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English

Etymology 1

From Middle English closen (“to close, enclose”), partly continuing (in altered form) earlier Middle English clusen (“to close”) (from Old English clȳsan (“to close, shut”); compare beclose, foreclose, etc.), and partly derived from Middle English clos (“close, shut up, confined, secret”, adjective), from Old French clos (“close, confined”, adjective), from Latin clausus (“shut up”, past participle), from claudere (“to bar, block, close, enclose, bring an end to, confinē”), from Proto-Indo-European *klāw- (“key, hook, nail”), related to Latin clāvis (“key, deadbolt, bar”), clāvus (“nail, peg”), claustrum (“bar, bolt, barrier”), claustra (“dam, wall, barricade, stronghold”). Cognate with Ancient Greek κλεῖς (*kleís*, “bar, bolt, key”), German schließen (“to close, conclude, lock”), Dutch sluiten (“to close, conclude, lock”). Replaced Old English lūcan (“to close, lock, enclose”).

Pronunciation

- (*Received Pronunciation*) enPR: klōz, IPA^(key): /kloʊz/
- (*General American*) enPR: klōz, IPA^(key): /kloʊz/
- Rhymes: -əʊz
- Audio (US)  0:00
- Homophone: clothes (*in some dialects*)

Verb

close (*third-person singular simple present* **closes**, *present participle* **closing**, *simple past and past participle* **closed**)

1. (*physical*) To remove a gap.

1. To obstruct (an opening).
2. To move so that an opening is closed.

***Close** the door behind you when you leave.
Jim was listening to headphones with his eyes **closed**.*

3. To make (e.g. a gap) smaller

*The runner in second place is **closing** the gap on the leader
to **close** the ranks of an army*

4. To grapple; to engage in close combat.

2. (*social*) To finish, to terminate.

1. To put an end to; to conclude; to complete; to finish; to consummate.

***close** the session; to **close** a bargain; to **close** a course of instruction*

2. To come to an end.

*The debate **closed** at six o'clock.*

3. (*marketing*) To make a sale.

4. (*baseball, pitching*) To make the final outs, usually three, of a game.

*He has **closed** the last two games for his team.*

5. (*figuratively, computing*) To terminate an application, window, file or database connection, etc.

3. To come or gather around; to enclose; to encompass; to confine.

4. (*surveying*) To have a vector sum of 0; that is, to form a closed polygon.

Synonyms

- (*obstruct (an opening)*): close off, close up, cover, shut, shut off
- (*move (a door)*): shut
- (*put an end to*): end, finish, terminate, wind up, close down

- (make (a gap) smaller): narrow
- (terminate a computer program): close out, exit

Antonyms

- (obstruct (an opening)): open
- (move (a door)): open
- (put an end to): begin, commence, initiate, start
- (make (a gap) smaller): extend, widen
- (terminate a computer program): open, start

Hyponyms

- autoclose

Derived terms

Terms derived from *close*

Related terms

Related terms

Translations

obstruct (an opening)

move (a door)

close (one's eyes)

put an end to

to make smaller

surveying: to have a vector sum of 0

to make a sale

Noun

close (plural **closes**)

1. An end or conclusion.

*We owe them our thanks for bringing the ~~proj~~ect to a successful**close**.*

2. The manner of shutting; the union of parts; junction.
3. A grapple in wrestling.

(Can we find and add a quotation of Francis Bacon to this entry?)

4. (*music*) The conclusion of a strain of music; cadence.
5. (*music*) A double bar marking the end.

Synonyms

- (*end*): end, finale

Antonyms

- (*end*): beginning, start

Translations

end or conclusion

Etymology 2

Borrowed from French clos, from Latin clausum, participle of claudō.

Pronunciation

- (*Received Pronunciation*) enPR: klōs, IPA^(key): /kləʊs/
- (*General American*) IPA^(key): /kloʊs/
- Audio (UK) ▶ 0:00
- Audio (US) ▶ 0:00
- Rhymes: -əʊs

Adjective

close (*comparative* **closer**, *superlative* **closest**)

1. (*now rare*) Closed, shut.
2. Narrow; confined.

a **close** alley; **close** quarters

3. At a little distance; near.

Is your house **close**?

4. Intimate; well-loved.

He is a **close** friend.

1. (*law*) Of a corporation or other business entity closely held.
5. Oppressive; without motion or ventilation; causing a feeling of lassitude.
6. (*Ireland, England, Scotland weather*) Hot, humid, with no wind.
7. (*linguistics, phonetics, of a vowel*) Articulated with the tongue body relatively close to the hard palate.
8. Strictly confined; carefully guarded.

a **close** prisoner

9. (*obsolete*) Out of the way of observation; secluded; secret; hidden.
10. Nearly equal; almost evenly balanced.

a **close** contest

11. Short.

to cut grass or hair **close**

12. (*archaic*) Dense; solid; compact.

13. (*archaic*) Concise; to the point.

close reasoning

14. (*dated*) Difficult to obtain.

Money is close.

(Can we find and add a quotation of Bartlett to this entry?)

15. (*dated*) Parsimonious; stingy

16. Adhering strictly to a standard or original; exact.

a close translation

(Can we find and add a quotation of John Locke to this entry?)

17. Accurate; careful; precise; also, attentive; undeviating; strict.

The patient was kept under close observation.

18. Marked, evident.

Synonyms

- (*at a little distance*): close by, near, nearby
- (*intimate*): intimate
- (*hot, humid*): muggy, oppressive
- (*articulated with the tongue body relatively close to the hard palate*) high

Antonyms

- (*at a little distance*): distant, far, far away, far off, remote
- (*intimate*): aloof, cool, distant
- (*articulated with the tongue body relatively close to the hard palate*) open

Hyponyms

- thisclose
- ultra-close

Derived terms

- closely
- closeness
- close-up

Related terms

- close call
- close shave

Translations

at a little distance

intimate

hot and humid or muggy

Noun

close (*plural* **closes**)

1. (*now rare*) An enclosed field.
2. (*Britain*) A street that ends in a dead end.
3. (*Scotland*) A very narrow alley between two buildings, often overhung by one of the buildings above the ground floor
4. (*Scotland*) The common staircase in atenement
5. A cathedral close
6. (*law*) The interest which one may have in a piece of ground, even though it is not enclosed.

(Can we find and add a quotation of Bouvier to this entry?)

Synonyms

- (*street*): cul-de-sac
- (*narrow alley*): For semantic relationships of this term, see alley in the Thesaurus.

Translations

street

narrow alley between two buildings in Scotland

Anagrams

- Coles, coles, socle

French

Adjective

close

1. *feminine singular of* **clos**

Verb

close

1. *first-person singular present subjunctive of* **clore**
2. *third-person singular present subjunctive of* **clore**

Participle

close

1. *feminine singular of the past participle of* **clore**

Anagrams

- socle
-

Portuguese

Noun

close *m* (plural **closes**)

1. (*photography*) close-up (photography in which the subject is shown at a large scale)
2. attitude

Synonyms

- close-up

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