

**FAST**, *v. i.* [*Sax. fastan*; *Goth. fastan*, to fast; to keep; to observe; to hold; *G. fasten*; *D. vast*, firm; *vasten*, to fast; *Sw. fasta*: from the same root as *fast*, firm. The sense is to hold or stop.]

1. To abstain from food, beyond the usual time; to omit to take the usual meals, for a time; as, *to fast a day* or a week.
2. To abstain from food voluntarily, for the mortification of the body or appetites, or as a token of grief, sorrow and affliction.

Thou didst *fast* and weep for the child.  
2 Sam. xii.

- When ye *fast*, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance. Matt. vi.
3. To abstain from food partially, or from particular kinds of food; as, the Catholics *fast* in Lent.

**FAST**, *n.* Abstinence from food; properly a total abstinence, but it is used also for an abstinence from particular kinds of food, for a certain time.

Happy were our forefathers, who broke their *fasts* with herbs. Taylor.

2. Voluntary abstinence from food, as a religious mortification or humiliation; either total or partial abstinence from customary food, with a view to mortify the appetites, or to express grief and affliction on account of some calamity, or to deprecate an expected evil.

3. The time of fasting, whether a day, week or longer time. An annual *fast* is kept in New England, usually one day in the spring.

The *fast* was now already past. Acts xxvii.

**FAST**, *n.* That which fastens or holds.

**FAST-DAY**, *n.* The day on which fasting is observed.

**FASTEN**, *v. t.* *fasn*. [*Sax. fastian*; *Sw. fastna*; *D. vesten*; *Dan. fæster*; *Ir. fastu-gadh*, *fastughim*.]

1. To fix firmly; to make fast or close; as, *to fasten a chain* to the feet, or *to fasten the feet* with fetters.

2. To lock, bolt or bar; to secure; as, *to fasten a door* or window.

3. To hold together; to cement or to link; to unite closely in any manner and by any means, as by cement, hooks, pins, nails, cords, &c.

4. To affix or conjoin.

The words which Tory have been pressed to the service of many successions of parties, with different ideas *fastened* to them. [Vol. common.] Swift.

5. To fix; to impress.

Thinking, by this face,  
*To fasten* in our thoughts that they have courage. Shak.

6. To lay on with strength.

Could he *fasten* a blow, or make a thrust, when not suffered to approach? Dryden.

**FASTEN**, *v. i.* *To fasten on*, is to fix one's self; to seize and hold on; to cinch.

The leech will hardly *fasten on* a fish. Brown.

**FASTENED**, *pp.* Made firm or fast; fixed firmly; impressed.

**FASTENER**, *n.* One that makes fast or firm.

**FASTENING**, *pp.* Making fast.

**FASTENING**, *n.* Any thing that binds and makes fast; or that which is intended for that purpose.

**FASTER**, *n.* One who abstains from food.

**FAST-HANDED**, *a.* Closehanded; covetous; closefisted; avaricious. Bacon.

**FASTIDIOUSITY**, *n.* Fastidiousness. [Vol. used.] Swift.

**FASTIDIOUS**, *a.* [*L. fastidiosus*, from *fastidio*, to disdain, from *fastus*, haughtiness. See Heb. 12. Class Bz. No. 2. 3. and 10. 30.]

1. Disdainful; squeamish; delicate to a fault; over nice; difficult to please; as a *fastidious* mind or taste.

2. Squeamish; rejecting what is common or not very nice; suited with difficulty as a *fastidious* appetite.

**FASTIDIOUSLY**, *adv.* Disdainfully; squeamishly; contemptuously. They look *fastidiously* and speak disdainfully.

**FASTIDIOUSNESS**, *n.* Disdainfulness; contemptuousness; squeamishness of mind, taste or appetite.

**FASTIGIATE**, *v. a.* [*L. fastigiatus*, pointed, from *fastigium*, a point, from *fastigium*, a top or peak.]

1. In botany, a *fastigiate* stem is one whose branches are of an equal height. Peduncles are *fastigiate*, when they elevate the fructifications in a bunch, so as to be equally high, or when they form an even surface at the top. Martyn.
2. Roofed; narrowed to the top.

**FASTING**, *pp.* Abstaining from food.

**FASTING**, *n.* The act of abstaining from food.

**FASTING-DAY**, *n.* A day of fasting; a fast-day; a day of religious mortification and humiliation.

**FASTNESS**, *n.* [*Sax. fastenesse*, from *fast*.]

1. The state of being fast and firm; firm adherence.
2. Strength; security.

The places of *fastness* are laid open. Davies.

