

Webster's  
New Explorer  
Crossword  
Puzzle  
Dictionary

**Third Edition**

Created in Cooperation with the Editors of  
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# Preface

This dictionary has been thoroughly reviewed and updated from the Second Edition with over 10,000 additional entries. It contains more than 335,000 answer words and includes many terms and names that have only recently entered the general English vocabulary: recent slang (*plotz*, *himbo*, *crunk*, *bubkes*), sports stars (*A-Rod*, *Zidane*), computer languages (*SQL*), automobiles (*Mini*, *Prius*), Nobel Prize winners (*Pamuk*, *Yunus*), national currencies (*kroon*, *som*, *manat*), actors and actresses (*Alba*, *Falco*)—not to mention all the familiar words and names that show up with enough frequency in contemporary puzzle grids to have earned the name of “crosswordese”: *asea*, *Oreo*, *aloe*, *A-one*, *espy*, *ciao*, *ta-ta*, *e'er*, *erose*, *amah*, *etui*, *Odie*, *tec*, *Tey*, *olio*, *ern*, *ASAP*, *Opie*, *ad-in*, *ecru*, *luau*, and a legion of others.

As crossword constructors continue to aim for ever fresher and cleverer clues and answers, we hope this updated reference will prove to be the indispensable tool for filling in those final few elusive letters in crosswords of all kinds for puzzlers of every ability and age.

- nence, self-denial **12** renouncement, renunciation
- Abner cousin:** **4** Saul **father:** **3** Ner **slayer:** **4** Joab
- abnormal** **3** odd **5** freak, outré, undue, weird **6** off-key **7** bizarre, deviant, strange, unusual **8** aberrant, atypical, freakish, peculiar **9** anomalous, divergent, eccentric, irregular, unnatural **11** heteroclitite **13** preternatural
- abnormality** **4** flaw **6** oddity **7** anomaly **8** deviance **9** deviation, exception **10** aberration, difference **12** irregularity
- abode** **3** hut **4** home, nest, tent **5** house **7** address, lodging, sojourn **8** domicile, dwelling **9** residence **10** habitation **conical:** **5** teepee **6** teepee
- abolish** **3** end **4** undo, kill, void **5** abate, annul, erase, quash **6** cancel, negate, recall, repeal, revoke, vacate **7** destroy, nullify, rescind, retract, reverse, wipe out **8** abrogate, disallow, dissolve, overturn, prohibit **9** eliminate, eradicate, terminate **10** do away with, extinguish, invalidate
- abolitionist** **4** Mott (Lucretia), Weld (Theodore) **5** Brown (John), Child (Lydia), Lundy (Benjamin), Smith (Gerrit), Stowe (Harriet Beecher) **6** Birney (James), Lowell (James Russell), Parker (Theodore), Tappan (Arthur), Tubman (Harriet) **7** Lincoln (Abraham) **8** Douglass (Frederick), Garrison (William Lloyd), Phillips (Wendell), Whittier (John Greenleaf)
- abominable** **5** awful, nasty **6** cursed, horrid, odious **7** hateful, heinous **8** horrible, shocking, terrible, wretched **9** abhorrent, loathsome, offensive, repellent, repugnant, repulsive, revolting **10** deplorable, despicable, detestable, disgusting **12** contemptible
- abominable snowman** **4** yeti
- abominate** **4** damn, hate **5** abhor, curse, scorn **6** detest, loathe, revile **7** despise **8** execrate **9** repudiate
- abomination** **4** evil, hate **5** scorn **6** hatred, horror, plague **7** disdain, disgust, dislike **8** anathema, aversion, contempt, distaste, loathing **9** repulsion, revulsion **10** abhorrence, repugnance, repugnancy **11** detestation
- aboriginal** **5** first **6** native **7** ancient, endemic, primary **8** earliest, original, primeval **9** primitive **10** indigenous, primordial **13** autochthonous
- aborigine** **6** native **7** ancient **8** indigene **10** autochthon
- abort** **4** drop, halt, stop **5** check, expel, scrap, scrub **6** arrest, cancel **7** abandon, call off **8** cut short **9** interrupt, terminate
- abortive** **4** vain **5** empty **6** futile, unripe **7** failing, useless **9** fruitless, worthless **10** unavailing, unfruitful **11** ineffective, ineffectual **12** unproductive, unsuccessful
- abound** **4** flow, teem **5** burst, crawl, crowd, flood, swarm, swell **6** throng **8** overflow
- abounding** **4** full, rife **5** laden **6** filled, full of, jammed, packed **7** copious, profuse, replete, stuffed, teeming **8** abundant, swarming, thronged **9** alive with, bristling, plenteous, plentiful **11** overflowing
- about** **4** as to, back, in re, near, nigh, over, some **5** again, anent, circa, round **6** almost, around, nearby, nearly **7** apropos, close to, roughly **8** backward **9** as regards, in general, in reverse, regarding **10** as concerns, concerning, in regard to, more or less, relating to, relative to, respecting **11** dealing with, practically, referring to **12** with regard to **13** approximately, concerned with, in reference to, with respect to
- about-face** **4** turn **7** reverse **8** reversal **9** turn-about
- above** **3** o'er **4** atop, over, past **5** aloft, supra **6** beyond **8** overhead **9** exceeding **prefix:** **4** over **5** hyper, super, supra
- above all** **7** chiefly **9** primarily **10** especially **11** principally **12** particularly
- aboveboard** **4** free, open **5** frank **6** candid, honest, openly **7** frankly, up front **8** candidly, honestly, straight, truthful **10** truthfully, forthright, scrupulous
- abracadabra** **5** charm, magic **6** babble, jargon **9** gibberish **10** double talk, mumbo jumbo **11** incantation **12** gobbledygook **13** mystification
- abrade** **3** bug, irk, rub **4** burn, fret, gall, rasp, wear **5** annoy, chafe, erode, grate, graze, upset, weary **6** bother, ruffle, scrape **7** corrode, eat away, perturb, provoke, roughen **8** irritate, wear away, wear down **9** aggravate, grind down
- Abraham brother:** **5** Haran, Nahor **concubine:** **5** Hagar **father:** **5** Terah **grandfather:** **5** Nahor **grandson:** **4** Esau **nephew:** **3** Lot **son:** **5** Isaac, Medan, Shuah **6** Midian, Zimran **7** Ishmael **well:** **9** Beer-Sheba **wife:** **5** Sarah **7** Keturah
- abrasion** **5** chafe, scuff **6** scrape **7** chafing, erosion, grating, rubbing, scratch **8** friction, grinding, scraping, scuffing **10** irritation, scratching
- abrasive** **5** emery, rough, sharp **6** biting, pumice **7** wearing **8** annoying **9** smoothing, polishing **10** irritating **11** Carborundum, garnet paper

