

HOW-TO GUIDE

Homepage navigation

OED's quick search functionality can be accessed from all pages on the website, either from the homepage, or from the top navigation bar on each page.

There's a drop down selector so that you can choose to search either the dictionary or the Historical Thesaurus.

Discover more resources from the OED, including World Englishes, word lists, and supporting commentaries for the latest OED updates.

The navigation bar also includes a sign-in link, a link to the information hub, and a link to the advanced search functionality.

The homepage is where you'll find the Word of the Day, lists of recently added or updated words, and links through to other resources.

The screenshot shows the OED homepage layout. At the top is the OED logo and a search bar with a dropdown menu. Below the search bar is a section titled 'The historical English dictionary' with a brief description and a link to 'Find out more about OED'. The main content area is divided into three columns: 'About the OED' (600,000 words, 3.5 million quotations), 'Understanding Entries' (guidance on how to use the dictionary), and 'Editorial policy' (information on the dictionary's mission). Below these are three sections: 'Recently added' (listing words like 'conventioning', 'macapuno', 'trending'), 'Word of the day' (featuring 'boughten' as an adjective), and 'Recently updated' (listing words like 'bring-a-bottle', 'docky', 'erm'). At the bottom are four resource boxes: 'Word stories', 'Word Lists', 'World Englishes', and 'History of English'. The footer contains links to 'About OED', 'How to use the OED', 'Contribute', 'Oxford University Press', and 'Cookie policy'.

OED | Oxford English Dictionary

Dictionary

The historical English dictionary

The OED is an unsurpassed guide to the meaning, history, and pronunciation of 600,000 words from across the English-speaking world. It is an essential tool for academic researchers who need rich English language data.

[Find out more about OED >](#)

About the OED

600,000 words ... 3.5 million quotations ... over 1000 years of English. Find out more about what the OED is today

[Find out more >](#)

Understanding Entries

Keep reading to discover how to get the most out of OED entries. From pronunciations to abbreviations, everything you need to know to understand our entries are in these pages.

[Find out more >](#)

Editorial policy

Here you will find articles on how we edit the OED, and the reasoning behind our decision making. Our mission has always been the same: To be the definitive historical...

[Find out more >](#)

Recently added

conventioning
macapuno
trending
coenurosis
expressibility
bittereinder

hindwing
bitye
syndemic
Edwards' syndrome
jailbreaker
express lane

Word of the day

boughten
ADJECTIVE

Obtained in exchange for payment; now esp. purchased as distinct from home-made.

Recently updated

bring-a-bottle
docky
court reporter
Bitrex
Edwards' syndrome
bit

erm
headcanon
bitou
live-fire
expressibility
forward march

Word stories

Read our collection of word stories detailing the etymology and semantic development of a wider of words.

Word Lists

Access our word lists and commentaries on an array of fascinating topics, from film-based coinages to Tex-Mex terms.

World Englishes

Explore our World Englishes hub and access our resources on the varieties of English spoken throughout the world by people of diverse cultural backgrounds.

History of English

Here you can find a series of commentaries on the History of English, charting the history of the English language from Old English to the present day.

About OED
Historical Thesaurus
Editorial policy
Updates
Institutional Account management

How to use the OED
Purchasing
Help with access
Varieties of English
Word of the Day

Contribute
Accessibility
Contact us
Events & Webinars
Media Enquiries

Oxford University Press
Oxford Languages
Oxford Academic
Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

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