

1. Pertaining to a corporation or city; as *municipal* rights; *municipal* officers.
2. Pertaining to a state, kingdom or nation.

Municipal law is properly defined to be a rule of civil conduct prescribed by the supreme power in a state—*Blackstone.*

Municipal, as used by the Romans, originally designated that which pertained to a *municipium*, a free city or town. It still retains this limited sense; but we have extended it to what belongs to a state or nation, as a distinct, independent body. *Municipal* law or regulation respects solely the citizens of a state, and is thus distinguished from *commercial* law, *political* law, and the *law of nations*.

MUNICIPALITY, n. In France, a certain district or division of the country; also, its inhabitants. *Burke.*

MUNIFICENCE, n. [Fr. from *L. munificentia*; *munus*, a gift or favor, and *facio*, to make.]

1. A giving or bestowing liberally; bounty; liberality. To constitute *munificence*, the act of conferring must be free, and proceed from generous motives.

A state of poverty obscures all the virtues of liberality and *munificence*. *Addison.*

2. In Spenser, fortification or strength. [*L. munio*, to fortify.] [*Not used.*]

MUNIFICENT, a. Liberal in giving or bestowing; generous; as a *munificent* benefactor or patron. *Atterbury.*

MUNIFICENTLY, adv. Liberally; generously.

MUNIMENT, n. [*L. munimentum*, from *munio*, to fortify.]

1. A fortification of any kind; a strong hold; a place of defense.
2. Support; defense. *Shak.*

3. Record; a writing by which claims and rights are defended or maintained. *Termes de la ley.* *Johnson's Rep.*

MUNITE, v. t. To fortify. [*Not in use.*] *Bacon.*

MUNITION, n. [Fr. from *L. munio*, from *munio*, to fortify. The primary sense is that which is set or fixed, or that which defends, drives back or hinders. Indeed, both senses may be from the same root,

Heb. Ch. מָנַע, Ar. مَنَعَ, or Heb. מָנַע amen. Class Mn. No. 10. 12.]

1. Fortification. *Obs.* *Hale.*
2. Ammunition; whatever materials are used in war for defense, or for annoying an enemy. The word includes guns of all kinds, mortars, &c. and their loading.
3. Provisions of a garrison or fortress, or for ships of war, and in general for an army; stores of all kinds for a fort, an army or navy.

Munition-ships, ships which convey military and naval stores of any kind, and attend or follow a fleet to supply ships of war.

MUNITY, n. Freedom; security. [*Not used.*] [See *Immunity*.]

MUNNION, n. *mun'yon*. [See *Munition*.] An upright piece of timber which separates the several lights in a window-frame. [See *Mullion*.] *Moxon.*

MUNS, } n. The mouth. [*Vulgar.*]

MUNDS, }

MURAGE, n. [*L. murus*, a wall.] Money paid for keeping walls in repair. *Termes de la ley.* *Johnson.*

MURAL, a. [*L. muralis*, from *mur*, a wall; *W. mur*, that which is fixed or firm; *murare*, to fix or establish. It seems to belong to the root of *moor*, to make fast, as a ship.]

1. Pertaining to a wall.

—Soon repaired her *mural* breach. *Milton.*

2. Resembling a wall; perpendicular or steep; as a *mural* precipice.

Mural crown, among the ancient Romans, a golden crown or circle of gold, indented and embattled, bestowed on him who first mounted the wall of a besieged place and there lodged a standard. *Encyc.*

MURDER, n. [Sax. *morther*, from *morh*, death; *myrthian*, to murder; *D. moord*; *G. Dan.* *Sw. mord*; *Ir. marbh*; *L. mors*; *Sp. muerte*; *It. morte*; *Pehlavi, murdan*, to die; *Sans. marana*; *W. marw*, to die, which seems to be from *marth*, lying flat or plain; *marthu*, to flatten, to deaden. If this is the sense, the primary idea is to fail or fall, or to beat down. The old orthography, *murther*, is obsolete.]

1. The act of unlawfully killing a human being with premeditated malice, by a person of sound mind. To constitute murder in law, the person killing another must be of sound mind or in possession of his reason, and the act must be done with malice premeditated, aforethought or premeditated; but malice may be implied, as well as express. *Coke. Blackstone.*

2. An outcry, when life is in danger.

MURDER, v. t. [Sax. *myrthian*; *D. moorden*; *G. morden*; *Sw. mörda*.]

