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dictionary

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Language



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cor·don  (kôr dn)

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n.

1. A line of people, military posts, or ships stationed around an area to enclose or guard it: *a police cordon*.
2. A rope, line, tape, or similar border stretched around an area, usually by the police, indicating that access is restricted.

3.

- a. A cord or braid worn as a fastening or ornament.
- b. A ribbon usually worn diagonally across the breast as a badge of honor or decoration.

4. Architecture A stringcourse.

5. Botany A tree or shrub, especially a fruit tree such as an apple or pear, repeatedly pruned and trained to grow on a support as a single ropelike stem.

tr.v. cor·doned, cor·don·ing, cor·dons

To form a cordon around (an area) so as to prevent movement in or out. Often used with *off*: *Troops cordoned off the riot zone.*

[French, from Old French, diminutive of *corde*, cord; see [CORD](#).]

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