

THE  
CASSELL  
POCKET  
ENGLISH  
DICTIONARY



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DICTIONARY

**edited by Betty Kirkpatrick**



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## PREFACE

*The Cassell Pocket English Dictionary* is based on *The Cassell Concise English Dictionary*, first published in 1989. It shares most of the features of the parent volume, except that many of the obsolete, archaic or less common words have been deleted in order to achieve the size appropriate to a more easily portable volume.

In these days when the ability to communicate effectively is of so much importance in so many walks of life it is a great advantage to possess a dictionary which can be slipped into a briefcase or bag, if not actually a pocket. The present dictionary fulfils this need.

Since language is always on the move, reflecting the speed at which modern life itself moves, new words, expressions and meanings have been added to take account of this. Obviously a dictionary of this size cannot aim to be comprehensive but *The Cassell Pocket English Dictionary* does, nevertheless, provide a wide selection of vocabulary which the general user will find invaluable.

Crossword addicts who like to indulge their hobby when out of reach of their bookshelves – on the train perhaps – will find this book a boon. Somehow the sense of achievement is diminished if one has to wait until one can look up a word. This is just one of the many areas where a small dictionary scores.

### HOW TO USE THIS DICTIONARY

#### **The entry**

Each entry in the dictionary begins with an entry-word or head-word in bold type. This is immediately followed by the pronunciation, the relevant part of speech and the meaning/meanings.

#### **Arrangement of entries**

By no means all words defined in the dictionary are headwords. Many words and expressions which are derived from the same root have been grouped or 'nested' together, e.g. **execrable** is under **execrate**. This has the great merit not only of demonstrating at a glance the relationship of the words but of acting as a significant space-saving device. The system allows many more words to be included in the dictionary than would otherwise be the case.

The majority of such words are easy to find since their positions in the dictionary are very close alphabetically to what they would have been if they had been entered as separate headwords. Where this is not the case cross-references have been added for facility of use, e.g. **elision** is cross-referred to **elide**.

### Organization of entries

Most headwords have more than one meaning and more than one word derived from them. The words and expressions derived from headwords fall into three categories – idioms/phrases, compounds and direct derivatives.

Idioms consist of phrases including the headword, e.g. **to gain on** or compound words not beginning with the headword, e.g. **old gold**. They are placed immediately after the last meaning of the last part of speech of the headword.

Compounds, which consist of two elements beginning with the headword, are placed immediately after the last meaning of the last idiom. The compound word may be hyphenated, e.g. **cross-bow**, two words, e.g. **emergency landing** or one word, e.g. **eyesight**, according to convention.

Direct derivatives are words formed from the root of the headword or its stem by adding a suffix, e.g. *-ness*, *-ly*, etc. e.g. **gauntness**, **ghostly**. These are placed after the last meaning of the last compound.

Derivatives which themselves are derived from derivatives of the headword follow on from the words in the entry from which they are derived. Thus **endless band** follows the direct derivative **endless**.

### Labels

Labels in round brackets have been added where necessary. They are divided into two categories – stylistic labels, such as (*offensive*), (*sl.*), (*coll.*) etc. and field labels such as (*Med.*), (*Comput.*) etc. A list of abbreviations of labels appears under *Chief Abbreviations Used* (p.x).

### Cross-references

The word cross-referred to appears in small caps, e.g. **enure** INURE.

# CHIEF ABBREVIATIONS USED

*All are given here in roman, though most of them may also appear in italics as labels*

