

STEN'CIL, *n.* A piece of thin leather or oil cloth, used in painting paper hangings.

STEN'CIL, *v. t.* To paint or color in figures with stencils. *Encyc.*

STENOGRAPHER, *n.* [Gr. στενος, close, narrow, and γραφω, to write.]

One who is skilled in the art of short hand writing.

STENOGRAPHIC, } *a.* [supra.] Per-  
STENOGRAPHICAL, } taining to the  
art of writing in short hand; expressing  
in characters or short hand.

STENOGRAPHY, *n.* [supra.] The art of  
writing in short hand by using abbrevia-  
tions or characters for whole words. *Encyc.*

STENT, for *stint*. [See *Stint*.]

STENTORIAN, *a.* [from *Stentor*.] Ex-  
tremely loud; as a *stentorian* voice.

2. Able to utter a very loud sound; as *sten-  
torian* lungs.

STENTOROPHONIC, *a.* [from *Stentor*, a  
herald in Homer, whose voice was as loud  
as that of fifty other men, and Gr. φωνή,  
voice.] Speaking or sounding very loud.

Of this *stentorophonic* horn of Alexander there  
is a figure preserved in the Vatican. *Derham.*

STEP, *v. i.* [Sax. *stæppan*, *steppan*; D. *stap-  
pen*; Gr. σταβω. Qu. Russ. *stapa*, the foot.  
The sense is to set, as the foot, or more  
probably to open or part, to stretch or ex-  
tend.]

1. To move the foot; to advance or recede  
by a movement of the foot or feet; as, to  
*step* forward, or to *step* backward.

2. To go; to walk a little distance; as, to  
*step* to one of the neighbors.

3. To walk gravely, slowly or resolutely.

Home the swain retreats,  
His flock before him *stepping* to the fold. *Thomson.*

To *step forth*, to move or come forth. *Cowley.*

To *step aside*, to walk to a little distance; to  
retire from company.

To *step in* or *into*, to walk or advance into  
a place or state; or to advance suddenly  
in. John v.

2. To enter for a short time. I just *stepped*  
into the house for a moment.

3. To obtain possession without trouble; to  
enter upon suddenly; as, to *step into* an  
estate.

To *step back*, to move mentally; to carry the  
mind back.

They are *stepping* almost three thousand  
years back into the remotest antiquity. *Pope.*

STEP, *v. t.* To set, as the foot.

2. To fix the foot of a mast in the keel; to  
erect. *Mar. Dict.*

STEP, *n.* [Sax. *stap*; D. *stap*; G. *stufe*;  
W. *lap*, a ledge; *lapiaw*, to form a step or  
ledge.]

1. A pace; an advance or movement made  
by one removal of the foot.

2. One remove in ascending or descending;  
a stair.

The breadth of every single *step* or stair  
should be never less than one foot. *Wotton.*

3. The space passed by the foot in walking  
or running. The *step* of one foot is gene-  
rally five feet; it may be more or less.

4. A small space or distance. Let us go to  
the gardens; it is but a *step*.

5. The distance between the feet in walking  
or running.

6. Gradation; degree. We advance in im-  
provement *step by step*, or by *steps*.

7. Progression; act of advancing.

To derive two or three general principles of  
motion from phenomena, and afterwards tell us  
how the properties and actions of all corporeal  
things follow from those manifest principles,  
would be a great *step* in philosophy. *Newton.*

8. Footstep; print or impression of the foot;  
track. *Dryden.*

9. Gait; manner of walking. The ap-  
proach of a man is often known by his  
*step*.

10. Proceeding; measure; action.

The reputation of a man depends on the first  
*steps* he makes in the world. *Pope.*

11. The round of a ladder.

12. *Steps* in the plural, walk; passage.

Conduct my *steps* to find the fatal tree  
In this deep forest. *Dryden.*

13. Pieces of timber in which the foot of a  
mast is fixed.

STEP, } In Russ, an uncultivated des-  
STEPP, } ert of large extent. *Taake.*

[This sense of the Russian word is natu-  
rally deducible from Sax. *stepan*, to de-  
prive, infra.]

STEP, Sax. *steap*, from *stepan*, to deprive,  
is prefixed to certain words to express a  
relation by marriage.

STEP-BROTHER, *n.* A brother-in-law, or  
by marriage.

STEP-CHILD, *n.* [*step* and *child*.] A son-  
in-law or daughter-in-law, [a child de-  
prived of its parent.]

STEP-DAME, *n.* A mother by marriage,  
[the mother of an orphan or one de-  
prived.]

