

# Merriam-Webster

SINCE 1828

[GAMES & QUIZZES](#) [THESAURUS](#) [WORD OF THE DAY](#) [FEATURES](#)

- [SHOP](#)

[Buying Guide](#) [M-W Books](#)

- [LOG IN](#)
- [REGISTER](#)
- [settings](#) [log out](#)

- [MY WORDSMY WORDS](#)



dictionary  
thesaurus

[view recents](#)

[Log in](#) [Sign Up](#)

Hello,

[Games & Quizzes](#) [Thesaurus](#) [Word of the Day](#) [Features](#) [Buying Guide](#) [M-W Books](#)

- [My WordsMy Words](#)
- [View Recents](#)
- [Account](#)

[Log Out](#)


# medical

[adjective](#)

[Save Word](#)

To save this word, you'll need to log in.

[Log In](#)


med·i·cal | \ 'me-di-kəl  \

## Definition of *medical*

- 1 : of, relating to, or concerned with [physicians](#) or the practice of medicine the medical profession a medical journal
- 2 : requiring or devoted to medical treatment a medical problem an important advance in medical science

[Other Words from \*medical\*](#) [More Example Sentences](#) [Learn More About \*medical\*](#)

## Other Words from *medical*

medically \ 'me-di-k(ə-)lē  \ adverb

## Examples of *medical* in a Sentence

He has a dangerous *medical* condition. The report was published in a leading *medical* journal.

See More  

Recent Examples on the Web The order was canceled after the Polish government was criticized for planning to spend hundreds of thousands of zlotys on religious equipment while failing to pay teachers and *medical* staff their full wages. — Ian Buruma, *Harper's Magazine*, 18 Jan. 2022 On the recommendation of IU's *medical* staff, the athletic department has invested in KN95 and surgical masks over cloth masks like the ones the school provided to all students at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. — Matt Cohen, *The Indianapolis Star*, 16 Jan. 2022

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'medical.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback](#).

See More 

## First Known Use of *medical*

1646, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

## History and Etymology for *medical*

French or Late Latin; French *médical*, from Late Latin *medicalis*, from Latin *medicus* physician, from *mederi* to remedy, heal; akin to Avestan *vī-mad-* healer, Greek *medesthai* to be mindful of — more at [mete](#)

## Learn More About *medical*

Share *medical*

[Post the Definition of medical to Facebook](#)



[Share the Definition of medical on Twitter](#)



Time Traveler for *medical*



## The first known use of *medical* was in 1646

[See more words from the same year](#)

## Dictionary Entries Near *medical*

[Medicaid](#)

[medical](#)

[medical center](#)

[See More Nearby Entries](#)

## Phrases Related to *medical*

[medical center](#)

[medical facility](#)

[medical history](#)

## Statistics for *medical*

Last Updated

20 Jan 2022

Look-up Popularity

Top 2% of words

Cite this Entry

“Medical.” *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/medical>. Accessed 28 Jan. 2022.

**Style:** MLA

MLA  Chicago  APA  Merriam-Webster

Seen & Heard

People are talking about

AdChoices 

Sponsored

Last viewed by the First Circuit Library on January 28, 2022

More Definitions for *medical*

medical

adjective




## English Language Learners Definition of *medical*

: of or relating to the treatment of diseases and injuries : of or relating to medicine

[See the full definition for \*medical\* in the English Language Learners Dictionary](#)

medical

adjective

med·i·cal | \ 'me-di-kəl  \

## Kids Definition of *medical*


: of or relating to the science or practice of medicine *medical* care

Other Words from *medical*

medically adverb

medical

adjective


med·i·cal | \ 'med-i-kəl  \

## Medical Definition of *medical*

(Entry 1 of 2)

1 : of, relating to, or concerned with physicians or the practice of [medicine](#) often as distinguished from surgery  
 2 : requiring or devoted to medical treatment a medical emergency

Other Words from *medical*

medically \ -k(ə-)lē  \ adverb

medical

noun

Medical Definition of *medical* (Entry 2 of 2)

: a medical examination

More from Merriam-Webster on *medical*

English: [Translation of \*medical\* for Spanish Speakers](#)

Britannica English: [Translation of \*medical\* for Arabic Speakers](#)

WORD OF THE DAY

myopic 

[See Definitions and Examples »](#)

Get Word of the Day daily email!

Your email address

**SUBSCRIBE**

[Test Your Vocabulary](#)

Name that Thing: Flower Edition

- Name that flower

[hyacinth](#)[amaryllis](#)[chrysanthemum](#)[hydrangea](#)

---

Test your knowledge - and maybe learn something along the way.

[TAKE THE QUIZ](#)

---

A daily challenge for crossword fanatics.

[TAKE THE QUIZ](#)

---

## Love words? Need even more definitions?

Subscribe to America's largest dictionary and get thousands more definitions and advanced search—ad free!

MERRIAM-WEBSTER UNABRIDGED

---

### WORDS AT PLAY

## “In Vino Veritas” and Other Latin Phrases to Live By

- Top 10 Latin Phrases

## 'Fewer' and 'Less'

We all want fewer problems and

- less trouble with ...

## 10 Polite Words for Impolite People

- 'Smatchet', 'Fustilugs', and more

## Is It 'Home In' or 'Hone In'?

Both are used, but *home in* does a

- better job of...

## ASK THE EDITORS

---

## 'Everyday' vs. 'Every Day'

A simple trick to keep them

- separate

## What Is 'Semantic Bleaching'?

How 'literally' can mean

- "figuratively"



## Literally

How to use a word that (literally)

- drives some pe...

## Is Singular 'They' a Better Choice?

- The awkward case of 'his or her'

## WORD GAMES

---

### Confusing Words—A Quiz

Updated with more commonly confused words!

- **TAKE THE QUIZ**

### Comfy, Cozy Words

A warm and toasty quiz to nestle into

- **TAKE THE QUIZ**

### True or False?

Test your knowledge - and maybe learn something a...

- **TAKE THE QUIZ**

Learn a new word every day. Delivered to your inbox!

Your email address

OTHER MERRIAM-WEBSTER DICTIONARIES

- LEARNER'S ESL DICTIONARY
- MERRIAM-WEBSTER DICTIONARY APP
- SCRABBLE® WORD FINDER
- MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY
- BRITANNICA ENGLISH - ARABIC TRANSLATION
- ENGLISH - SPANISH, ENGLISH TRANSLATION

FOLLOW US



Browse the Dictionary: [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#)  
[V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#) [0-9](#)

[Home](#) | [Help](#) | [Apps](#) | [About Us](#) | [Shop](#) | [Advertising Info](#) | [Dictionary API](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Join MWU](#) | [Videos](#) | [Word of the Year](#) | [Vocabulary Resources](#) | [Law Dictionary](#) | [Medical Dictionary](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#)

[Browse the Thesaurus](#) | [Browse the Medical Dictionary](#) | [Browse the Legal Dictionary](#)

© 2022 Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

Last viewed by the First Circuit Library on January 28, 2022