

and to which the other colors are applied to make the representation; as crimson on a white *ground*. *Encyc.*

9. In *manufactures*, the principal color, to which others are considered as ornamental. *Hakevill.*

10. *Grounds*, plural, the bottom of liquors; dregs; lees; fèces; as coffee *grounds*; the *grounds* of strong beer.

11. The plain song; the tune on which descants are raised.

On that *ground*, I'll build a holy descant. *Shak.*

12. In *etching*, a gummy composition spread over the surface of the metal to be etched, to prevent the nitric acid from eating, except where the ground is opened with the point of a needle. *Encyc.*

13. Field or place of action. He fought with fury, and would not quit the *ground*.

14. In *music*, the name given to a composition in which the base, consisting of a few bars of independent notes, is continually repeated to a continually varying melody. *Bushy.*

15. The foil to set a thing off. *Obs. Shak.*

16. Formerly, the pit of a play house.

*B. Jonson.*

To *gain ground*, to advance; to proceed forward in conflict; as, an army in battle *gains ground*. Hence, to obtain an advantage; to have some success; as, the army *gains ground* on the enemy. Hence,

2. To *gain credit*; to prevail; to become more general or extensive; as, the opinion *gains ground*.

To *lose ground*, to retire; to retreat; to withdraw from the position taken. Hence, to lose advantage. Hence,

2. To *lose credit*; to decline; to become less in force or extent.

To *give ground*, to recede; to yield advantage.

To *get ground*, and to *gather ground*, are seldom used.

**GROUND**, *v. t.* To lay or set on the ground.

2. To found; to fix or set, as on a foundation, cause, reason or principle; as arguments *grounded* on reason; faith *grounded* on scriptural evidence.

3. To settle in first principles; to fix firmly. Being rooted and *grounded* in love. *Eph. iii.*

**GROUND**, *v. i.* To run aground; to strike the bottom and remain fixed; as, the ship *grounded* in two fathoms of water.

**GROUND**, *part. and pp. of grind.*

**GROUND-AGE**, *n.* A tax paid by a ship for standing in port. *Blount.*

**GROUND-ANGLING**, *n.* Fishing without a float, with a bullet placed a few inches from the hook.

**GROUND-ASH**, *n.* A sapling of ash; a young shoot from the stump of an ash.

*Mortimer.*

**GROUND-BAIT**, *n.* Bait for fish which sinks to the bottom of the water.

*Walton.*

**GROUND-FLOOR**, *n.* The first or lower floor of a house. But the English call the second floor from the ground the *first floor*.

**GROUND-IVY**, *n.* A well known plant, the *Glechoma hederacea*; called also *ale-hoof* and *gill*.

**GROUND-LESS**, *a.* Wanting ground or foundation; wanting cause or reason for support; as *groundless* fear.

2. Not authorized; false; as a *groundless* report or assertion.

**GROUND-LESSLY**, *a.* Without reason or cause; without authority for support.

*Boyle.*

**GROUND-LESSNESS**, *n.* Want of just cause, reason or authority for support.

*Tillotson.*

**GROUND-LING**, *n.* A fish that keeps at the bottom of the water; hence, a low vulgar person.

*Shak.*

**GROUND-LY**, *adv.* Upon principles; solidly. [*A bad word and not used.*]

*Ascham.*

**GROUND-NUT**, *n.* A plant, the *Arachis*, a native of South America.

**GROUND-OAK**, *n.* A sapling of oak.

*Mortimer.*

**GROUND-PINE**, *n.* A plant, a species of *Teucrium* or *germander*; said to be so called from its resinous smell.

*Encyc. Hill.*

**GROUND-PLATE**, *n.* In *architecture*, the ground-plates are the outermost pieces of timber lying on or near the ground, framed into one another with mortises and tenons.

*Harris.*

**GROUND-PLOT**, *n.* The ground on which a building is placed.

2. The ichnography of a building.

*Johnson.*

**GROUND-RENT**, *n.* Rent paid for the privilege of building on another man's land.

*Johnson.*

**GROUND-ROOM**, *n.* A room on the ground; a lower room.

*Tatler.*

**GROUND-SEL**, *n.* A plant of the genus *Senecio*, of several species.

**GROUND-SELL**, *n.* [*ground*, and *Sax. syll.* basis, allied probably to *L. sella*, that which is set. See *Sell*.]

The timber of a building which lies next to the ground; commonly called a *sill*.