3. A strong hold; a fortress or fort; a place fortified; a castle. The enemy retired to their *fastnesses*.

4. Closeness; conciseness of style. [Vol. used.] Scham.

**FASTUOUS**, *a.* [*L. fastuosus*, from *fastus*, haughtiness.]

Proud; haughty; disdainful. Barrow.

**FAT**, *a.* [*Sax. fet*, felt; *D. fett*; *D. vet*; *Sw. fet*; *Dan. fedt*; *Basque, betea*.]

1. Fleishy; plump; corpulent; abounding with an oily concrete substance, as an animal body; the contrary to *lean*; as a *fat* man; a *fat* ox.
2. Coarse; gross.

Nay, added *fat* pollutions of our own. Dryden.

3. Dull; heavy; stupid; unteachable. Make the heart of this people *fat*. Is. vi.

4. Rich; wealthy; affluent.

These are terrible alarms to persons grown *fat* and wealthy. South.

5. Rich; producing a large income; as a *fat* benefice.

6. Rich; fertile; as a *fat* soil; or rich; nourishing; as *fat* pasture.

7. Abounding in spiritual grace and comfort. They (the righteous) shall be *fat* and flourishing. Ps. xxi.

**FAT**, *n.* An oily concrete substance, deposited in the cells of the adipose or cellular membrane of animal bodies. In most parts of the body, the *fat* lies immediately under the skin. Fat is of various degrees

of consistence, as in tallow, lard and oil. It has been recently ascertained to consist of two substances, stearine and elaine, the former of which is solid, the latter liquid, at common temperatures, and on the different proportions of which its degree of consistence depends.

Encyc. Webster's Manual.

2. The best or richest part of a thing. Abel brought of the *fat* of his flock. Gen. iv.

**FAT**, *v. t.* To make fat; to fatten; to make plump and fleshy with abundant food; as, *to fat* hawks or sheep. Locke. Shak.

**FAT**, *v. i.* To grow fat, plump and fleshy. An old ox *fats* as well, and is as good, as a young one. Mortimer.

**FAT**, *v. n.* [*Sax. fet*, *fat*, *vet*; *D. vet*; *G. fassen*; *VAT*, *v. n.* *Sw. fet*; *Dan. fad*. It seems to be connected with *D. vatten*, *G. fassen*, *Sw. fätta*, *Dan. fatter*, to hold. Qu. Gr. *αἰσῶ*.]

A large tub, cistern or vessel used for various purposes, as by brewers to run their wort in, by tanners for holding their bark and hides, &c. It is also a wooden vessel containing a quarter or eight bushels of grain, and a pan for containing water in salt-works, a vessel for wine, &c.

The *fat* shall overflow with wine and oil. Joel ii.

**FAT**, *n.* A measure of capacity, but indefinite.

**FATAL**, *a.* [*L. fatalis*. See *Fate*.] Proceeding from fate or destiny; necessary; inevitable.

These things are *fatal* and necessary. Tillotson.

2. Appointed by fate or destiny. It was *fatal* to the king to fight for his money. Bacon.

In the foregoing senses the word is now little used.

3. Causing death or destruction; deadly; mortal; as a *fatal* wound; a *fatal* disease.

4. Destructive; calamitous; as a *fatal* day; a *fatal* event.

**FATALISM**, *n.* The doctrine that all things are subject to fate, or that they take place by inevitable necessity. Rush.

**FATALIST**, *n.* One who maintains that all things happen by inevitable necessity. Watts.

**FATALITY**, *n.* [*Fr. fatalité*, from *fate*.]

1. A fixed unalterable course of things, independent of God or any controlling cause; an invincible necessity existing in things themselves; a doctrine of the Stoics. South.
2. Decree of fate. King Charles.
3. Tendency to danger, or to some great or hazardous event. Brown.
4. Mortality. Med. Repos.

**FATALLY**, *adv.* By a decree of fate or destiny; by inevitable necessity or determination. Bentley.

**FATALITY**, *n.* This encounter ended *fatally*. The prince was *fatally* deceived.

**FATALNESS**, *n.* Invincible necessity.

**FATBRAINED**, *a.* Dull of apprehension. Shak.

**FATE**, *n.* [*L. fatum*, from *for*, *fari*, to speak, whence *fatus*.]

1. Primarily, a decree or word pronounced by God; or a fixed sentence by which the order of things is prescribed. Hence, inevitable necessity; destiny depending on