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vac·uum  (văk y m, -yām, -y -əm)

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n. pl. **vac·uums** or **vac·u·a** (-y -ə)

1.

a. Absence of matter.

b. A space empty of matter.

c. A space relatively empty of matter.

d. A space in which the pressure is significantly lower than atmospheric pressure.

2. A state of emptiness; a void.

3. A state of being sealed off from external or environmental influences; isolation.

4. *pl.* **vac·uums** A vacuum cleaner.

adj.

1. Of, relating to, or used to create a vacuum.

2. Containing air or other gas at a reduced pressure.

3. Operating by means of suction or by maintaining a partial vacuum.

tr. & intr.v. **vac·uumed**, **vac·uum-ing**, **vac·uums**

To clean with or use a vacuum cleaner.

[Latin, empty space, from neuter of *vacuus*, empty, from *vacāre*, to be empty; see **eu-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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