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cop¹  (kɒp)

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n.

Informal

1. A police officer.
2. One that regulates certain behaviors or actions: *"Faced with the world recession of the early 1980s, ... the World Bank ... became a stern economic taskmaster and cop" (Richard J. Barnet).*

[Short for [COPPER](#)².]

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cop²  (kɒp) *Slang*

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tr.v. **copped**, **cop·ping**, **cops**

1.

- a. To get hold of; gain or win: *a show that copped four awards; copped a ticket to the game.*
- b. To perceive by one of the senses: *"copped a quick look at the gentleman ... on the right" (Gail Sheehy).*

2. To take unlawfully or without permission; steal.

Phrasal Verb:

cop out

To avoid fulfilling a commitment or responsibility; renege: *copped out on my friends; copped out by ducking the issue.*

Idioms:

cop a feel

To fondle someone sexually in a surreptitious way.

cop a plea

To plead guilty to a lesser charge so as to avoid standing trial for a more serious charge.

[Probably variant of *cap*, to catch, from Old French *caper*, from Latin *capere*; see [CAPTURE](#).]

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cop³  (kɒp)

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n.

1. A cone-shaped or cylindrical roll of yarn or thread wound on a spindle.
2. *Chiefly British* A summit or crest, as of a hill.

[Middle English, summit, from Old English.]



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cop3

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Cop.

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

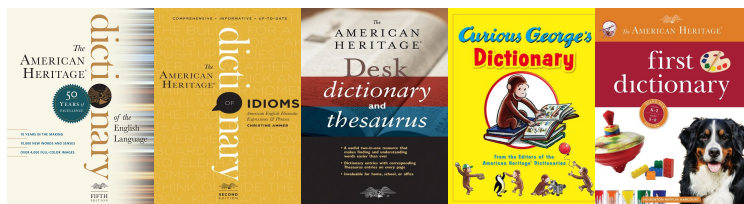
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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