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dictionary

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Language



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rent¹ (rěnt)

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n.

1.

a. Payment, usually of an amount fixed by contract, made by a tenant at specified intervals in return for the right to occupy or use the property of another.

b. A similar payment made for the use of a facility, equipment, or service provided by another.

2. The return derived from cultivated or improved land after deduction of all production costs.

3. The difference between the price paid for use of a resource whose supply is inelastic and the minimum price at which that resource would still be provided. Also called *economic rent*.

v. rent·ed, rent·ing, rents

v.tr.

1. To obtain occupancy or use of (another's property) in return for regular payments.

2. To grant temporary occupancy or use of (one's own property or a service) in return for regular payments: *rents out TV sets*.

v.intr.

To be for rent: *The cottage rents for \$1,200 a month.*

Idiom:

for rent

Available for use or service in return for payment.

[Middle English *rente*, from Old French, from Vulgar Latin **rendita*, from feminine past participle of **rendere*, to yield, return; see [RENDER](#).]

rent·a·bil i·ty *n.*

rent a·ble *adj.*

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rent² (rěnt)

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v.

A past tense and a past participle of [rend](#).

n.

1. An opening made by rending; a rip.

2. A breach of relations between persons or groups; a rift.

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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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