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dictionary

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English  
Language


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**con·di·tion**  (kən-dīsh ən)

Share:

*n.*

1.

a. A mode or state of being: *We bought a used boat in excellent condition.* See Synonyms at [state](#).

b. **conditions** Existing circumstances: *Economic conditions have improved. The news reported the latest weather conditions.*

c. *Archaic* Social position; rank.

2.

a. A state of health: *Has the patient's condition deteriorated?*

b. A state of physical fitness: *Have you exercised enough to get back into condition?*

c. A disease or physical ailment: *a heart condition.*

3.

a. One that is indispensable to the appearance or occurrence of another; a prerequisite: *Compatibility is a condition of a successful marriage.*

b. One that restricts or modifies another; a qualification: *I'll make you a promise but with one condition.*

4.

a. *Grammar* The dependent clause of a conditional sentence; protasis.

b. *Logic* A proposition on which another proposition depends; the antecedent of a conditional proposition.

5. *Law*

a. A provision making the effect of a legal instrument contingent on the occurrence of an uncertain future event.

b. The event itself.

*tr.v.* **con·di·tioned, con·di·tion·ing, con·di·tions**

1.

a. To make dependent on a condition or conditions: *Use of the cabin is conditioned on your keeping it clean.*

b. To stipulate as a condition: *"He only conditioned that the marriage should not take place before his return" (Jane Austen).*

2.

a. To cause to be in a certain condition; shape or influence: *"Our modern conceptions of historiography [are] conditioned by Western intellectual traditions" (Carol Meyers).*

b. To accustom (oneself or another) to something; adapt: *had to condition herself to long hours of hard work; conditioned the troops to marches at high altitudes.*

c. To render fit for work or use: *spent weeks conditioning the old car.*

d. To improve the physical fitness of (the body, for example), as through repeated sessions of strenuous physical activity.

e. *Psychology* To cause (an organism) to respond in a specific manner to a previously unrelated stimulus, as in operant conditioning or classical conditioning.

3. To treat (the air in a room, for example) by air-conditioning.

4. To replace moisture or oils in (hair, for example) by use of a therapeutic product.

[Middle English *condicioun*, from Old French *condicion*, from Late Latin *conditiō*, *conditiōn-*, alteration of Latin *condiciō*, from *condicere*, to agree : *com-*, *com-* + *dīcere*, to talk; see **deik-** in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

# Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

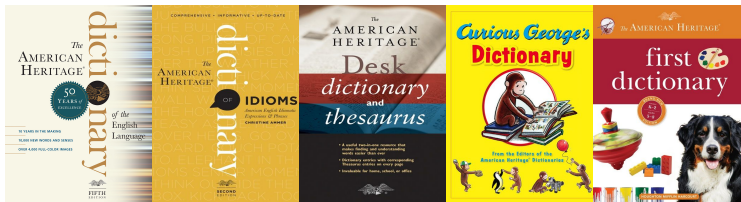
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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