a.	adjective	Bret.	Breton
abbr.	abbreviation	Build.	Building
abl.	ablative	Bulg.	Bulgarian
Abor.	Aboriginal, Aborigines	Byz.	Byzantine
acc.	accusative; according	c.	circa, about
adapt.	adaptation	Camb.	Cambridge
adv.	adverb	Campan.	Campanology
A-F	Anglo-French	Can.	Canada, Canadian
Afr.	African	Carib.	Caribbean
aft.	afterwards	Carp.	Carpentry
Agric.	Agriculture	Cat.	Catalan
Alch.	Alchemy	Celt.	Celtic
Alg.	Algebra	Ceram.	Ceramics
alln.	allusion	Ch.	Church
alt.	alternative	Chem.	Chemistry
Am. Ind.	American Indian	Chin.	Chinese
anal.	analogous	Civ. Eng.	Civil Engineering
Anat.	Anatomy	Class.	Classical
Ang.-Ind.	Anglo-Indian	Coal-min.	Coal mining
Ang.-Ir.	Anglo-Irish	cogn.	cognate
Ang.-Lat.	Anglo-Latin	coll.	colloquial, collateral
appar.	apparently	collect.	collective
Arab.	Arabic	comb.	combination
Aram.	Aramaic	comb. form.	combining form
Arch.	Architecture	Comm.	Commerce
Archaeol.	Archaeology	comp.	comparative
Arith.	Arithmetic	Comput.	Computing
Art.	Artistic	Conch.	Conchology
Artill.	Artillery	cond.	conditional
assim.	assimilated, assimilation	conf.	confusion
Assyr.	Assyrian	conj.	conjunction
Astrol.	Astrology	conn.	connected
Astron.	Astronomy	contr.	contraction
attrib.	attribute, attributive	Cook.	Cooking
augm.	augmentative	Copt.	Coptic
Austral.	Australian	Corn.	Cornish
Austr.-Hung.	Austro-Hungarian	corr.	corruption, corresponding
aux. v.	auxiliary verb	Cosmog.	Cosmogony
Aviat.	Aviation	cp.	compare
		Cryst.	Crystallography
Bibl.	Bible, biblical		
Bibliog.	Bibliography	Dan.	Danish
Biol.	Biology	dat.	dative
Boh.	Bohemian	def.	definition
Bot.	Botany	deriv.	derivation
Braz.	Brazilian	derog.	derogatory

# Chief Abbreviations

dial.	dialect	ger.	gerund, gerundive
dim.	diminutive	Goth.	Gothic
Diplom.	Diplomatics	Gr.	Greek
dist.	distinct,	grad.	gradually
	distinguished	Gram.	Grammar
Dut.	Dutch		
Dynam.	Dynamics	Heb.	Hebrew
		Her.	Heraldry
E	East, Eastern	Hind.	Hindi
Eccles.	Ecclesiastical	Hist.	History
econ.	Economics	Hort.	Horticulture
EFris	East Frisian	Hung.	Hungarian
e.g.	exempli gratia, for example	Hydrostat.	Hydrostatics
		Hyg.	Hygiene
Egypt.	Egyptian		
Egyptol.	Egyptology	Icel.	Icelandic
EInd.	East Indian	Ichthyol.	Ichthyology
Elec.	Electricity	ident.	identical; identified
ellipt.	elliptical, elliptically	i.e.	id est, that is
Embryol.	Embryology	imag.	imaginary
emphat.	emphatic	imit.	imitative
Eng.	English; Engineering	imper.	imperative
Ent.	Entomology	impers.	impersonal
erron.	erroneously	incept.	inceptive
esp.	especially	incorr.	incorrectly
Ethn.	Ethnology	Ind.	India, Indian
euphem.	euphemistic	ind.	indicative
Eur.	European	indef. art.	indefinite article
Exam.	Examination	Indo-Port.	Indo-Portuguese
exc.	except	inf.	infinitive
		influ.	influenced
F	French	inst.	instinctive
f.	feminine	instr.	instrumental
facet.	facetiously	int.	interjection
fem.	feminine	intens.	intensive
Feud.	Feudal	Internat.	International
fig.	figuratively	interrog.	interrogative
fl.	floruit, flourished	intr.	intransitive
Flem.	Flemish	Ir.	Irish
fol.	the following	iron.	ironical
For.	Foreign	irreg.	irregular
Fort.	Fortification	It.	Italian
freq.	frequentative		
Fris.	Frisian	Jap.	Japanese
fut.	future	Jav.	Javanese
		Jewel.	Jewellery
G	German		
Gael.	Gaelic	L	Latin
gen	genitive	lat.	latitude
Geneal.	Genealogy	LG	Low German
Geog.	Geography	Lit.	Literature, literary
Geol.	Geology	lit.	literal, literally
Geom.	Geometry	Lit. crit.	Literary criticism



