

# Oxford English Dictionary

## *The definitive record of the English language*

The *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED) is the most authoritative and comprehensive record of the English language in the world, tracing the evolution and use of words over the past 1,000 years. As a historical dictionary, the OED is very different from those of current English, in which the focus is on present-day meanings. You will still find these in the OED, but you will also find the history of individual words, and of the language, traced through more than 3 million quotations.

### THE RESOURCE

- The only English dictionary that aims to trace the first recorded use of every sense of every word, to show when it entered the language
- The Historical Thesaurus of the *Oxford English Dictionary* allows users to explore the different words used for a particular concept or meaning over time
- OED Timelines help users discover when words entered the English language by subject, region, or origin
- Each entry shows sense development, quotation evidence, and links to related entries – unlocking the history of every word
- Quarterly updates include hundreds of new and revised meanings

### CONTACT

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 TELEPHONE: +44 (0) 1865 353705



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### SEARCH & DISCOVER

- Search and browse by subject, region, usage, or by language of origin
- Show or hide full word origins for each sense of the word

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