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deep  (dēp)

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adj. **deep·er, deep·est**

1.

- a. Extending far downward below a surface: *a deep hole in the river ice.*
- b. Extending far inward from an outer surface: *a deep cut.*
- c. Extending far backward from front to rear: *a deep walk-in refrigerator.*
- d. Extending far from side to side from a center: *a deep yard surrounding the house.*
- e. Far distant down or in: *deep in the woods.*
- f. Coming from or penetrating to a depth: *a deep sigh.*
- g. *Sports* Located or taking place near the outer boundaries of the area of play: *deep left field.*

2. Extending a specific distance in a given direction: *snow four feet deep.*

3. Far distant in time or space: *deep in the past.*

4.

- a. Difficult to penetrate or understand; recondite: *a deep metaphysical theory.*
- b. Of a mysterious or obscure nature: *a deep secret; ancient and deep tribal rites.*
- c. Very learned or intellectual; wise: *a deep philosopher.*
- d. Exhibiting great cunning or craft: *deep political machinations.*

5.

- a. Of a grave or extreme nature: *deep trouble; deepest deceit.*
- b. Very absorbed or involved: *deep in thought; deep in financial difficulties.*
- c. Profound in quality or feeling: *a deep trance; deep devotion.*

6. Rich and intense in shade. Used of a color: *a deep red.*

7. Low in pitch; resonant: *a deep voice.*

8. Covered or surrounded to a designated degree. Often used in combination: *waist-deep in the water; ankle-deep in snow.*

9. Large in quantity or size; big: *deep cuts in the budget.*

10. *Sports* Having a sufficient number of capable reserve players: *That team is not very deep.*

adv.

1. To a great depth; deeply: *dig deep; feelings that run deep.*

2. Well along in time; late: *worked deep into the night.*

3. *Sports* Close to the outer boundaries of the area of play: *played deep for the first three innings; ran deep into their opponents' territory.*

n.

1. often **deeps**

a. A deep place in land or in a body of water: *drowned in the deep of the river.*

b. A vast, immeasurable extent: *the deep of outer space.*

2. The extent of encompassing time or space; firmament.

3. The most intense or extreme part: *the deep of night.*

4. The ocean.

5. *Nautical* A sounding that falls between marks on a lead line and thus corresponds to an estimated depth rather than a precise depth.

Idioms:

deep down

At bottom; basically: *Deep down, she was still a rebel.*

in deep water

In difficulty.

[Middle English *dep*, from Old English *dēop*; see **dheub-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

deep *ly adv.*

deep *ness n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

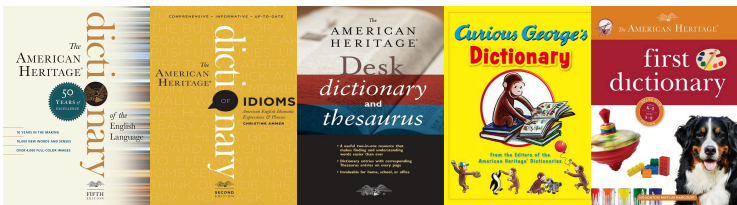
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