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dictionary

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English
Language



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en·force  (ĕn-fôrs)

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tr.v. **en·forced**, **en·forc·ing**, **en·forc·es**

1. To compel observance of or obedience to: *enforce a law.*
2. To impose (a kind of behavior, for example): *enforce military discipline.*
3. To give force to; reinforce: "*enforces its plea with a description of the pains of hell*" (Albert C. Baugh).

[Middle English *enforcen*, from Old French *enforcier*, to exert force, compel, and from *enforcir*, to strengthen : *en-*, causative pref.; see [EN](#)-¹ + *force*, strength; see [FORCE](#).]

en·force **a·bil'i·ty** *n.*

en·force **a·ble** *adj.*

en·force **ment** *n.*

en·forc **er** *n.*

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