

Literally, to send to or upon; to throw, put or lay upon. Hence,

1. To give in trust; to put into the hands or power of another; to entrust; with *to*.
Commit thy way to the Lord. Ps. xxxvii.

The things thou hast heard of me, *commit to faithful men.* 2 Tim. ii.

2. To put into any place for preservation; to deposit; as, to *commit a passage in a book to memory*; to *commit the body to the grave*.

3. To put or send to, for confinement; as, to *commit an offender to prison*. Hence for the sake of brevity, *commit* is used for *imprison*. The sheriff has *committed the offender*.

These two were *committed*, at least restrained of their liberty. *Clarendon.*

4. To do; to effect or perpetrate; as, to *commit murder, treason, felony, or trespass*.

Thou shalt not *commit adultery*. Ex. xx.

5. To join or put together, for a contest; to match; followed by *with*; a latinism.

How does Philopolis commit the opponent with the respondent. [*Little used.*] *More.*

6. To place in a state of hostility or incongruity. "*Committing short and long words.*" But this seems to be the same signification as the foregoing.

7. To expose or endanger by a preliminary step or decision which cannot be recalled; as, to *commit the peace of a country by espousing the cause of a belligerent*.

You might have satisfied every duty of political friendship without *committing* the honor of your sovereignty.

8. To engage; to pledge; or to pledge by implication.

The general addressed letters to Gen. Gates and to Gen. Heath, cautioning them against any sudden assent to the proposal, which might possibly be considered as *committing* the faith of the United States. *Marshall.*

And with the reciprocal pronoun, to *commit one's self*, is to do some act, or make some declaration, which may bind the person in honor, good faith, or consistency, to pursue a certain course of conduct, or to adhere to the tenor of that declaration.

9. To refer or entrust to a committee, or select number of persons, for their consideration and report; a term of legislation; as, the petition or the bill is *committed*. Is it the pleasure of the house to *commit* the bill?

COMMITMENT, n. The act of committing; a sending to prison; a putting into prison; imprisonment. It is equivalent to *sending or putting in simply*; as a *commitment to the tower*, or to Newgate; or for the sake of brevity, omitting the name of the place, it is equivalent to *putting into prison*; as, the offender is secured by *commitment*.

2. An order for confining in prison. But more generally we use *multitudo*.

3. The act of referring or entrusting to a committee for consideration; a term in legislation; as the *commitment of a petition* or a bill to a select number of persons for consideration and report.

4. The act of delivering in charge or entrusting.

5. A doing, or perpetration, as of sin or a crime; commission. *Clarendon.*

- 6 The act of pledging or engaging; or the

act of exposing or endangering. [See the Verb. No. 7 and 8.] *Hamilton.*

COMMITTED, pp. Delivered in trust; given in charge; deposited; imprisoned; done; perpetrated; engaged; exposed; referred to a committee.

COMMITTEE, n. One or more persons, elected or appointed, to whom any matter or business is referred, either by a legislative body or either branch of it, or by a court, or by any corporation, or by any society, or collective body of men acting together. In legislative bodies, a house, or branch of that body may resolve or form itself into a committee, called a *committee of the whole house*, when the speaker leaves the chair, and one of the members acts as chairman. *Standing committees* are such as continue during the existence of the legislature, and to these are committed all matters that fall within the purposes of their appointment; as the *committee of elections*, or of *privileges*, &c. *Special committees* are appointed to consider and report on particular subjects.

COMMITTEESHIP, n. The office and profit of committees. *Milton.*

COMMITTER, n. One who commits; one who does or perpetrates. *South.*

COMMITTABLE, a. That may be committed. [*Little used.*] *Brown.*

COMMITTING, ppr. Giving in trust; depositing; imprisoning; perpetrating; engaging; referring to a committee; exposing.

COMMITT, p. t. [*L. commissio, committus*; con and misce, to mix. See *Mix*.]

To mix or mingle; to blend; to mix, as different substances. *Bacon. Newton.*

COMMIT, v. i. To mix; to mingle. *Shak.*

COMMITTED, pp. Mixed; blended.

COMMITTING, ppr. Mixing; blending.

