

Webster's Rhyming Dictionary

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How to Use This Book

Welcome to this new rhyming dictionary, where you'll find over 40,000 rhyming words—enough to last you the rest of your life.

We've tried to make this book as easy as possible to use. However, it works quite differently from an ordinary dictionary, so please read these brief instructions to be sure you make the best use of it you can.

All the entries in this book are for *rhyming sounds*. All rhyming sounds begin with a vowel, so every entry begins with *A, E, I, O, U*, or *Y*.

All rhyming sounds also begin with an accented syllable. The rhyming sounds listed here all have one syllable, two syllables, or three syllables.

If a word has only one syllable, that syllable is always accented (as in *bee* and *sea*). A two-syllable word may be accented on either its first syllable (as in *beta* and *data*) or its second syllable (as in *agree* and *must-see*). A three-syllable word may be accented on its first syllable (*attitude*, *gratitude*), its middle syllable (*illusion*, *seclusion*), or its last syllable (*anymore*, *tug-of-war*).

Though the rhyming sounds in this dictionary are never more than three syllables long, the words themselves may have six or more syllables. In every entry, the words are divided into sections according to number of syllables; each section begins with a small bullet (•). So, for instance, the **y¹** entry starts with a group of one-syllable words, which is followed by five more bulleted sections, the last one consisting of six-syllable words.

Some words have two accented syllables, with one of them almost always stronger than the other. Notice that when you say the word “middle,” you put no accent at all on the second syllable, but when you say “schoolkid,” you put a strong accent on its first syllable and a weaker accent on its second syllable. In this book, the rhyming sound always begins with the *last* accented syllable, whether or not that syllable is the one with the strongest accent. So *schoolkid* is shown at the **id¹** entry—that is, the entry for its weakly accented syllable.

Many rhymes can be spelled in several different ways. For example, the rhyming sound that is often spelled *-eek* (as in *creek*) can also be spelled *-eak* (as in *peak*), *-ique* (*mystique*), *-ic* (*chic*), or *-ik* (*batik*). So how do you find a rhyme for a particular word? Just look up the spelling of its rhyming sound.

Let's suppose you need a rhyme for *equator*. All you need to do is notice how its rhyming sound is spelled. Since the rhyming sound always begins with the last accented syllable and always begins with a vowel, the rhyming sound of *equator* is obviously spelled *-ator*. And sure enough, the entry **ator**

shows all the rhymes for *equator*, no matter how their endings are spelled: *crater*, *freighter*, *creator*, etc.

But suppose you had instead wanted a rhyme for *later*, and had looked up the spelling for its rhyming sound, *-ater*. There you would have found two separate entries, **ater**¹ and **ater**². Next to **ater**¹ you would have seen the pronunciation \óʈ-ər\, and next to **ater**² you would have seen the pronunciation \ät-ər\. Looking at the Pronunciation Symbols table on page viii, you would have seen that only the second pronunciation matched the pronunciation of *later*. But you might not have even needed to look up the pronunciation symbols, since you would have noticed immediately that the words listed at **ater**¹—words such as *daughter* and *water*—didn't rhyme with *later*. Moving on to **ater**², you would have seen that no words are listed there at all, but that it instead simply contains the direction “see **ATOR**.” Turning to **ator**, you would have found all the words that rhyme with *later*, regardless of how they were spelled.

Now suppose you need a word to rhyme with *dance*, and you've found the list you were looking for at **ance**³. But maybe none of the words there is quite what you want. This time you're in luck: there are some other possibilities. At the end of the entry, you'll see the following note: “—also -s, -'s, and -s' forms of nouns and -s forms of verbs listed at **ANT**⁵.” In other words, at **ant**⁵ you can find some nouns and verbs that might do the trick. Turning to **ant**⁵, you see that it lists such nouns as *aunt* and *confidant*, which would rhyme with *dance* in their plural form (*aunts*, *confidants*), in their possessive form (*aunt's*, *confidant's*), or in their plural possessive form (*aunts'*, *confidants'*). You would also see such verbs as *enchant* and *gallivant*, which in the first-person singular (*enchants*, *gallivants*) would also rhyme with *dance*.