# Chief Abbreviations

Lith.	Lithuanian	ON	Old Norse
loc.	locative	ONF	Old Norman French
Log.	Logic	onomat.	onomatopoeic
		OPers.	Old Persian
Mach.	Machinery	opp.	opposed, opposition
Manufact.	manufacturing	Opt.	Optics
Math.	Mathematics	orig.	origin, originally
MDan.	Middle Danish	Ornith.	Ornithology
MDut.	Middle Dutch	OS	Old Saxon
ME	Middle English	o.s.	old style
Mech.	Mechanics	OSlav.	Old Slavonic
Med.	Medicine	OSp.	Old Spanish
med.	mediaeval	OTeut.	Old Teutonic
Merc.	Mercian		
Metal.	Metallurgy		
Metaph.	Metaphysics	Palaeont.	Palaeontology
Meteor.	Meteorology	paral.	parallel
Mex.	Mexican	Parl.	Parliamentary
MF	Middle French	part.	participle, participial
MG	Middle German	pass.	passive
Microsc.	Microscopy	Path.	Pathology
Mil.	Military	perf.	perfect
Min.	Mineralogy	perh.	perhaps
mistrans.	mistranslation	Pers.	Persian
mod.	modern	pers.	person; personal
Mus.	Music	Peruv.	Peruvian
Myth.	Mythology	Petrol.	Petrology
		Phil.	Philosophy
N	North	Philol.	Philology
n.	noun	Phoen.	Phoenician
N Am.	North American	phon.	phonetics; phonology
Nat. Hist.	Natural History	Phot.	Photography
Naut.	Nautical	pht.	phrase
Nav.	Naval	Phys.	Physics
neg.	negative	Phys. Sci.	Physical Science
neol.	neologism	pl.	plural
neut.	neuter	poet.	poetry, poetical
Newsp.	Newspaper	Pol.	Polish
nom.	nominative	Polit.	Political
Norm.	Norman	pop.	popular, popularly
North.	Northern	Port.	Portuguese
Northum.	Northumbrian	poss.	possessive
Norw.	Norwegian	p.p.	past participle
NT	New Testament	prec.	the preceding
Numis	Numismatics	pred.	predicative
		pref.	prefix
obj.	objective	prep.	preposition
obs.	obsolete	pres.	present
OED	the Oxford English Dictionary	pres.p.	present participle
OF	Old French	pret.	preterite
OFris.	Old Frisian	prev.	previously
OHG	Old High German	Print.	Printing
OLG	Old Low German	priv.	privative
		prob.	probably

# *Chief Abbreviations*

pron.	pronoun;	Surg.	Surgery
	pronounced	Swed.	Swedish
prop.	proper, properly	syl.	syllable
Pros.	Prosody	Syr.	Syriac
Prov.	Provençal		
prov.	provincial	Teleg.	Telegraphy
Psych.	Psychology	Teut.	Teutonic
pubd.	published	Theat.	Theatre
		Theol.	Theology
Radiol.	Radiology	Therap.	Therapeutics
redupl.	reduplicate	Therm.	Thermionics
ref.	referring, reference	tr.	transitive
reflex.	reflexive	trans.	translation
rel.	related	Trig.	Trigonometry
Relig.	Religion	Turk.	Turkish
rel. pron.	relative pronoun	TV	Television
remonstr.	remonstrative		
Rhet.	Rhetoric	ult.	ultimately
Rom.	Roman; Romance	Univ.	University
Rus.	Russian	US.	United States of America
S	South	usu.	usually
Sansk.	Sanskrit		
Sc.	Scottish	v.	verb
Scand.	Scandinavian	var.	variant
Sci.	Science	Venet.	Venetian
Sculp.	Sculpture	verb. a.	verbal adjective
Semit.	Semitic	Vel.	Veterinary Surgery
Serb.	Serbian	v. i.	verb intransitive
Shak.	Shakespeare	viz.	videlicet, namely
Sic.	Sicilian	voc.	vocative
sing.	singular	v. t.	verb transitive
sl.	slang		
Slav.	Slavonic	W	West; Welsh
Sp.	Spanish	WG	West German
Spens.	Spenser	Wind.	West Indian
Stock. Exch.	Stock Exchange	wr.	written
subj.	subjunctive		
suf.	suffix	Zool.	Zoology
superl.	superlative		

# GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION

## Introduction

The revised respelling scheme used for pronunciations in this edition of the Dictionary has been designed to provide as good a compromise as possible between accuracy and understanding by the majority of users. Therefore, as few specialized phonetic symbols and additional accents or marks on letters have been used as will fulfil this aim. A full list of symbols/letters and their equivalents follows below, with transcriptions given alongside the words used as examples.