**abreast** 6 beside, next to, versed, with-it 7  
versant 8 familiar, informed, up-to-date 9  
au courant 10 acquainted, conversant

**abridge** 3 cut 4 pare, trim 5 limit, prune 6  
lessen, narrow, reduce 7 curtail, cut back,  
shorten 8 boil down, compress, condense,  
cut short, diminish, restrict, truncate 9 sum-  
marize 10 abbreviate

**abridgment** 5 brief 6 digest 7 capsule, cut-  
ting, summary 8 abstract, synopsis 9 less-  
ening, reduction, short form 10 diminution,  
shortening 11 compression, contraction,  
curtailment, restriction 12 abbreviation,  
condensation

**abroad** 4 afar, away 5 about 6 afield, astray,  
widely 7 touring 8 overseas 9 elsewhere,  
traveling

**abrogate** 3 end 4 undo, void 5 abate, annul,  
quash 6 cancel, negate, repeal, revoke, va-  
cate 7 abolish, blot out, nullify, rescind, re-  
verse 8 dissolve 9 discharge 10 extinguish,  
invalidate, obliterate

**abrupt** 4 curt 5 bluff, blunt, brief, brisk,  
gruff, hasty, sharp, sheer, short, steep 6 cut  
off, snippy, sudden 7 brusque, hurried 8  
headlong 9 broken off, impetuous 10 unex-  
pected 11 precipitate, precipitous 13 uncer-  
emonious

**abruptness** 10 brusquerie 12 precipitance

**Absalom commander:** 5 Amasa **father:** 5 Da-  
vid **mother:** 7 Maachah **sister:** 5 Tamar  
**slayer:** 4 Joab

**abscess** 4 boil, sore 5 botch, ulcer 6 lesion,  
pimple, trauma 7 blister, pustule 8 furuncle  
9 carbuncle

**abscond** 4 bolt, flee, quit, skip 5 break, leave  
6 decamp, escape, run off 7 run away, take  
off 8 slip away, sneak off 9 disappear, sneak  
away, steal away

**absence** 4 AWOL, lack, need, void, want 6  
dearth, defect, vacuum 7 default, drought,  
failure, sick-out, vacancy 9 privation 10 de-  
ficiency, inadequacy 11 absenteeism, inat-  
tention 13 insufficiency

