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fil·a·ment  (fĭl ə-mənt)

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n.

1. A fine or very thin thread or fiber: *filaments of cloth; filaments of flax.*
2. A slender or threadlike structure or part, especially:
 - a. A fine wire that is heated electrically to produce light in an incandescent lamp.
 - b. The stalk that bears the anther in the stamen of a flower.
 - c. A chainlike series of cells, as in many algae.
 - d. A long thin cellular structure characteristic of many fungi, usually having multiple nuclei and often divided by septa.
 - e. Any of various long thin celestial objects or phenomena, such as a solar filament.

[New Latin *filamentum*, from Late Latin *filāre*, to spin, from Latin *filum*, thread; see **g^{whi}**- [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

fil'a·men tous (-měn təs), **fil'a·men ta·ry** (-měn tə-rē, -měn trē) *adj.*

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