As in the previous edition, the particular variety of pronunciation aimed for is that of the 'ordinary educated English speaker', which some readers will no doubt recognize under the labels of 'Oxford' or 'BBC' English, or 'Received Pronunciation'.

Where sub-headwords differ in pronunciation (and this includes stress) from the headword, partial or full pronunciations are also given for these; where partials appear, it should be assumed that the remaining (untranscribed) part of the word concerned is pronounced as before.

In longer entries, there may be more than one variety of difference in pronunciation from the headword. In such cases, any subhead *not* given a transcription should be assumed to revert to the pronunciation pattern of the headword. The exception to this is derivatives of the subhead which closely follow the subhead and usually have minimal difference from it in form; for example, under **drama** (drah'mə), the subhead **dramatic**, **-ical** has the partial (-mat'-), and is followed by **dramatically**, in which case **dramatically** follows **dramatic**, **-ical** in pronunciation pattern and *not* **drama**.

It can also be seen from this illustration that derivatives formed by adding suffixes which are consistently pronounced, are assumed to be known by the reader (eg **-ly**, **-ness**, etc) and the pronunciation of such suffixes is only given in rare instances of possible confusion.

Further, cases where the only change in the subhead is one of stress position, and where this change is consistently predictable, are not given pronunciations; an example would be the suffix **-ation**, where the sound and stress pattern are always (-ā'shan).

## Stress

Stress (') is shown in pronunciations immediately *after* the syllable which is stressed, eg (ti'gə) = **tiger**. Stress is *not* given on compounds composed of two or more separate words, nor on idioms.

**American English**

In a very limited number of cases where a North American English pronunciation of a word has become widespread also in British English (eg **schedule**), the variant is given with the label *esp Amer.*

# SYMBOLS

## Vowel sounds:

ah	far	(fah)	o	not	(nót)
a	fat	(fat)	ō	note	(nôt)
ā	fate	(fât)		sower	(sô'ə)
aw	fall	(fawl)	oo	blue	(bloo)
	north	(nawth)	ū	sun	(sūn)
	paw	(paw)	u	foot	(fut)
	soar	(saw)		bull	(bul)
e	bell	(bel)	û	muse	(müz)
ē	beef	(bēf)	ə	again	(əgen')
æ	her	(hæ)		current	(kū'rənt)
	fur	(fœ)		sailor	(sā'lə)
i	bit	(bit)		publicity	(pəblis'iti)
ī	bite	(bīt)			

Note: the neutral sound of many unstressed vowels is represented, as shown above, by the symbol ə; some unstressed vowels in this dictionary are (more correctly) transcribed as (-i-), as in (ilek'trik).

## Consonants:

p	pit	(pit)	s	sit	(sit)
b	bit	(bit)	v	van	(van)
t	tin	(tin)	w	win	(win)
d	dance	(dahns)	y	yet	(yet)
k	kit	(kit)	z	haze	(hâz)
m	man	(man)	ng	sing	(sing)
n	nut	(nūt)	th	thin	(thin)
l	lid	(lid)	dh	this	(dhis)
f	fit	(fit)	sh	ship	(ship)
h	hit	(hit)	zh	measure	(mez'hə)
g	get	(get)	kh	loch	(lôkh)
j	just	(jüst)	ch	church	(chæch)
r	run	(rūn)			

Note: where a sound represented by two consonants eg (-ng-) is followed by another syllable which begins with the second consonant (-g-) and where the stress mark falls elsewhere, a centred dot is used to show where the syllable break occurs, for example as in (ling·gwis'tiks).