**absent** 4 away, AWOL, gone, lost 6 no-show  
7 bemused, faraway, lacking, missing,  
omitted, wanting, without 8 distrait, heed-  
less 9 elsewhere, forgetful 10 abstracted,  
distracted 11 inattentive, preoccupied

**absentminded** 4 lost 7 bemused, faraway 8  
distract, dreaming, heedless, unseeing 9 for-  
getful, oblivious, unheeding, unmindful 10  
abstracted, distracted, unnoticed 11 inat-  
tentive, inconscient, preoccupied, uncon-  
scious, unobserving

**absolute** 4 full, pure, real, true 5 ideal, sheer,  
total, utter 6 actual, entire, simple, strict 7

eternal, factual, genuine, perfect, supreme,  
unmixed 8 autarkic, complete, despotic,  
flawless, infinite, outright, positive, ulti-  
mate, simplest, thorough, unflawed 9 arbi-  
trary, autarchic, boundless, downright,  
embodying, imperious, masterful, sover-  
eign, unalloyed, undiluted, unlimited 10 au-  
tocratic, autonomous, consummate,  
impeccable, monocratic, tyrannical 11 cat-  
egorical, dictatorial, domineering, funda-  
mental, independent, unequivocal,  
unmitigated, unqualified 12 indisputable,  
totalitarian, unrestrained, unrestricted 13  
authoritarian, unconditional

**absolutely** 5 fully 6 wholly 7 utterly 8 en-  
tirely 9 doubtless, perfectly 10 completely,  
definitely, positively, thoroughly 11 doubt-  
lessly 13 unequivocally

**absolution** 6 pardon 7 amnesty, freeing, re-  
lease 9 releasing, remission 10 letting off 11  
exculpation, exoneration, forgiveness 12  
dispensation

**absolutism** 9 Caesarism, despotism 12 dicta-  
torship

**absolve** 4 free 5 clear, let go, remit, spare 6  
acquit, excuse, exempt, let off, pardon 7  
forgive, release, relieve, set free 8 dispense  
9 discharge, exculpate, exonerate, vindicate

**absorb** 4 bear, blot 5 imbue, learn, sop up,  
use up 6 assume, embody, endure, engage,  
imbibe, infuse, ingest, soak up, sponge,  
suck up, take in, take up 7 acquire, con-  
sume, drink in, engross, immerse, involve,  
receive, sustain 8 permeate 9 preoccupy,  
transform 10 assimilate 11 incorporate

**absorbed** 4 deep, into, lost, rapt 6 intent  
7 engaged, wrapped 8 caught up, im-  
mersed, involved 9 engrossed, wrapped up  
10 captivated, fascinated 11 preoccupied

**absorbing** 9 arresting, consuming 10 en-  
grossing, intriguing 11 captivating, fascinat-  
ing, interesting 12 monopolizing,  
preoccupying

**abstain** 4 curb, deny, diet, fast, keep, pass,  
stop 5 avoid, forgo, spurn 6 abjure, eschew,  
give up, pass up, refuse, reject 7 decline,  
forbear, refrain 8 abnegate, forswear, hold  
back, keep from, renounce, swear off, tee-  
total, withhold 9 constrain, do without 11  
deny oneself

**abstemious** 5 sober 6 chaste, strict 7 ascetic,  
austere, sparing 9 abstinent, continent, tem-  
perate 10 restrained 11 self-denying

**abstinence** 6 denial 7 fasting 8 chastity, so-  
briety 9 soberness 10 continence, self-de-  
nial, temperance 12 renunciation 13  
self-restraint

**abstract** 5 brief, ideal 6 detach, digest, précis 7 epitome, neutral, outline, shorten, summary, utopian 8 academic, breviary, condense, detached, notional, separate, synopsis 9 disengage, summarize 10 abridgment, conceptual, conspectus, disconnect, dissociate, impersonal 11 appropriate, impractical, speculative, theoretical 12 condensation, hypothetical, transcendent 13 disinterested

**abstracted** 4 lost, rapt 6 absent, intent 7 bemused, faraway 8 absorbed, distraught, heedless 9 engrossed, oblivious, unheeding, unmindful, unmining, withdrawn 11 inattentive, incontinent, preoccupied, unconscious 12 absentminded

**abstruse** 4 deep 5 heavy 6 knotty, occult 7 complex 8 esoteric, hermetic, involved, profound 9 difficult, intricate, recondite 11 complicated

