

1. To pierce with a sharp pointed instrument or substance; as, to *prick* one with a pin, a needle, a thorn or the like.
  2. To erect a pointed thing, or with an acuminated point; applied chiefly to the ears, and primarily to the pointed ears of an animal. The horse *pricks* his ears, or *pricks up* his ears.
  3. To fix by the point; as, to *prick* a knife into a board. *Newton.*
  4. To hang on a point.  
The cooks *prick* a slice on a prong of iron. *Sandys.*
  5. To designate by a puncture or mark.  
Some who are *pricked* for sheriffs, and are fit, set out of the bill. *Bocon.*
  6. To spur; to goad; to incite; sometimes with *on* or *off*.  
My duty *pricks* me *on* to utter that  
Which no worldly good should draw from me. *Shak.*  
But how if honor *prick* me *off*. *Shak.*
  7. To affect with sharp pain; to sting with remorse.  
When they heard this, they were *pricked* in their hearts. Acts ii. Ps. lxxiii.
  8. To make acid or pungent to the taste; as, wine is *pricked*. *Hudibras.*
  9. To write a musical composition with the proper notes on a scale.
  10. In *seamen's language*, to run a middle seam through the cloth of a sail. *Mar. Dict.*
- To *prick* a *chart*, is to trace a ship's course on a chart. *Mar. Dict.*
- PRICK**, *v. i.* To become acid; as, cider *pricks* in the rays of the sun.
2. To dress one's self for show.
  3. To come upon the spur; to shoot along.  
Before each van  
*Prick* forth the airy knights. *Milton.*
  4. To aim at a point, mark or place. *Hawkins.*
- PRICK**, *n.* [Sax. *pricca*; Sw. *prick* or *preka*; *tand-preka*, a tooth pick; Ir. *pricoa*.]
1. A slender pointed instrument or substance, which is hard enough to pierce the skin; a goad; a spur.  
It is hard for thee to kick against the *pricks*. Acts ix.
  2. Sharp stinging pain; remorse. *Shak.*
  3. A spot or mark at which archers aim. *Carew.*
  4. A point; a fixed place. *Spenser.*
  5. A puncture or place entered by a point. *Brown.*
  6. The print of a hare on the ground.
  7. In *seamen's language*, a small roll; as a *prick* of spun yarn; a *prick* of tobacco.
- PRICK'ED**, *pp.* Pierced with a sharp point; spurred; goaded; stung with pain; rendered acid or pungent; marked; designated.
- PRICK'ER**, *n.* A sharp pointed instrument. *Moxon.*
2. In colloquial use, a prickle.
  3. A light horseman. [Not in use.] *Hayward.*
- PRICK'ET**, *n.* A buck in his second year. *Manwood.*
- PRICK'ING**, *ppr.* Piercing with a sharp point; goading; affecting with pungent pain; making or becoming acid.
- PRICK'ING**, *n.* A sensation of sharp pain, or of being pricked.
- PRICK'LE**, *n.* In *botany*, a small pointed shoot or sharp process, growing from the

bark only, and thus distinguished from the *thorn*, which grows from the wood of a plant. Thus the rose, the bramble, the gooseberry and the barberry are armed with *prickles*. *Martyn.*

2. A sharp pointed process of an animal.

**PRICK'LE-BACK**, *n.* A small fish, so named from the prickles on its back; the stickle-back. *Dict. Nat. Hist.*

**PRICK'LINESS**, *n.* [from *prickly*.] The state of having many prickles.

**PRICK'LOUSE**, *n.* A low word in contempt for a taylor. *L'Estrange.*

**PRICK'LY**, *a.* Full of sharp points or prickles; armed with prickles; as a *prickly* shrub. *Martyn. Swift.*

**PRICK'MADAM**, *n.* A species of house-leek. *Johnson.*

**PRICK'PUNCI**, *n.* A piece of tempered steel with a round point, to prick a round mark on gold iron. *Moxon.*

**PRICK'SONG**, *n.* A song set to music, or a variegated song; in distinction from a plain song. *Shak. Bale.*

**PRICK'WOOD**, *n.* A tree of the genus *Eucalyptus*. *Fam. of Plants.*

**PRIDE**, *n.* [Sax. *pryt*, *pryde*; D. *prat*, *proud*.]

1. Inordinate self-esteem; an unreasonable conceit of one's own superiority in talents, beauty, wealth, accomplishments, rank or elevation in office, which manifests itself in lofty airs, distance, reserve, and often in contempt of others.  
Martial *pride* looks down on industry. *T. Davies.*  
*Pride* goeth before destruction. Prov. xvi.  
*Pride* that dines on vanity, sups on contempt. *Franklin.*

All *pride* is abject and mean. *Johnson.*

Those that walk in *pride* he is able to abase. Dan. iv.