# Foreign words

r'	macabre	(məkahbr'')
l'	honorable	(onorahbl'')
y'	merveille	(mervây'')

## 'Diphthongs'

(i) Vowel sounds incorporating the final unpronounced 'r' of standard British English:

eə	fair	(feə)
	mare	(meə)
	mayor	(meə)
iə	fear	(fiə)
	seer	(siə)
iə	fire	(fiə)
üə	pure	(püə)
uə	poor	(puə)

(ii) Others:

ow	bout	(bowt)
	cow	(kow)
oi	join	(join)

Foreign vowels not dealt with by the main system

(i) Nasalized:

ā	(āsyen')	<u>a</u> ncienne
ē	(ēfā')	e <u>n</u> fant
i	(lifam')	(écraser) l' <u>i</u> n fâme
ô	(kô'zhā)	<u>o</u> ngé
û	(verdû')	Ver <u>u</u> n

(ii) Other:

ü	(ētédü')	entendu
	(ü'bə)	über

# CONTENTS

## Acknowledgments

vi

## Preface

vii

## Chief abbreviations used

ix

## Guide to pronunciation

xiii

## Symbols

xv

## The Dictionary

I

## *Appendices*

### Common word beginnings and endings

969

### Greek and Russian alphabets

973

### Palindromes

974

### The plays of Shakespeare

975

### Roman numerals

976

### Books of the Bible

978

### World standard times

980

### Countries, capitals, languages and currencies

982

### First names

987

## A

**A<sup>1</sup>, a<sup>1</sup>**, the first letter in the English alphabet. **A** is used as a symbol to denote the first of a series; the first known quantity in an algebraic expression; (the scale of a composition in which the keynote is) the sixth note of the diatonic scale of C major, corresponding to *la* in tonic sol-fa notation; in Britain formerly, a film certified as suitable for all but requiring parental consent for children under 14; one of the human blood types. **from A to Z**, from beginning to end. **A1**, *a*, first class. **A-bomb**, *n*, an atomic bomb. **A-level**, *n*, (a pass in) an examination in a subject at the Advanced level of the General Certificate of Education. **A-road**, *n*, a trunk road or a main road. **A-team**, *n*, the first or best team in a sport.

**A<sup>2</sup>, (abbr.)** academy, academician; ampere; Angström unit; Associate.

**a<sup>2</sup> (a; when stressed a), (an; when stressed an)**, *a*, a weakened form of *one*, the indefinite article, used before singular nouns to denote an individual of a class. **A** is used before words beginning with (the sound of) a consonant, e.g., *Europe, one, usual*. **An** is used before vowels and sometimes before *h* in an unaccented syllable, e.g., *an historian*. In such phrases as *50 pence a pound, twice a week*, it equates with *each* or *every*. Also used before collective phrases like *a hundred men, a dozen eggs, a few*.

**a<sup>3</sup>, (abbr.)** acre; alto; ante (before).

**a-, pref.** (1) on, as in *aboard*; (2) away, out, as in *awake*; (3) of, from, as in *akin*; (4) from, as in *avenue*; (5) not, without, as in *amoral*.

**AA, (abbr.)** Alcoholics Anonymous; anti-aircraft; Automobile Association.

**AAA, (abbr.)** Amateur Athletic Association; American Automobile Association.

**A and M, (abbr.)** Ancient and Modern (hymns).

**aardvark** (aɪd'vɑ:k), *n*, the African ant-eater. **aardwolf** (-wʊlf), *n*, a hyena-like carnivorous mammal of southern Africa.

**Aaron's beard** (eɪ'ronz), *n*, pop. name for large-flowered St-John's wort, and for a Chinese herb with hanging stems bearing clusters of hairy leaves. **Aaron's rod**, *n*, pop. name for certain plants that flower on long stems.

**AB, (abbr.)** able-bodied seaman; (US) Bachelor of Arts.

**ab-<sup>1</sup>, pref.** off, from, away, apart, as in *abrogate, absent*.

**ab-<sup>2</sup>, pref.** to, as in *abbreviate*.

**aback** (əb'æk), *adv.* backwards; behind; by surprise. **taken aback** (tæ'k).

**abacus** (əb'ækəs), *n*, (pl. -ci (-si), -cuses) a counting-frame; an apparatus made of beads sliding on wires for arithmetical calculations; a flat stone crowning the capital of a column and supporting the architrave.

**abaft** (əb'æft'), *adv.*, *prep.* in, on or towards the back part of a ship.

**abalone** (əbə'lō'ni), *n*, an edible gastropod mollusc.

**abandon** (əbən'dən), *v. t.* to give up, yield; to desert or forsake; to surrender (oneself) unreservedly, e.g. to indifference or vice. *n*, freedom from conventional restraint, careless or joyful freedom of manner. **abandoned**, *a*, deserted; wholly given up to enjoyment, wickedness, etc. **abandonment**, *n*, the act of abandoning; self-surrender to a cause, passion or vice; relinquishment of property, desertion (of a relation, friend, servant).

