

deliver



Reference Unabridged Dictionary

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1 de·liv·er verb \ də'livə(r)
, də' - \

delivered; delivered; delivering \ -v(ə)rɪŋ
\ ; delivers

transitive verb

1 : to set free from restraint : set at liberty : release or liberate especially from control : rescue from actual or feared evil : FREE ([/unabridged/free](#)), SAVE ([/unabridged/save](#)) <he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul — Ezekiel 33:5 (Authorized Version)>—often used with *from* or *out of* <delivered him from captivity>

2 : GIVE ([/unabridged/give](#)), TRANSFER ([/unabridged/transfer](#)) : yield possession or control of : make or hand over : make delivery of : COMMIT ([/unabridged/commit](#)), SURRENDER ([/unabridged/surrender](#)), RESIGN ([/unabridged/resign](#)) —often used with *up* or *over*, *to* or *into* <thou shalt deliver Pharaoh's cup into his hand — Genesis 40:13 (Authorized Version)> <the constables have delivered her over — Shakespeare>

3a : to assist (a parturient female) in giving birth <she was delivered of a fine boy> <the doctor has delivered several thousand women in his long career> also : to aid in the birth of <sometimes it is necessary to deliver a child with forceps>

b : to give birth to <she delivered a pair of healthy twins after a short labor>

c : to cause (oneself) to produce something as if by giving birth <has delivered himself of half an autobiography — H. C. Schonberg>

4a : to disburden (as oneself) in words : give forth in words : UTTER ([/unabridged/utter](#)), SPEAK ([/unabridged/speak](#)), ENUNCIATE ([/unabridged/enunciate](#)) <he delivered his speech effectively>

b : to make known to another : COMMUNICATE ([/unabridged/communicate](#)) <they delivered their ultimatum to the enemy>

5 : to send (something aimed or guided) to an intended destination <delivering a short uppercut to the jaw> <the frigate delivered a smashing broadside> <the pitcher delivered a curve to the batter>

6 archaic : to unload (as a ship) of cargo : EMPTY (/unabridged/empty)

7a : to bring (as votes) to the support of a particular candidate or cause <couldn't deliver the votes of his ward>

b : to come through with : PRODUCE (/unabridged/produce) <the new car delivers high gas mileage>

intransitive verb

1 : to set one free : DISBURDEN (/unabridged/disburden) <a deliverance which does not deliver — R. W. Emerson>

2 : UTTER (/unabridged/utter), DISCOURSE (/unabridged/discourse) <he delivered beautifully but his speech had little real content> sometimes : to express an opinion or judgment

3 : to give birth to offspring <patients that repeatedly deliver prematurely present special problems>

4 : to produce the promised, desired, or expected results : come through <failed to deliver on their promises>

deliver a jail

: to clear a jail by bringing all the prisoners to trial

deliver the goods

: to give results that are promised, expected, or desired

Origin of DELIVER

Middle English *deliveren*, from Old French *delivrer*, from Late Latin *deliberare*, from Latin *de-* + *liberare* to free — more at liberate (/unabridged/liberate)

First Known Use: 13th century (transitive sense 1)

Related to DELIVER

See Synonym Discussion at free (/unabridged/free), rescue (/unabridged/rescue)

Pronunciation Symbols (/info/pronsymbols.html)

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