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dictionary

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English
Language



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east  (ĕst)

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n.

1. *Abbr. E*

a. The cardinal point on the mariner's compass 90° clockwise from due north and directly opposite west.

b. The direction of the earth's axial rotation.

2. An area or region lying in the east.

3. often **East**

a. The eastern part of the earth, especially eastern Asia.

b. The eastern part of a region or country.

4. often **East**

a. The region of the United States east of the Allegheny Mountains and north of the Mason-Dixon Line.

b. The former Communist bloc of countries in Asia and especially in Eastern Europe.

5. The end of a church at which the altar is located. Also called *liturgical east*.

adj.

1. To, toward, of, facing, or in the east: *the east bank of the river*.

2. Originating in or coming from the east: *a cool east wind*.

adv.

In, from, or toward the east: *a river flowing east*.

[Middle English *est*, from Old English *ĕast*; see **aus-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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