**absurd** 5 balmy, comic, crazy, droll, inane, loony, potty, silly, wacky 6 insane 7 asinine, fatuous, foolish, idiotic 8 farcical 9 illogical, laughable, ludicrous 10 irrational, ridiculous 11 harebrained 12 preposterous, unreasonable

**absurdity** 5 farce, folly 7 inanity 8 nonsense 9 craziness, dottiness, silliness 11 foolishness, incongruity, witlessness 13 ludicrousness, senselessness

**abundance** 6 bounty, excess, plenty, riches, wealth 9 affluence, profusion 10 lavishness, prosperity 11 prodigality **Scottish:** 5 routh

**abundant** 4 full, lush, rich, rife 5 ample 6 filled, galore, lavish, plenty 7 aplenty, copious, crammed, crowded, liberal, profuse, replete 8 fruitful, prolific 9 abounding, bounteous, bountiful, extensive, luxuriant, plenteous, plentiful

**abuse** 3 mar 4 harm, hurt, rail 5 anger, decry, shame, spoil, wrong 6 damage, debase, deride, impair, injure, misuse, revile, vilify 7 calumny, corrupt, cursing, exploit, obloquy, oppress, profane 8 belittle, berating, derision, derogate, disgrace, ill-treat, maltreat, mistreat, swearing 9 blaspheme, contumely, desecrate, disparage, harshness, invective, manhandle, mishandle, persecute, profanity 10 defamation, depreciate, malignment, revilement, scurrility 11 disapproval 12 billingsgate, denunciation, vilification, vituperation

**abusive** 5 dirty, harsh 6 odious 7 corrupt 8 scurrile 9 injurious, insulting, invective, offending, offensive, truculent 10 calumnious, defamatory, scurrilous 11 blasphemous, castigating, opprobrious 12 calumniating,

contumelious, sharp-tongued, vituperative, vituperatory

**abut** 4 join, link 5 flank, touch, verge 6 adjoin, border, butt on 8 border on, neighbor 9 lie beside 11 butt against, communicate

**abutting** 4 next 6 beside, joined, next to 7 joining, verging 8 adjacent, next door, touching 9 adjoining, bordering, impinging 10 connecting, contiguous, juxtaposing 11 bordering on, coextensive, coterminal, neighboring 12 conterminous

**abysmal** 4 deep, vast 7 endless 8 infinite, profound, unending, wretched 9 boundless, cavernous, plumbless, soundless, unplumbed 10 bottomless, fathomless, unmeasured 11 illimitable, measureless 12 immeasurable, unfathomable

**abys** 3 pit 4 gulf, hell, hole, void 5 abysm, chasm, depth, gorge, hades, Sheol 6 Tophet 7 fissure, Gehenna, inferno 8 crevasse, deepness 9 perdition 10 underworld

**academia** 10 university 12 professoriat

**academic** 3 don 5 pupil, tutor 6 closet, fellow, master 7 bookish, learned, scholar, student 8 abstract, gownsman, lecturer, pedantic 9 professor, scholarly 10 scholastic 11 book-learned, conjectural, impractical, speculative, theoretical 12 conventional, hypothetical

**academic period** 4 term 7 quarter 8 semester 9 trimester

**academy** 5 lycée 6 lyceum 7 college, society 9 institute 10 prep school 12 conservatory

**Academy Award winner**

**picture:**

1927-28: 5 Wings 1928-29: 14 Broadway Melody 1929-30: 25 All Quiet on the Western Front 1930-31: 8 Cimarron 1931-32: 10 Grand Hotel 1932-33: 9 Cavalcade 1934: 18 It Happened One Night 1935: 17 Mutiny on the Bounty 1936: 16 The Great Ziegfeld 1937: 15 Life of Emile Zola 1938: 20 You Can't Take It with You 1939: 15 Gone with the Wind 1940: 7 Rebecca 1941: 19 How Green Was My Valley 1942: 10 Mrs. Miniver 1943: 10 Casablanca 1944: 10 Going My Way 1945: 11 Lost Weekend (The) 1946: 19 Best Years of Our Lives (The) 1947: 19 Gentleman's Agreement 1948: 6 Hamlet 1949: 14 All the King's Men 1950: 11 All About Eve 1951: 15 American in Paris (An) 1952: 19 Greatest Show on Earth (The) 1953: 18 From Here to Eternity 1954: 15 On the Waterfront 1955: 5 Marty 1956: 26 Around the World in Eighty Days 1957: 20 Bridge on the River Kwai (The) 1958: