

# lob·by *noun* \ˈlə-bē\

*plural -es*

**1 a** : a corridor or hall connected with a larger room or series of rooms and used as a passageway or waiting room

<ignorant where the narrow *lobbies* led — Emily Brontë>

<this *lobby* of many doors at the head of the windowed staircase — Elizabeth Bowen>

<the small *lobby* of the post office — Willard Robertson>

: such as

(1) : one of the two corridors or anterooms of the British House of Commons to which members go to vote when the House divides on a motion

<time and again, on issues of foreign policy, Labor and Conservative MPs have gone into the same *lobby* — *New Republic*>

(2) : a large hall serving as a foyer or anteroom

<a hotel *lobby*>

<a theater *lobby*>

(3) : an anteroom of a capitol

**b** *archaic* : a small room or enclosure: such as (1) : a small apartment on board ship (2) : a small enclosed pen for cattle (3) : a watchman's enclosure in or outside a factory

**2 a** : the persons who frequent the *lobbies* of a legislative house to do business with the members; *specifically* : persons not members of a legislative body and not holding government office who attempt to influence legislators or other public officials through personal contact

**b** : a particular group of such persons representing a special interest

## Origin of LOBBY

Medieval Latin *lobium*, *lobia*, *laubia* covered walk, gallery, portico, of Germanic origin; akin to Old High German *louba*, *louppea* protective roof, porch — more at [LODGE](#)

First Known Use: 1593 (sense 1a)

## Related to LOBBY

**Synonyms:** hall, foyer

**Related Words:** entranceway, entry, entryway, hallway, vestibule; concourse, corridor, gallery, passageway; antechamber, anteroom, chamber, waiting room

## Pronunciation Symbols

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