STEP-DAUGHTER, *n.* A daughter by  
marriage, [an orphan daughter.]

STEP-FATHER, *n.* A father-in-law; a  
father by marriage only; [the father of an  
orphan.]

STEP-MOTHER, *n.* A mother by mar-  
riage only; a mother-in-law; [the mother  
of an orphan.]

STEP-SISTER, *n.* A sister-in-law, or by  
marriage, [an orphan sister.]

STEP-SON, *n.* A son-in-law, [an orphan  
son.]

[In the foregoing explication of *step*, I  
have followed Lye. The D. and G. write  
*stief*, and the Swedes *stuf*, before the  
name; a word which does not appear to  
be connected with any verb signifying to  
bereave, and the word is not without some  
difficulties. I have given the explanation  
which appears to be most probably cor-  
rect. If the radical sense of *step*, a pace.  
is to part or open, the word coincides with  
Sax. *stepan*, to deprive, and in the com-  
pounds above, *step* may imply removal or  
distance.]

STEPPED, *pp.* Set; placed; erected; fix-  
ed in the keel, as a mast.

STEPPING, *ppr.* Moving, or advancing by  
a movement of the foot or feet; placing;  
fixing or erecting, as a mast.

STEPPING, *n.* The act of walking or run-  
ning by steps.

STEPPING-STONE, *n.* A stone to raise  
the feet above the dirt and mud in walk-  
ing. *Swift.*

STEP-STONE, *n.* A stone laid before a  
door as a stair to rise on in entering the  
house.

STER, in composition, is from the Sax. *ste-  
ara*, a director. See *Stear*. It seems pri-  
marily to have signified chief, principal or  
director, as in the L. *minister*, chief ser-  
vant; but in other words, as in *spinster*,  
we do not recognize the sense of chief, but  
merely that of a person who carries on the  
business of spinning.

STERCORA/CEOUS, *a.* [L. *stercoreus*, *ster-  
corasus*, from *stercus*, dung.]

Pertaining to dung, or partaking of its na-  
ture. *Arbutnot.*

STERCORARIAN, } *n.* [L. *stercus*, dung.]  
STERCORANIST, } One in the Ro-

mish church who held that the host is li-  
able to digestion. *Encyc.*

STERCORARY, *n.* A place properly se-  
cured from the weather for containing  
dung.

STERCORATION, *n.* [L. *stercoratio*.] The  
act of manuring with dung. *Bacon. Ray.*

STERE, *n.* In the new French system of  
measures, the unit for solid measure, equal  
to a cubic meter. *Lunier.*

STEREOGRAPHIC, } *a.* [from *stereog-*  
STEREOGRAPHICAL, } *raphy*.] Made

or done according to the rules of *stereog-*  
*raphy*; delineated on a plane; as a *stereo-*  
*graphic* chart of the earth.

STEREOGRAPHICALLY, *adv.* By de-  
lineation on a plane.

STEREOGRAPHY, *n.* [Gr. στερεος, firm,  
and γραφω, to write.]

The art or of delineating the forms of  
solid bodies on a plane; a branch of solid  
geometry which shows the construction  
of all solids which are regularly defined. *Encyc.*

STEREOMETRICAL, *a.* [See *Stereome-*  
*try*.]

Pertaining to or performed by *stereome-*  
*try*.

STEREOMETRY, *n.* [Gr. στερεος, firm, fix-  
ed, and μετροω, to measure.]

The art of measuring solid bodies, and find-  
ing their solid content. *Harris.*

STEREOTOMICAL, *a.* Pertaining to or  
performed by *stereotomy*.

STEREOTOMY, *n.* [Gr. στερεος, fixed, and  
τεμνω, to cut.]

The science or art of cutting solids into  
certain figures or sections, as arches, &c. *Encyc.*

STEREOTYPE, *n.* [Gr. στερεος, fixed, and  
τυπος, type, form.]

1. Literally, a fixed metal type; hence, a  
plate of fixed or solid metallic types for  
printing books. Thus we say, a book is  
printed *on stereotype*, or *in stereotype*. In  
the latter use, the word seems rather to  
signify the workmanship or manner of  
printing, than the plate.

2. The art of making plates of fixed metal-  
lic types, or of executing work on such  
plates.

STEREOTYPE, *a.* Pertaining to fixed  
metallic types.

2. Done on fixed metallic types, or plates of  
fixed types; as *stereotype* work; *stereotype*  
printing; a *stereotype* copy of the Bible.

STEREOTYPE, *v. t.* To make fixed met-  
allic types or plates of type metal, cor-  
responding with the words and letters of  
a book; to compose a book in fixed types;