**abase** (ə'bi:z), *v. t.* to lower, humble, degrade. **abased**, *a*. **abasement**, *n*, the act of abasing, a state of humiliation, degradation.

**abash** (ə'bæʃ'), *v. t.* to embarrass or shame by exciting a sense of guilt, mistake or inferiority. **abashed**, *a*. **abashment**, *n*.

**abasia** (əbə'si:ə), *n*, lack of power to coordinate the movements of the muscles in walking.

**abate** (ə'bæt'), *v. t.*, *v. i.* to diminish, reduce, lessen. **abatable**, *a*. **abatement**, *n*. **abator**, *n*.

**abatis**, **abettis** (ə'bætis, -tē), *n*, a defence made of felled trees with their boughs directed outwards.

**abattoir** (əb'atwɑ:), *n*, a public slaughter-house.

**abaxial** (əbək'si:əl), *a*, (*Ba*.) facing away from the stem.

**abba** (əb'ə), *n*, father (in the invocation *Abba, father*); an episcopal title in the Syrac and Gothic churches.

**abbacy** (əb'əs), *n*, the office and jurisdiction of an abbot.

**abbat**, *n*. **abbot**. **abbatial** (-bi:ʃ-), *a*, pertaining to an abbey or an abbot.

**abbe** (əb'ə), *n*, an ecclesiastic without a benefice, a cleric in minor orders; generally a mere title without any definite office or responsibility.

**abbess** (əb'is, -es), *n*, the female superior of an abbey.

**abbey** (əb'i), *n*, a monastic community governed by an abbot or abbess; a building either now or formerly inhabited by a body of monks or nuns, a church attached to an abbey.

**abbot** (əb'ət), *n*, a monk; the superior of a monastery or an abbey.

**abbreviate** (əbre'vi:t), *v. t.* to shorten, abridge, reduce. **abbreviate** (-tē), *a*, shortened, cut short. **abbreviation**, *n*, the act of abridging or contracting; an abridged or shortened form, e.g. of a word. **abbreviator**, *n*. **abbreviatory**, *a*, abbreviating or tending to abbreviate. **abbreviature**, *n*, an abbreviation.

**ABC<sup>1</sup>**, *n*, the alphabet; rudiments, first principles. (the first letters of the alphabet)

**ABC<sup>2</sup>, (abbr.)** American Broadcasting Company; Associated British Cinemas; Australian Broadcasting Commission.

**abdicate** (əb'dikət), *v. t.* to resign, to formally renounce, to give up. *v. i.* to abandon or relinquish a throne, or other dignity or privilege. **abdicable**, *a*. **abdicator**, *a*, abdicating, renouncing. *n*, one who abdicates, an abdicator. **abdication**, *n*, the act of abdicating. **abdicator**, *n*.

**abdomen** (əb'dəmən), *n*, that portion of the trunk which lies between the thorax and the pelvis; the belly; the posterior division of the body in the higher arthropods. **abdominal** (-dɒm'ɪ-), *a*, pertaining to the abdomen. **abdominal regions**, *n*, pl, certain portions of the body near to or including the belly. **abdominally**, *adv.*

**abduce** (əb'dʌs'), *v. t.* to draw or pull from one part to another by an abductor, to lead away. **abducent**, *a*, having the property of drawing back or away.

**abduct** (əb'dʌkt'), *v. t.* to take away (esp. a woman or child, by guile or force, to kidnap. **abduction**, *n*, a leading or drawing away; separation of parts or a bone after a fracture, or of sides of a wound; the illegal taking away of a person, esp. a child or a woman, by fraud or force. **abductor**, *n*.

