mainstream *public* in this way and being



inese examples are programmatically complied from various online sources to illustrate current usage of the word 'public.' Any opinions expressed in the examples do not represent those of Merriam-Webster or its editors. Send us feedback about these examples.

Word History

Etymology

Adjective

Middle English *publique*, from Anglo-French, from Latin *publicus*; akin to Latin *populus* people

First Known Use

Adjective

14th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1a

Noun

15th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1

Time Traveler

The first known use of *public* was in the 14th century

See more words from the same century

Phrases Containing public

caught the public imagination

certified public accountant

المماغمة مثالمات متقامه ممتحم





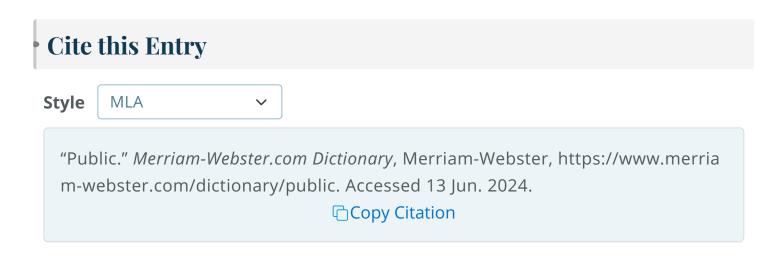
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Dictionary Entries Near *public*

publ

public public access

See More Nearby Entries >



Kids Definition



pub·lic ('pəb-lik ◀»)

- **a** : of, relating to, belonging to, or affecting all the people
 public law
 - **b** : provided by the government *public* education
 - **c** : relating to or engaged in the service of the community or nation *public* life
- 2 : of or relating to community interests as opposed to private affairs
 a radio program in the *public* interest
- 3 : devoted to the general welfareneeded leaders with *public* spirit
- **4** : open to or shared by all
 a *public* meeting
 the *public* library
- 5 a : generally known the story became *public*

b : WELL-KNOWN a *public* figure

- supported by income from public funds and private contributions rather than by commercials
 public television
- publicly adverb

public 2 of 2 noun

1 : a place open or visible to people



adjective 2 Y Synonyms Example Sentences Word History Phrases Containing Er 3 : a particular group of people a writer's *public*

Etymology

Adjective

Middle English *publique* "relating to the people as a whole, public," from early French *publique* (same meaning), from Latin *publicus* "belonging to the people as a whole," from *populus* "the people" — related to POPULAR, REPUBLIC

Legal Definition

public 1 of 2 adjective

pub·lic

1 a : exposed to general view

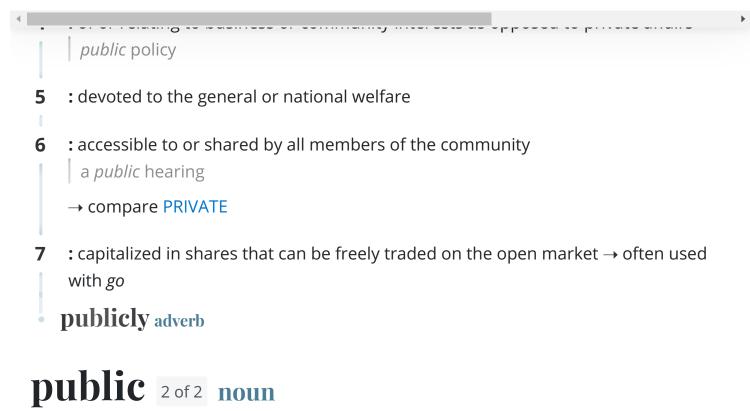
public indecency

- **b**: known or recognized by many or most people
- 2 a : of, relating to, or affecting all of the people or the whole area of a nation or state*public* statutes
 - **b** : of or relating to a government : authorized by, administered by, or acting for the people as a political entity

public expenditures the *public* prosecutor

- **c** : of, relating to, or being in the service of the community or nation holding *public* office
- **d** : provided for, used by, or containing the records of a government agency





- 1 : a place accessible or visible to the public \rightarrow usually used in the phrase *in public*
- 2 : the people as a whole

More from Merriam-Webster on *public*

Nglish: Translation of *public* for Spanish Speakers Britannica English: Translation of *public* for Arabic Speakers Britannica.com: Encyclopedia article about *public*