1. To kill a human being with premeditated malice. [See the Noun.]

2. To destroy; to put an end to.

Canst thou *murder* thy breath in middle of a word? *Shak.*

MURDERED, pp. Slain with malice premeditated.

MURDERER, n. A person who in possession of his reason, unlawfully kills a human being with premeditated malice.

2. A small piece of ordnance.

MURDERESS, n. A female who commits murder. *Dryden.*

MURDERING, ppr. Killing a human being with malice premeditated.

MURDEROUS, a. Guilty of murder; as the *murderous* king. *Milton.*

2. Consisting in murder; done with murder; bloody; cruel; as *murderous* rapine.

3. Bloody; sanguinary; committing murder; as *murderous* tyranny.

4. Premeditating murder; as *murderous* intent or design.

MURDEROUSLY, adv. In a murderous or cruel manner.

MURE, n. [*L. murus*.] A wall. [*Not used.*] *Shak.*

MURE, v. t. [Fr. *murer*.] To inclose in walls; to wall. *Knolles.*

[But *immure* is chiefly used.]

MURIACITE, n. [See *Muriate*.] A stone composed of salt, sand and gypsum.

MURIATE, n. [*L. muria*, *muries*, salt water, brine; *amarus*, bitter; *Heb. Ch. Syr. Sam. Eth. Ar.* מָר, to be bitter. Class Mr. No. 7.]

A salt formed by muriatic acid combined with a base.

MURIATED, a. Combined with muriatic acid. *Kirwan. Evelyn.*

2. Put in brine.

MURIATIC, a. Having the nature of brine or salt water; pertaining to sea salt. The *muriatic* acid is the acid of marine salt.

MURIATIFEROUS, a. Producing muriatic substances or salt.

MURICALCITE, n. Rhomb-spar. *Ure.*

MURICATED, a. [*L. muricatus*, from *mur*, the point of a rock.]

1. Formed with sharp points; full of sharp points or prickles.

2. In *botany*, having the surface covered with sharp points, or armed with prickles. *Lee. Martyn.*

MURICITE, n. Fossil remains of the *mur*, a genus of shells.

MURINE, a. [*L. murinus*, from *mus*, *muris*, a mouse.] Pertaining to a mouse or to mice.

MURK, n. [Sw. *mörker*; *Dan. mörkhed*; *Russ. mrak*.] Darkness. [*Little used.*] *Shak.*

MURKY, a. [Dan. *mörk*; *Sw. mörk*, dark, obscure; *mörka*, to darken; *Russ. merknu*, to obscure; allied perhaps to *Moore*, an African; *Gr. ἀμυγρος*.]

Dark; obscure; gloomy.

A *murky* storm deep lowering o'er our heads. *Addison.*

MURMUR, n. [*L. See the Verb.*] A low sound continued or continually repeated, as that of a stream running in a stony channel, or that of flame.

Black melancholy sits,

Deepens the *murmur* of the falling floods,

And breathes a browner horror on the woods. *Pope.*

2. A complaint half suppressed, or uttered in a low, muttering voice.

Some discontents there are, some idle *murmurs*. *Dryden.*

MURMUR, v. i. [*L. murmuro*; *Gr. μωμυρω*; *Fr. murmurer*; *Arm. murmul*; *Sp. Port. murmurar*; *It. mormorare*. This seems to be a duplication of the root, which is retained in the *D. morren*, *G. murren*, *Sw. murra*, *Dan. murrer*, to mutter, growl or murmur; *Sp. morro*, purring, as a cat;

Sw. morr, a grumbling; *Ar. مَرَمَر*.

Class Mr. No. 7. It seems also to be connected with *mourn*, *Sax. murnan*, *murnian*, to murmur.]

1. To make a low continued noise, like the hum of bees, a stream of water, rolling waves, or like the wind in a forest; as the *murmuring* surge. *Shak.*

The forests *murmur* and the surges roar. *Pope.*

2. To grumble; to complain; to utter complaints in a low, half articulated voice; to utter sullen discontent; with *at*, before the thing which is the cause of discontent; as, *murmur* not at sickness; or with *at* or *against*, before the active agent which produces the evil.

The Jews *murmured* at him. *John vi.*

The people *murmured* against Moses. *Ex. xiii.*

MURMURER, n. One who murmurs; one who complains sullenly; a grumbler.

MURMURING, ppr. Uttering complaints in a low voice or sullen manner; grumbling; complaining.

MURMURINGLY, adv. With a low sound; with complaints.

MURMUROUS, a. Exciting murmur or complaint.