**abstem** (əb'em), *adv.* on a line at right angles to the keel of



**a-chip.**  
**abecedarian** (abəsədə'riən), *a.* alphabetical; having verses distinguished by letters alphabetically arranged like the 119th Psalm.  
**abed** (əbed'), *adv.* in bed, gone to bed.  
**Aberdeen** (əbədeen'), *n.* a rough-haired Scotch terrier.  
**Aberdonian** (dəb'), *n.* (sometimes derog.) a native or inhabitant of Aberdeen, supposedly noted for thrift. *a.* belonging to Aberdeen.  
**aberrance** (əb'ra:ns), *-cy, n.* a wandering from the right way.  
**aberrant**, *a.* wandering from the right way; deviating from the normal type.  
**aberration**, *n.* deviation from the normal course or standard; departure from rule; deviation from type; the difference between the true and observed position of a heavenly body; deviation of focused rays preventing them from uniting in a point.  
**abet** (əbet'), *v.t.* (past, *p.p.* **abetted**) to encourage or aid (a person or cause) by word or deed, esp. in wrongdoing; to countenance, stimulate or instigate (chiefly in a bad sense).  
**abettor**, *n.* **abetter**, (*Law*) **abettor**, *n.* one who encourages or instigates another; an accessory.  
**abeyance** (əbə'eins), *n.* the state of being held back, suspended; dormancy, quiescence. *in abeyance*, being suspended or set aside temporarily; (*Law*) waiting for an occupant or owner.  
**abhor** (əb'ha:v, əb'əw'), *v.t.* (past, *p.p.* **abhorred**) to hate extremely, detest; to shrink from with horror.  
**abhorrence** (ə'ho:-), *-ency, n.* **abhorrent**, *a.* exciting repugnance, hatred.  
**abhorrently**, *adv.* **abhorrer**, *n.*  
**Abib** (ə'bib), *n.* the first month of the ancient Hebrew calendar, corresponding to Nissan.  
**abide** (əbid'), *v.t.* to dwell or live in a place; to stay, wait; to continue, remain firm. *v.i.* to await; to submit to; to endure, tolerate. *to abide by*, to remain beside, adhere to (rules, wishes etc.).  
**abidance**, *n.* continuance.  
**abider**, *n.* **abiding**, *a.* continuing, permanent, durable. *n.* continuance, residence.  
**abidingly**, *adv.*  
**Abies** (əb'i:z), *n.* a genus of conifers, containing the silver fir, spruces, larches and cedars.  
**abietic** (ə'ti:-), *a.* pertaining to or derived from trees of this genus.  
**abiet**, *comb. form.* stems of various chemical terms relating to substances so derived.  
**ability** (əb'il'iti), *n.* physical, mental or moral power; capacity, competence; wealth, means; (*pl.*) intellectual gifts.  
**ab initio** (əb inish'io), *adv.* from the beginning. [*L.*]  
**abiogenesis** (əb'iojēn'əsis), *n.* the theory that living matter can be produced from that which has no life; spontaneous generation.  
**abiogenetic** (ə'bi-), *a.* **abiogenetically**, *adv.*  
**abiogenist** (ə'bi-), *n.* one who believes in abiogenesis.  
**abiogenous** (ə'bi-), *a.* produced by abiogenesis.  
**abiotic** (əb'iot'ik), *a.* not living, not produced by living organisms.  
**abject** (əb'jekt), *a.* cast away; sunk to a low condition; servile, degraded, morally debased; mean, low.  
**abjectedness** (ə'jekt-), *n.* **abjection**, *n.* the act of casting away; the state of being cast away; abasement.  
**abjectly**, *adv.* **abjectness**, *n.*  
**abjure** (əb'ju:ə), *v.t., v.i.* to renounce or retract (anything) upon oath.  
**abjuration** (əb-), *n.* the act of abjuring on oath; a denial or renunciation on oath.  
**abjunctive** (ə'ri-), *a.* **abjurement**, *n.* **abjurer**, *n.*  
**ablate** (əblak'it), *v.t.* to wean from the breast.  
**ablation** (əb-), *n.* the weaning of a child from the breast; grafting by incising.  
**ablation** (əblə'si:ən), *n.* removal, carrying away; weaning away.  
**ablate**, *v.t.* **ablatively** (əb'lə-), *a.* taking away, separating, subtractive. *n.* the grammatical case in Latin and other languages expressing separation, instrumentality, and other relations expressed in English by the prepositions from, by, with etc.  
**ablative absolute**, *n.* in Latin grammar, a construction with noun and participle, noun and adjective, in the ablative case, expressing time or