Not everyone pronounces all words the same way. So, for example, you will see words like *drawn*, *gone*, and *yawn* at both **on**¹ and **on**³. Usually only one pronunciation will seem right for you.

These few instructions should be all you need to make the best use of the dictionary. We hope you'll keep it close at hand to jog your memory, enlarge your lyrical vocabulary, and expand your poetic ambitions.

Pronunciation Symbols

ə	banana, collide, abut
ə	preceding \l and \n\, as in battle, mitten, and eaten ; following \l, \m\, \r\, as in French table, prisme, titre
ər	further, merger, bird
a	mat, gag, sap
ā	day, fade, aorta
ä	bother, cot, father
aù	now, loud, Faust
b	baby, rib
ch	chin, nature \ˈnā-chər\
d	did, adder
e	bet, peck, help
ē	fee, easy, media
f	fifty, phone, rough
g	go, big
h	hat, ahead
i	tip, banish, active
ī	site, buy, deny
j	job, gem, judge
k	kin, cook, ache
<u>k</u>	German ich, Buch
l	lily, pool
m	murmur, dim
n	no, own
n	preceding vowel or diphthong is pronounced with the nasal passages open, as in French <i>un bon vin blanc</i> \œ ⁿ -bō ⁿ -va ⁿ -blā ⁿ \
ŋ	sing \ˈsɪŋ\, finger \ˈfɪŋ-gər\, ink \ˈɪŋk\
ō	bone, know, beau
ò	saw, all, caught
oi	coin, destroy
p	pepper, lip
r	red, car, rarity
s	source, less
sh	shy, mission, machine, special
t	tie, attack, late
th	thin, ether
<u>th</u>	then, either
ü	rule, fool, union \ˈyün-yən\, few \ˈfyü\
ù	pull, would, book
v	vivid, give
w	we, away
y	yard, cue \ˈkyü\, mute \ˈmyüt\
z	zone, raise
zh	vision, azure \ˈa-zhər\

A

a¹ \ä\ aah, ah, baa, bah, blah, bra, fa, ha, la, ma, moi, nah, pa, rah, shah, ska, spa • aha, Allah, blah-blah, Casbah, chutzpah, Degas, faux pas, feta, gaga, goombah, grandma, grandpa, ha-ha, hoopla, hurrah, huzzah, oompah, poohbah, ta-ta, Utah, voilà • Akita, aloha, baklava, brouhaha, Chippewa, coup d'état, guarana, la-di-da, ma-and-pa, Mardi Gras, Omaha, Ottawa, panama, Panama, polenta, Shangri-la, tempura • ayatollah, je ne sais quoi, phenomena

a² \ā\ see AY¹

a³ \ò\ see AW¹

aa¹ \a\ see AH³

aa² \ā\ see A¹

aag \äg\ see OG¹

aal¹ \āl\ see AIL

aal² \ól\ see ALL¹

aal³ \äl\ see AL¹

aam \äm\ see OM¹

aan \an\ see AN⁵

aans¹ \äns\ see ANCE²

aans² \änz\ see ONZE

aard \ärd\ see ARD¹

aari \är-ē\ see ARI¹

aaron \ar-ən\ see ARON²

aarten \ärt-ən\ see ARTEN

aas \äs\ see OS¹

aatz \ätz\ see OTS

ab¹ \äb\ see OB¹

ab² \äv\ see OLVE²

ab³ \ab\ blab, cab, crab, dab, drab, fab, flab, gab, grab, jab, lab, Lab, nab, scab, slab, stab, tab • Ahab, backstab, confab, prefab, rehab, smack-dab • baobab, taxicab

