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car·ry  (kărr ē)

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v. **car·ried**, **car·ry·ing**, **car·ries**

v.tr.

1. To hold or support while moving; bear: *carried the baby in my arms; carrying a heavy backpack.*
2.
 - a. To move or take from one place to another; transport: *a train carrying freight; a courier carrying messages.*
 - b. *Chiefly Southern US* To escort or accompany.
3. To serve as a means for the conveyance of; transmit: *pipes that carry waste water; a bridge that carries traffic between the two cities.*
4.
 - a. To communicate; pass on: *The news was carried by word of mouth to every settlement.*
 - b. To express or contain: *harsh words that carried a threat of violence.*
5. To have (something) on the surface or skin; bear: *carries scars from acne.*
6. To hold or be capable of holding: *The tank carries 16 gallons when full.*
7.
 - a. To support (a weight or responsibility).
 - b. To support the weight or responsibility of: *a beam that carries the floor; a student who carries a heavy course load.*
8. To keep or have on one's person: *stopped carrying credit cards.*
9. To be pregnant with (offspring).
10.
 - a. To hold and move (the body or a part of it) in a particular way: *carried her head proudly.*
 - b. To behave or conduct (oneself) in a specified manner.
11. To extend or continue in space, time, or degree: *carried the line to the edge of the page; carry a joke too far.*
12.
 - a. To give impetus to; propel: *The wind carried the ball over the fence.*
 - b. To take further; advance: *carry a cause.*
13. To take or seize, especially by force; capture.
14.
 - a. To be successful in; win: *lost the game but carried the match.*
 - b. To gain victory, support, or acceptance for: *The motion was carried in a close vote.*
 - c. To win a majority of the votes in: *Roosevelt carried all but two states in the 1936 presidential election.*
 - d. To gain the sympathy of; win over: *The amateurs' enthusiasm carried the audience.*
15. To include or keep on a list: *carried a dozen workers on the payroll.*
16.
 - a. To have as an attribute or accompaniment: *an appliance carrying a full-year guarantee.*
 - b. To involve as a condition, consequence, or effect: *The crime carried a five-year sentence.*
17. *Physics* To possess (an intrinsic property, such as color charge) or convey (a force) that governs particle interactions.
18. To transfer from one place, as a column, page, or book, to another: *carry a number in addition.*
19. To keep in stock; offer for sale: *a store that carries a full line of electronic equipment.*
20. To keep in one's accounts as a debtor: *carried the unemployed customer for 90 days.*
21.
 - a. To maintain or support (one that is weaker or less competent, for example).
 - b. To compensate for (a weaker member or partner) by one's performance.

22. To place before the public; print or broadcast: *The morning papers carried the story. The press conference was carried by all networks.*

23. To produce as a crop.

24. To provide forage for (livestock): *land that carries sheep.*

25. To sing (a melody, for example) on key: *carry a tune.*

26. *Nautical* To be equipped with (a mast or sail).

27. *Sports*

a. To cover (a distance) or advance beyond (a point or object) in one golf stroke.

b. To control and advance (a ball or puck).

c. *Basketball* To palm (the ball) in violation of the rules.

v.intr.

1. To act as a bearer: *teach a dog to fetch and carry.*

2. To be transmitted or conveyed: *a voice that carries well.*

3. To admit of being transported: *Unbalanced loads do not carry easily.*

4. To hold the neck and head in a certain way. Used of a horse.

5. To be accepted or approved: *The proposal carried by a wide margin.*

n. pl. car-ries

1.

a. The act or process of carrying.

b. A portage, as between two navigable bodies of water.

c. *Football* An act of running with the ball on an offensive play from scrimmage: *a carry of six yards.*

2.

a. The range of a gun or projectile.

b. The distance traveled by a hurled or struck ball.

c. Reach; projection: *"a voice that had far more carry to it than at any time in the term thus far" (Jimmy Breslin).*

Phrasal Verbs:

carry away

To move or excite greatly: *was carried away by desire.*

carry forward

Accounting To transfer (an entry) to the next column, page, or book, or to another account.

carry off

1. To cause the death of: *was carried off by a fever.*

2. To handle successfully: *carried off the difficult situation with aplomb.*

carry on

1. To conduct; maintain: *carry on a thriving business.*

2. To engage in: *carry on a love affair.*

3. To continue without halting; persevere: *carry on in the face of disaster.*

4. To behave in an excited, improper, or silly manner.

carry out

1. To put into practice or effect: *carry out a new policy.*

2. To follow or obey: *carry out instructions.*

3. To bring to a conclusion; accomplish: *carried out the mission successfully.*

carry over

1. *Accounting*

a. To transfer (an account) to the next column, page, or book relating to the same account.

b. To retain (merchandise or other goods) for a subsequent, usually the next, season.

2. To deduct (an unused tax credit or a loss, for example) for taxable income of a subsequent period.

3. To persist to another time or situation: *The confidence gained in remedial classes carried over into the children's regular school work.*

carry through

1. To accomplish; complete: *carry a project through despite difficulties.*

2. To survive; persist: *prejudices that have carried through over the centuries.*

3. To enable to endure; sustain: *a faith that carried them through the ordeal.*

Idioms:

carry (someone's) water

To support someone, especially in an submissive or uncritical manner.

carry the ball *Informal*

To assume the leading role; do most of the work.

carry the day

To be victorious or successful.

[Middle English *carien*, from Old North French *carier*, from *carre*, cart; see [CAR](#).]

Synonyms: carry, bear¹, convey, transport

These verbs mean to move while holding or supporting something. *Carry* is the most general: *The hikers were carrying backpacks and sleeping bags. The train carries baggage, mail, and passengers.* *Bear* can denote the movement of heavy loads: *The river barges bore grain and coal downriver.* It can also suggest formality or ceremony: *The sergeant at arms entered the chamber bearing the mace.* *Convey* often implies continuous movement or flow: *A moving belt conveyed the parts along the assembly line.* *Transport* emphasizes movement of goods or people from one place to another: *Refrigerated trucks were used to transport the milk from farm to market. Buses stood by to transport the evacuees to area shelters.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

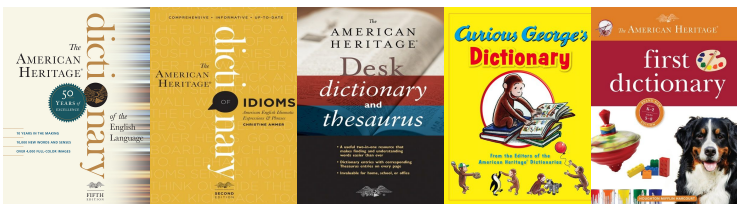
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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