Last Updated: 8 Jun 2024 - Updated example sentences

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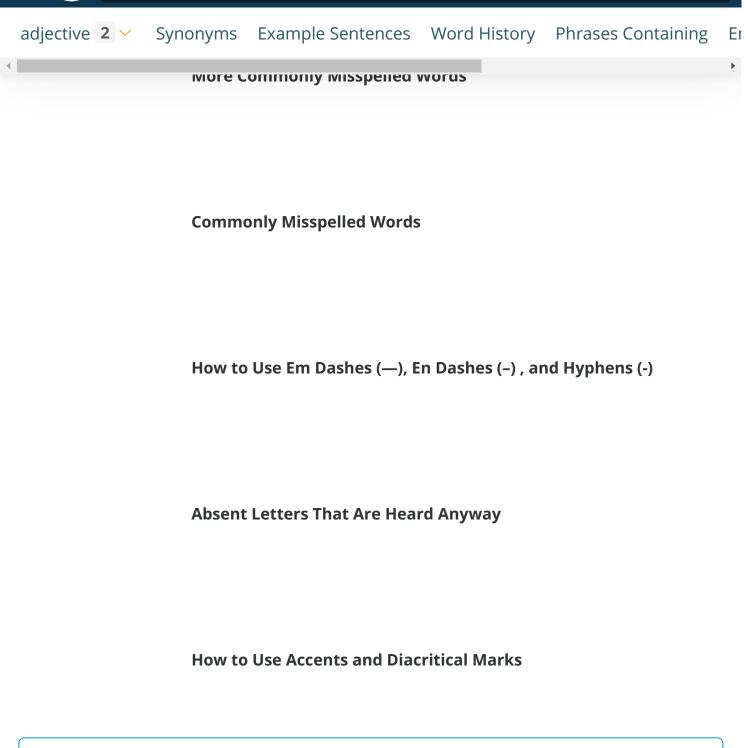
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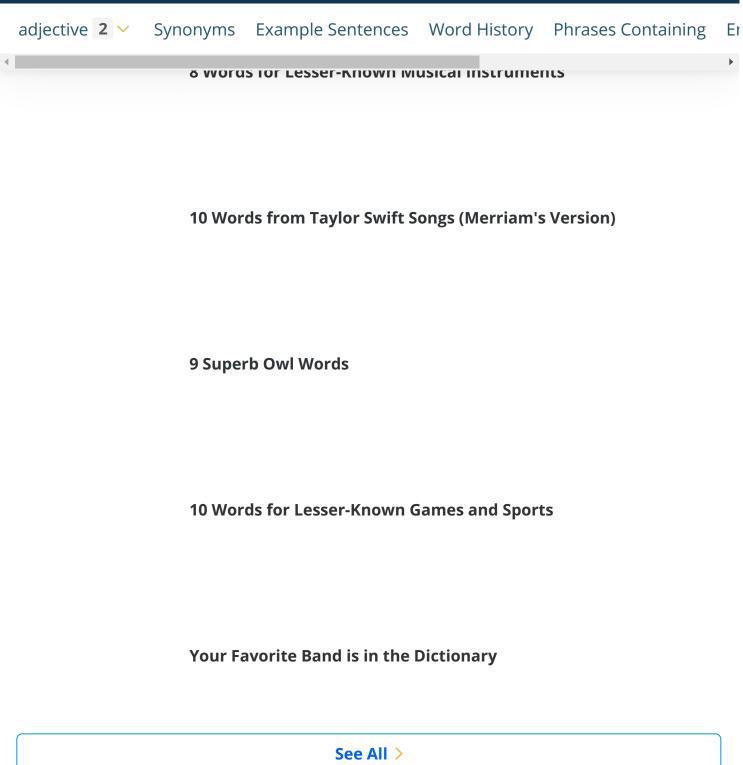




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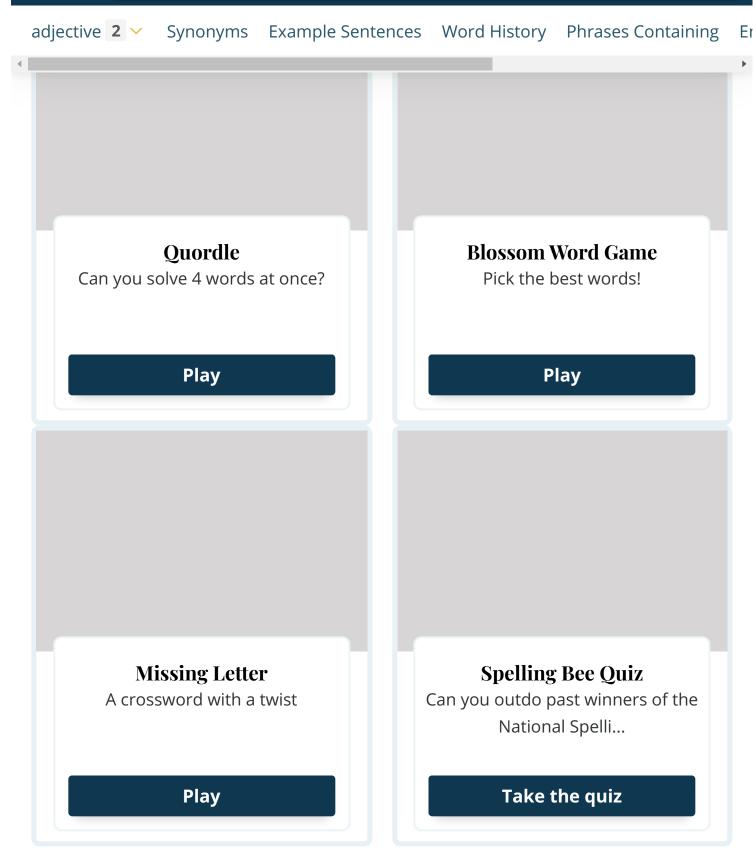
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adjective **2** V Synonyms Example Sentences Word History Phrases Containing Er

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