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blend  (blěnd)

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v. **blend·ed, blend·ing, blends**

v. *tr.*

1. To combine or mix (different substances) so that the constituent parts are indistinguishable from one another: *blended the flour, milk, and eggs; blend gasoline with ethanol.*
2. To combine (varieties or grades of the same substance) to obtain a mixture of a particular character, quality, or consistency: *blend coffees.*
3. To combine (different elements) into a single entity: *a career that blends medicine and engineering.* See Synonyms at [mix](#).

v. *intr.*

1. To form a uniform mixture: “*The smoke blended easily into the odor of the other fumes*” (Norman Mailer).
2. To be unobtrusive or harmonious by resembling the surroundings or behaving like others in a group. Often used with *in*: *a female pheasant is brown and blends in with its nesting ground.*
3. To create a harmonious effect or result: *picked a tie that blended with the jacket.*

n.

1.
 - a. The act of blending: *the writer's unique blend of fantasy and physics.*
 - b. Something, such as an effect or a product, that is created by blending: “*His face shows, as he stares at the fire, a blend of fastidiousness and intransigence*” (John Fowles).
2. *Linguistics* A word produced by combining parts of other words, as *smog* from *smoke* and *fog*.

[Middle English *blenden*, probably from Old Norse *blanda*, *blend-*; see **bhel-**¹ in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

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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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