**GROUND-TACKLE**, *n.* In ships, the ropes and furniture belonging to anchors.

**GROUND-WORK**, *n.* The work which forms the foundation or support of any thing; the basis; the fundamentals.

2. The ground; that to which the rest are additional.

*Dryden.*

3. First principle; original reason.

*Dryden.*

**GRÖUP**, *n.* [*It. groppo*, a knot, a bunch; *GROUP*, *n.* Fr. *groupe*; Sp. *grupo*. It is radically the same word as *croup*, *crupper*, *rump*; W. *grab*, a cluster, a *grape*.]

1. A cluster, crowd or throng; an assemblage, either of persons or things; a number collected without any regular form or arrangement; as a *group* of men or of trees; a *group* of isles.

2. In *painting* and *sculpture*, an assemblage of two or more figures of men, beasts or other things which have some relation to each other.

**GROUP**, *v. t.* [*Fr. grouper*.] To form a *GROUP*; *v. t.* group; to bring or place together in a cluster or knot; to form an assemblage.

The difficulty lies in drawing and disposing, or as the painters term it, in *grouping* such a multitude of different objects.

*Prior.*

**GRÖUPED**, *pp.* Formed or placed in a crowd.

**GRÖUPED**, *pp.*

**GRÖUP'ING**, *n.* Bringing together in a *GRÖUP'ING*, *pp.* cluster or assemblage. **GRÖUP'ING**, *n.* The art of composing or combining the objects of a picture or piece of sculpture.

*Cyc.*

**GROUSE**, *n. grouse*. [*Pers. خروس* goros, gros, a cock.]

A heath-cock or cock of the wood, a fowl of the genus *Tetrao*. The name is given to several species, forming a particular division of the genus; such as the black game, the red game, the partridge, the ruffed grouse, &c.

**GROUT**, *n.* [*Sax. grut*. See *Groat*.] Coarse meal; pollard.

2. A kind of wild apple. *Johnson.*

3. A thin coarse mortar.

4. That which purges off. *Warner.*

**GROVE**, *n.* [*Sax. grof, graf*, a grave, a cave, a grove; Goth. *groba*; from cutting an avenue, or from the resemblance of an avenue to a channel.]

1. In *gardening*, a small wood or cluster of trees with a shaded avenue, or a wood impervious to the rays of the sun. A grove is either open or close; open, when consisting of large trees whose branches shade the ground below; close, when consisting of trees and underwood, which defend the avenues from the rays of the sun and from violent winds. *Encyc.*

2. A wood of small extent. In America, the word is applied to a wood of natural growth in the field, as well as to planted trees in a garden, but only to a wood of small extent and not to a forest.

3. Something resembling a wood or trees in a wood.

Tall groves of masts arose in beauteous pride. *Trumbull.*

**GROVEL**, *v. i.* *grov'l*. [*Ice. grava*; *Chaucer*, *groff*, flat on the ground or face; *Scot.* on *grofse*; allied to *grobe*, which see.]

1. To creep on the earth, or with the face to the ground; to lie prone, or move with the body prostrate on the earth; to act in a prostrate posture.

Gaze on and grovel on thy face. *Shak.*

To creep and grovel on the ground. *Milton.*

2. To be low or mean; as *groveling* sense; *groveling* thoughts. *Dryden.*

**GROVELER**, *n.* One who grovels; an abject wretch.

**GROVELING**, *pp.* Creeping; moving on the ground.

2. *a.* Mean; without dignity or elevation.

**GROVY**, *a.* Pertaining to a grove; frequenting groves.

**GROW**, *v. i.* *pret. grew*; *pp. grown*. [*Sax. grovan*; *D. groeyen*; *Dan. groer*; *Sw. gro*; a contracted word; *W. crotian*, *crythu*, to grow, to swell. This is probably the same word as *L. cresco*, *Russ. rastu*, *rostu*, a dialectical variation of *croth* or *grath*. The French *croître*, and *Engl. increase*, retain the final consonant.]

1. To enlarge in bulk or stature, by a natural, imperceptible addition of matter, through ducts and secreting organs, as animal and vegetable bodies; to vegetate as plants, or to be augmented by natural process, as animals. Thus, a plant *grows* from a seed to a shrub or tree, and a human being *grows* from a fetus to a man.