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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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sin ¹  (sĭn)

Share:

n.

1. A transgression of a religious or moral law, especially when deliberate.

2. *Theology*

a. Deliberate disobedience to the known will of God.

b. A condition of estrangement from God resulting from such disobedience.

3. Something regarded as being shameful, deplorable, or utterly wrong.

intr.v. **sinned**, **sin·ning**, **sins**

To violate a religious or moral law.

Idioms:

live in sin

To cohabit in a sexual relationship without being married.

as sin

Completely or extremely: *He is guilty as sin.*

[Middle English *sinne*, from Old English *synn*; see **es-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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sin ²  (sēn, sĭn)

Share:

n.

One of the two forms of the 21st letter of the Hebrew alphabet, distinguished from the letter *shin* by having a dot above the left side of the letter. See Table at [alphabet](#).

[Hebrew *śîn*, modeled on *šîn*, *shin* (the following letter).]

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sin ³

Share:

abbr.

sine

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Sin  (sĭn)

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n.
Mythology
The Babylonian god of the moon.

[Akkadian *Sîn*.]

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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:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

[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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