

Help: Search Box

Search TheFreeDictionary using our four different search options, or search the web.

Search TheFreeDictionary

A default search includes all of TheFreeDictionary reference databases (all dictionaries and encyclopedias). Your initial search results will correspond to whatever tab (representing a dictionary or encyclopedia) is currently active. If the Wikipedia tab is active, the display results will originate from Wikipedia. If you are on the homepage, results displayed will originate from the default Dictionary/Thesaurus tab.

Every time you perform a search, you can easily access the relevant entries in our other dictionaries and encyclopedias; just click on another tab.

Word/Article

This is the most common type of search, and it satisfies most search needs. For example, if you search for the word *dog*, you will see something like this:

dog  (dog, dŏg)

n.

1. A domesticated carnivorous mammal (*Canis familiaris* syn. *Canis lupus* subsp. *familiaris*) occurring as a wide variety of breeds, many of which are traditionally used for hunting, herding, drawing sleds, and other tasks, and are kept as pets.
2. Any of various carnivorous mammals of the family Canidae, such as the dingo.
3. A male animal of the family Canidae, especially of a fox or a domesticated breed.
4. Any of various other animals, such as the prairie dog.
5. *Informal*
 - a. A person: *You won, you lucky dog.*
 - b. A person regarded as contemptible: *You stole my watch, you dog.*
6. *Slang*
 - a. A person regarded as unattractive or uninteresting.
 - b. Something of inferior or low quality: *"The President had read the speech to some of his friends and they told him it was a dog" (John P. Roche).*
 - c. An investment that produces a low return or a loss.
7. **dogs** *Slang* The feet.
8. See [andiron](#).
9. *Slang* A hot dog; a wiener.
10. Any of various hooked or U-shaped metallic devices used for gripping or holding heavy objects.
11. *Astronomy* A sundog.

adv.

Totally; completely. Often used in combination: *dog-tired.*

tr. v. **dogged, dog-ging, dogs**

1. To track or trail persistently: *"A stranger then is still dogging us" (Arthur Conan Doyle).*
2. To hold or fasten with a mechanical device: *"Watertight doors and hatches were dropped into place and dogged down to give the ship full watertight integrity" (Tom Clancy).*

3.

- a. To be persistently or inescapably associated with: *Questions about his youthful indiscretions dogged him throughout his career.*
- b. To be recurrently or persistently in the mind; haunt: *Despair dogged him in his final years.*

Idioms:

***dog it* Slang**

To fail to expend the effort needed to do or accomplish something.

go to the dogs

To go to ruin; degenerate.

***put on the dog* Informal**

To make an ostentatious display of elegance, wealth, or culture.

[Middle English dogge, from Old English docga.]

Starts with

If you want to find a phrase that starts with "*London*", your search results will be restricted to articles that begin with the word "*London*" and you will see something like this:

Words starting with *London*:

[London](#)
[London & Blackwall Railway](#)
[London & District Baseball Association Inc.](#)
[London & South Western Railway](#)
[London \(band\)](#)
[London \(electoral district\)](#)
[London \(heavy metal band\)](#)
[London \(poem\)](#)
[London \(UK Parliament constituency\)](#)
.....

Ends with

If you want to find a phrase that ends with the word "*Stones*", your search results will be restricted to articles that end with "*Stones*", and you will see something like this:

Words ending with *Stones*:

[Abraxas Stones](#)
[Bezoar Stones](#)
[bloodstones](#)
[Braystones](#)
[Buckstones](#)
[clingstones](#)
[cornstones](#)
[dripstones](#)
[five stones](#)
.....

Text

A text search scans all articles for any mention of your search term. This type of search will return the widest range of results. For example, if you search for the word "*carbon*", your results will originate from all existing tabs, and you will see something like this:

Words with *carbon* in definition:

[carbon](#)
[carbon cycle](#)
[carbon tetrachloride](#)
[carbon dioxide narcosis](#)
[radiocarbon dating](#)
[Reinforced carbon carbon](#)
[Oxidation Resistant Carbon-Carbon Investigation & Development](#)
[alkane](#)
.....

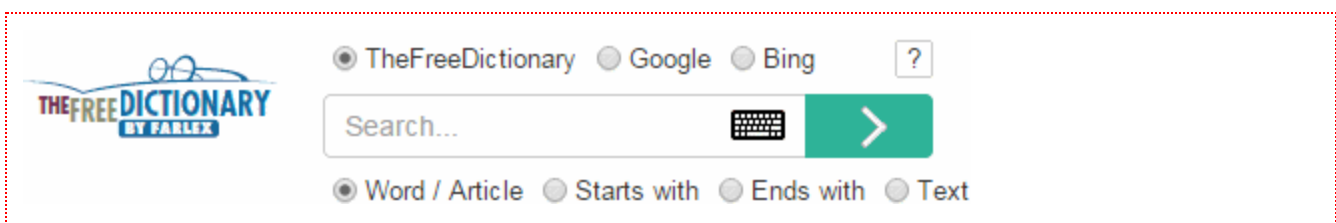
Search elsewhere on the web

In addition to the TheFreeDictionary, you can also search Google.

The *Word / Article*, *Starts with*, *Ends with* and *Text* options are not available for web searches.

This feature is especially useful if you make TheFreeDictionary your homepage: your search options become unlimited.

The external search is a good option when you find that TheFreeDictionary has reached its limitations. For example, once you have searched "*GPS*" on TheFreeDictionary and have learned that it stands for "*Global Positioning System*", you may want to check out prices for the device and perform a search on Google. Another example could be a word like "*giclee*," which is not very well defined in current dictionaries; you may want to find additional information about "*giclee*" elsewhere on the web by clicking the Google radio button.



The screenshot shows the top of the TheFreeDictionary website. On the left is the logo "THE FREE DICTIONARY BY FARLEX". To the right of the logo are four radio buttons: "TheFreeDictionary" (selected), "Google", "Bing", and a question mark icon. Below these is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search...", a keyboard icon, and a green button with a white right-pointing arrow. At the bottom of the search bar area are four radio buttons: "Word / Article" (selected), "Starts with", "Ends with", and "Text".

Disclaimer

All content on this website, including dictionary, thesaurus, literature, geography, and other reference data is for informational purposes only. This information should not be considered complete, up to date, and is not intended to be used in place of a visit, consultation, or advice of a legal, medical, or any other professional.