2. Insolence; rude treatment of others; insolent exultation.  
That hardly we escap'd the *pride* of France. *Shak.*

3. Generous elation of heart; a noble self-esteem springing from a consciousness of worth.  
The honest *pride* of conscious virtue. *Smith.*

4. Elevation; loftiness.  
A falcon tow'ring in her *pride* of place. *Shak.*

5. Decoration; ornament; beauty displayed.  
Whose lofty trees, yclad with summer's *pride*. *Spenser.*

Be his this sword  
Whose ivory sheath, inwrought with curious *pride*,  
Adds graceful terror to the wearer's side. *Pope.*

6. Splendid show; ostentation.  
In this array, the war of either side  
Through Athens pass'd with military *pride*. *Dryden.*

7. That of which men are proud; that which excites boasting.  
I will cut off the *pride* of the Philistines. Zech. ix. Zeph. iii.

8. Excitement of the sexual appetite in a female beast. *Shak.*

9. Proud persons. Ps. xxxvi.

**PRIDE**, *v. t.* With the reciprocal pronoun, to *pride* one's self, to indulge pride; to take pride; to value one's self; to gratify self-esteem. They *pride themselves* in their wealth, dress or equipage. He *prides himself* in his achievements.

**PRIDEFUL**, *a.* Full of pride; insolent; scornful. *Richardson.*

**PRIDELESS**, *a.* Destitute of pride; without pride. *Chaucer.*

**PRIDING**, *ppr.* Indulging pride or self-esteem; taking pride; valuing one's self.

**PRIDINGLY**, *adv.* With pride; in pride of heart. *Burrow.*

**PRIE**, supposed to be so written for *prived*. *Tasser.*

**PRIE**, for *pry*. *Chaucer.*

**PRIEF**, for *proof*, obsolete. *Chaucer.*

**PRIER**, *n.* [from *pry*.] One who inquires narrowly; one who searches and scrutinizes.

**PRIEST**, *n.* [Sax. *preost*; D. G. *priester*; Dan. *prast*; Fr. *prêtre*; It. *prete*; from L. *præstes*, a chief, one that presides; *præ*, before, and *sto*, to stand, or *sisto*, or Gr. *εἰς*. This is probably the origin of the

word. In Persic, *پرستش* parastash

is worship; *پرستیدن* parastidan, to

worship, to adore.]

1. A man who officiates in sacred offices. Among *pagans*, priests were persons whose appropriate business was to offer sacrifices and perform other sacred rites of religion. In primitive ages, the fathers of families, princes and kings were priests. Thus Cain and Abel, Noah, Abraham, Melchizedek, Job, Isaac and Jacob offered their own sacrifices. In the days of Moses, the office of priest was restricted to the tribe of Levi, and the priesthood consisted of three orders, the high priest, the priests, and the Levites, and the office was made hereditary in the family of Aaron.

Every *priest* taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. Heb. v.

2. In the *modern church*, a person who is set apart or consecrated to the ministry of the gospel; a man in orders or licensed to preach the gospel; a presbyter. In its most general sense, the word includes archbishops, bishops, patriarchs, and all subordinate orders of the clergy, duly approved and licensed according to the forms and rules of each respective denomination of christians; as all these orders "are ordained for men in things pertaining to God." But in Great Britain, the word is understood to denote the subordinate orders of the clergy, above a deacon and below a bishop. In the United States, the word denotes any licensed minister of the gospel.

**PRIESTCRAFT**, *n.* [priest and craft.] The stratagems and frauds of priests; fraud or imposition in religious concerns; management of selfish and ambitious priests to gain wealth and power, or to impose on the credulity of others. *Pope. Spectator.*

**PRIESTESS**, *n.* A female among pagans, who officiated in sacred things. *Addison. Swift.*

**PRIESTHOOD**, *n.* The office or character of a priest. *Whitgift.*

2. The order of men set apart for sacred offices; the order composed of priests. *Dryden.*