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jo·vi·al  (jō vĕ-əl)

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adj.

Marked by hearty conviviality and good cheer: *a jovial host.*

[French, from Middle French, under the favorable astrological influence of the planet Jupiter, jovial, from Old Italian, from Late Latin *Ioviālis*, of Jupiter, from Latin *Iuppiter*, *Iov-*, Jupiter; see **dyeu-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

jo'vi-al i·ty (-ăl ĭ-tē) *n.*

jo vi-al-ly *adv.*

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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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[Semitic Roots](#)

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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