circumstances.  
**ablative** (əblə'ti:-), *a.*  
**ablator** (əblə'tə), *n.* an instrument for excising diseased parts; an instrument for removing the tails of sheep.  
**ablaut** (əb'ləwt'), *n.* a vowel change in the middle of a word to indicate modification in meaning, as *sit, set, rise, raise, ring, rang, hung*.  
**ablaze** (əblə'z), *adv., a.* on fire, in a blaze; brilliant; excited.  
**able** (ə'bl), *a.* having sufficient physical, mental, moral or spiritual power, or acquired skill, or financial or other resources (to do something); gifted, vigorous, active.  
**able-bodied**, *a.* having a sound, strong body; experienced, skilled (applied to a sailor who is classed as *as*, and called an **able-seaman**).  
**ableism**, *n.* discrimination in favour of able-bodied people.  
**ableist**, *a.* **ably** (əb'li), *adv.* in an able manner; with ability.  
**-able** (ə'bl), *adj.* able, or likely, to; fit, suitable for, that may be, full of, as in *likeable, eatable, saleable, reasonable*.  
**-ably** (ə'bl), *adv.* **-ability** (ə'biliti), *n.*  
**ablegate** (əb'ligəti), *n.* a papal envoy sent with insignia to new cardinals etc.  
**abloom** (əb'lum'), *a., adv.* blooming, in a state of bloom.  
**abluent** (əb'lju:nt), *a.* cleansing, washing away. *n.* that which washes off or carries off impurities.  
**abluition** (əb'lju:'ʃən), *n.* (often *pl.*) the act of washing, cleansing or purifying by means of water or other liquids; a ceremonial or symbolical washing or cleansing; (*coll.*) a building containing washing facilities, as in a military camp.  
**abluitionary**, *a.*  
**ABM**, (*abbr.*) antiballistic missile.  
**abnegate** (əb'negəti), *v.t.* to deny, to refuse, to renounce.  
**abnegation**, *n.* **abnegative** (ə'gə:-), *a.* implying denial, negative.  
**abnegator**, *n.*  
**abnormal** (əb'nɔ:məl), *a.* not according to rule, departing from the ordinary type.  
**abnormality** (ə'bɔ:məl'iti), *n.* irregularity, deformity.  
**abnormally**, *adv.*  
**Abn** (əb'ɒn), *n.* (*offensive*) an aboriginal native of Australia.  
**aboard** (əbɔ:d'), *adv.* on board, on a ship or boat. *prep.* into a ship.  
**abode** (əbɔ:d'), *n.* past of **ABIDE**, dwelt, stayed. *n.* continuance for a longer or shorter period in any place; residence; a habitation. *to make (one's) abode*, to dwell, reside.  
**abolish** (əbəl'ish), *v.t.* to do away with, put an end to, destroy; to annul, cancel or revoke (used of laws, customs, institutions or offices).  
**abolishable**, *a.* **abolisher**, *n.* **abolishment**, *n.* **abolition**, *n.* the act of abolishing or doing away with; the state of being abolished.  
**abolitionism**, *n.* one who holds views in favour of abolition, esp. one who favoured the abolition of slavery during the 18th and 19th cents.  
**abomasum** (əbəmə'səm), *-masa* (-sə), *n.* (*pl.* **-a** (-sə), **-a** (-sə)) the fourth stomach in a ruminating mammal.  
**abominate** (əbəm'ineit), *v.t.* to loathe, to hate exceedingly.  
**abominable**, *a.* very hateful or odious, physically or morally.  
**abominable snowman**, *n.* the yeti.  
**abominableness**, *n.* **abominably**, *adv.* **abomination**, *n.* the act of doing something hateful; the state of being greatly hated or loathed; an object of extreme hatred or loathing.  
**aborigine** (əbɔ:ri'jin), *n.* an indigenous or original inhabitant of a continent, country or district; (*Aborigines*) a member of a dark-skinned people indigenous to Australia.  
**aboriginal**, *a.* original, indigenous, inhabiting a place from the earliest times. *n.* an original inhabitant (esp. of Australia); a member of the original fauna or flora.  
**aboriginally**, *adv.* from the beginning, from the first; originally.  
**abort** (əbɔ:t'), *v.t.* to miscarry, bring forth prematurely; to undergo partial or entire arrest of development. *v.i.* to give birth to before the proper time; to induce the abortion of; to terminate prematurely or in the early stages.  
**abortifacient** (əbɔ:t'ifə'si:ənt), *n.* a device or drug to induce abortion.  
**abortive**, *a.* the act of miscarriage; the