aba \äb-ə\ casaba • Ali Baba

abah \äb-ə\ see ABA

abard \ab-ərd\ clapboard, scabbard

—also -ed forms of verbs listed at ABBER²

abbard \ab-ərd\ see ABARD

abbas \ab-əs\ see ABBESS

abbat \ab-ət\ see ABIT

abbed¹ \ab-əd\ crabbed, rabid

abbed² \abd\ blabbed, stabbed

—also -ed forms of verbs listed at AB³

abber¹ \äb-ər\ see OBBER

abber² \ab-ər\ blabber, crabber,

gabber, grabber, jabber, stabber

• backstabber, land-grabber

abess \ab-əs\ abess • Barabbas

abbet \ab-ət\ see ABIT

abbey \ab-ē\ see ABBY

abbie¹ \äb-ē\ see OBBY

abbie² \ab-ē\ see ABBY

abbit \ab-ət\ see ABIT

abbutt \ab-ət\ see ABIT

able¹ \äb-əl\ bauble, cobble, gobble, hobble, Kabul, squabble, wobble

able² \ab-əl\ Babel, babble, dab-

ble, gabble, rabble, scrabble,

Scrabble • hardscrabble • psy-

chobabble, technobabble

abbl \ab-lər\ babbler, dabbler,

scrabbler

abblly \ab-lē\ see ABLY

abbot \ab-ət\ see ABIT

abby \ab-ē\ abhey, Abby, blabby,

cabbie, crabby, flabby, gabby,

grabby, scabby, shabby, tabby

abe¹ \āb\ babe, nabe

abe² \ab\ see AB³

abe³ \ä-bə\ see ABA

abel \ä-bəl\ see ABLE

aben \äb-ən\ see OBIN

aber¹ \ā-bər\ see ABOR

aber² \āb-ər\ see OBBER

abes \ā-bēz\ see ABIES

abi¹ \āb-ē\ see OBBY

abi² \əb-ē\ see UBBY

abi³ \ab-ē\ see ABBY

abid \ab-əd\ see ABBED¹

abies \ā-bēz\ rabies, scabies • antirabies

—also -s, -'s, and -s' forms of nouns listed at ABY

abile \ab-əl\ see ABBLE²

abito \ab-ət\ abbot, habit, rabbit

• cohabit, inhabit, jackrabbit

able \ā-bəl\ Abel, able, Babel, cable, fable, gable, label, Mabel, sable, stable, table • disable, enable, round table, timetable, turntable, unable, unstable, worktable

abled \ā-bəld\ fabled, gabled

—also -ed forms of verbs listed at ABLE

ablis \ab-lē\ see ABLY

ably \ab-lē\ chablis, drably

abor \ā-bər\ labor, neighbor, saber • belabor

abot \ab-ət\ see ABIT

abre \āb\ see OB¹

abul \āb-əl\ see ABBLE¹

abulous \ab-yə-ləs\ fabulous • fantabulous

aby \ā-bē\ baby, maybe • crybaby

ac¹ \ək\ see ACK²

ac² \äk\ see OCK¹

ac³ \ò\ see AW¹

aca¹ \äk-ə\ see AKA¹

aca² \ək-ə\ alpaca • Strait of Malacca

acable \ək-ə-bəl\ see ACKABLE

acao \ò-kò\ see OCO

acas \ək-əs\ fracas • Caracas

acca¹ \ək-ə\ see ACA²

acca² \äk-ə\ see AKA¹

accent \ək-sənt\ accent • relaxant

acchus \ək-əs\ see ACAS

accid \as-əd\ see ACID

acco¹ \ək-ə\ see ACA¹

acco² \ək-ò\ see AKO²

ace¹ \ās\ ace, base, bass, brace, case, chase, face, grace, Grace, lace, mace, Mace, pace, place, race, space, Thrace, trace, vase • abase, airspace, backspace, birthplace, boldface, bookcase, bootlace, briefcase, crankcase, debase, deface, disgrace, displace, dogface, efface, embrace, encase, erase, fireplace, footrace, lactase, misplace, nutcase, outpace, outrace, paleface, replace, retrace, shoelace, showcase, showplace, slipcase, someplace, staircase, suitcase, typeface, unlace, wheelbase, workplace, worst-case • about-face, aerospace, anyplace, commonplace, cyberspace, database, double-space, everyplace, hyperspace, interface, interlace, interspace, lowercase, marketplace, pillowcase, single-space, steeplechase, triple-space, uppercase

ace² \ā-sē\ see ACY

ace³ \ās\ see OS¹

ace⁴ \as\ see ASS³

ace⁵ \äch-ē\ see OTCHY

ace⁶ \ās-ə\ see ASA¹

aceable \ā-sə-bəl\ placeable, traceable • embraceable, erasable, replaceable, untraceable • irreplaceable

acean \ā-shən\ see ATION¹

aced \äst\ based, baste, chaste, faced, haste, laced, paste, taste, waist, waste • bald-faced, barefaced, bold-faced, distaste, foretaste, lambaste, moonfaced, rad waste, shamefaced, snail-paced, slipcased, stone-faced, straight-faced, straitlaced, toothpaste, two-faced • aftertaste, poker-faced • scissors-and-paste —also -ed forms of verbs listed at ACE¹