COMMITTION, n. Mixture; a blending of different ingredients in one mass or compound. *Brown.*

Mixion is used by Shakespeare, but is hardly legitimate.

COMMITTURE, n. The act of mixing; the state of being mingled; the blending of ingredients in one mass or compound. *Bacon.*

2. The mass formed by mingling different things; composition; compound. *Bacon. Shak. Walton.*

3. In *Scois law*, a method of acquiring property, by blending different substances belonging to different proprietors. *Encyc.*

COMMODE, n. [Fr. from *L. commodus*, convenient; con or com and modus, manner. See *Mode*.]

A kind of head dress formerly worn by ladies. *Addison.*

COMMODIOUS, a. [Fr. *commode*; *It. comodo*; Sp. *id.*; *L. commodus*. See *Mode*.]

Convenient; suitable; fit; proper; adapted to its use or purpose, or to wants and necessities; as a *commodious house* or room. The haven was not *commodious* to winter in. Acts xxvii. 12.

It is followed by *for* before a noun; as a place *commodious for a camp*.

COMMODIOUSLY, adv. Conveniently; in a commodious manner; suitably; in a manner to afford ease, or to prevent uneasiness; as a house *commodiously situated*;

we may pass life *commodiously* without the restraints of ceremony.

COMMODIOUSNESS, n. Convenience; fitness; suitability for its purpose; as the *commodiousness of a house* or an apartment; the *commodiousness of a situation* for trade.

COMMODITY, n. [*L. commoditas*; *It. comodita*; Fr. *commodite*; Sp. *comodidad*; Port. *commodidade*. See *Commode*.]

1. Primarily, convenience; profit; advantage; interest. "Men seek their own *commodity*." In this sense it was used by *Hooker, Sidney, &c.*; but this is nearly or wholly obsolete.

2. That which affords ease, convenience or advantage; any thing that is useful, but particularly in commerce, including every thing movable that is bought and sold, goods, wares, merchandize, produce of land and manufactures. Unless perhaps animals may be excepted, the word includes all the movables which are objects of commerce.

Commodities are movables, valuable by money, the common measure. *Locke.*

The principal use of money is to save the commutation of more bulky *commodities*. *Irishnat.*

Staple commodities are those which are the produce or manufacture of a country, and constitute the principal articles of exportation. Thus flour is the staple commodity of New-York and Pennsylvania; flour and tobacco, of Maryland and Virginia; cotton and rice, of S. Carolina and Georgia; cotton and sugar, of Louisiana.

COMMODORE, n. [This word is probably a corruption of the Italian *comandatore*, a commander; or the Spanish *comendador*, a superior of a monastery, or a knight who holds a commandry.]

1. The officer who commands a squadron or detachment of ships, destined on a particular enterprise. In the British marine, he bears the rank of a brigadier-general in the army, and his ship is distinguished by a broad red pendant, tapering to the outer end, and sometimes forked. *Encyc.*

2. A title given by courtesy to the senior captain, when three or more ships of war are cruising in company. *Mar. Dict.*

3. The convoy or leading ship in a fleet of merchantmen, which carries a light in her top to conduct the other ships.

COMMODULATION, n. [*L. con and modulatio*.] Measure; agreement. [*Little used.*] *Hakewell.*

COMMOIGNE, n. [Fr.] A monk of the same convent. [*Not in use.*] *Selden.*

COMMON, a. [*L. communis*; Fr. *commun*; Arm. *commun*; *It. comune*; Sp. *comun*; Port. *commum*; Goth. *gamauns*; Sax. *geman*; G. *gemein*; D. *gemein*; Sw. *gemein*; Dan. *gemein*; R. *gemein*; Goth. *gamauna*, a fellow, fellowship. This word may be composed of *com* and *man*, *men*, the plural *men* being equivalent to *people* and *vulgas*. The last syllable is clearly from the root of *many*, which seems to belong to the root of *man*, and *mean* is of the same family. Hence we see the connection between *common* and *mean*, as *vulgar*, from *vulgas*, Eng. *folks*.]

1. Belonging equally to more than one, or to many indefinitely; as, life and sense are