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Language



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trans·pose  (trăns-pōz)

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v. trans·posed, trans·pos·ing, trans·pos·es

v.tr.

1. To reverse or transfer the order or place of; interchange. See Synonyms at [reverse](#).
2. *Mathematics* To move (a term) from one side of an algebraic equation to the other side, reversing its sign to maintain equality.
3. *Music* To write or perform (a composition) in a key other than the original or given key.
4. To render into another language.
5. To alter in form or nature; transform: *a diary that was transposed into a novel*.

v.intr.

1. *Music* To write or perform music in a different key.
2. To admit of being transposed.

n. (trăns pōz')

Mathematics

A matrix formed by interchanging the rows and columns of a given matrix.

[Middle English *transposen*, to transform, from Old French *transposer*, alteration (influenced by *poser*, to put, place) of Latin *trānspōnere*, to transfer : *trāns-*, trans- + *pōnere*, to place; see **apo-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

trans·pos a·ble *adj.*

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Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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