- aceless** \ā-sləs\ baseless, faceless, graceless
- aceman** \ā-smən\ baseman, spaceman
- acement** \ā-smənt\ basement, casement, placement • displacement, replacement • bargain-basement
- acency** \ās-ənt\ adjacency, complacency
- acent** \ās-ənt\ adjacent, complacent
- aceor** \ā-sər\ see ACER¹
- aceous** \ā-shəs\ see ACIOUS
- acer**¹ \ā-sər\ pacer, racer, spacer, tracer • defacer, eraser • steeple-chaser
- acer**² \as-ər\ see ASSER
- acet** \as-ət\ asset, facet, tacit
- acewalking** \ās-wō-kiŋ\ racewalking, spacewalking
- acey** \ā-sē\ see ACY
- ach**¹ \äk\ see OCK¹
- ach**² \ak\ see ACK²
- ach**³ \ach\ see ATCH³
- acha** \äch-ə\ cha-cha, gotcha
- ache**¹ \äk\ see AKE¹
- ache**² \ash\ see ASH³
- ache**³ \äch-ē\ see OTCHY
- ache**⁴ \ach-ē\ see ATCHY
- ached** \acht\ attached, detached
• unattached
—also -ed forms of verbs listed at ATCH³
- acher** \ā-kər\ see AKER¹
- achet** \ach-ət\ see ATCHET
- achi** \äch-ē\ see OTCHY
- achian** \ā-shən\ see ATION¹
- achm** \am\ see AM²
- achment** \ach-mənt\ see ATCHMENT
- acho** \äch-ō\ macho, nacho • gazpacho
- acht** \ät\ see OT¹
- achtsman** \ät-smən\ see OTSMAN
- achy** \ā-kē\ see AKY
- acia** \ā-shə\ geisha • acacia, Croatia, Dalmatia
- acial** \ā-shəl\ facial, glacial, racial, spatial • biracial, palatial • interracial, multiracial
- acian** \ā-shən\ see ATION¹
- acias** \ā-shəs\ see ACIOUS
- acid** \as-əd\ acid, flaccid, placid
• antacid, nonacid
- acie** \ā-shə\ see ACIA
- acier**¹ \ā-shər\ see ASURE¹
- acier**² \ā-zhər\ see ASSEL²
- acile** \as-əl\ see ASSEL²
- acing** \ā-siŋ\ bracing, casing, facing, lacing, racing, spacing, tracing • all-embracing, self-effacing
—also -ing forms of verbs listed at ACE¹
- acious** \ā-shəs\ gracious, spacious
• audacious, bodacious, capacious, curvaceous, fallacious, flirtatious, Ignatius, loquacious, mendacious, pugnacious, rapacious, sagacious, tenacious, ungracious, vivacious, voracious
• disputatious, efficacious, ostentatious, perspicacious
- acis** \as-ē\ see ASSY
- acist** \ā-səst\ see ASSIST
- acit** \as-ət\ see ACET
- acity**¹ \as-tē\ see ASTY²
- acity**² \as-ət-ē\ audacity, capacity, pugnacity, rapacity, sagacity, tenacity, veracity, vivacity • incapacity • overcapacity
- active** \ā-siv\ see ASIVE
- ack**¹ \äk\ see OCK¹
- ack**² \ak\ back, black, Braque, clack, crack, flak, hack, jack, Jack, knack, lack, Mac, Mack, pack, plaque, quack, rack, sack, shack, slack, smack, snack, stack, tach, tack, thwack, track, wack, whack, wrack, yak • aback, Amtrak, attack, backpack, back-track, Balzac, bareback, black-jack, blowback, bushwhack, buyback, callback, carjack, coat-rack, cognac, come back, come-back, cossack, cut back, cutback,