

**SPERMATOCLELE**, *n.* [Gr. σπέρμα, seed, and κλῆρ, tumor.]

A swelling of the spermatic vessels, or vessels of the testicles. *Core.*

**SPERSE**, *v. t.* To disperse. [Not in use.] *Spenser.*

**SPET**, *v. t.* To spit; to throw out. [Not used.]

**SPET**, *n.* Spittle, or a flow. [Not in use.]

**SPEW**, *v. t.* [Sax. *spuwan*; D. *spuwen*, *spuigen*; G. *speien*, contracted from *speichen*; Sw. *spy*; Dan. *spjer*; L. *spuo*.]

1. To vomit; to puke; to eject from the stomach.

2. To eject; to cast forth.

3. To cast out with abhorrence. *Lev. xviii.*

**SPEW**, *v. i.* To vomit; to discharge the contents of the stomach. *B. Jonson.*

**SPEWED**, *pp.* Vomited; ejected.

**SPEWER**, *n.* One who spews.

**SPEWING**, *ppr.* Vomiting; ejecting from the stomach.

**SPEWING**, *n.* The act of vomiting.

**SPEWY**, *a.* Wet; foggy. [Local.]

**SPHACELATE**, *v. i.* [See *Sphacelus*.]

1. To mortify; to become gangrenous; as flesh.

2. To decay or become carious, as a bone. *Sharp.*

**SPHACELATION**, *n.* The process of becoming or making gangrenous; mortification. *Med. Repos.*

**SPHACELUS**, *n.* [Gr. σφακελος, from σφάζω, to kill.]

1. In *medicine* and *surgery*, gangrene; mortification of the flesh of a living animal.

2. Caries or decay of a bone. *Core.*

**SPHAGNOUS**, *a.* [*sphagnum*, bog-moss. *Linne.*] Pertaining to bog-moss; mossy. *Bigelow.*

**SPHENE**, *n.* [Gr. σφην, a wedge.] A mineral composed of nearly equal parts of oxyd of titanium, silex and lime. Its colors are commonly grayish, yellowish, reddish and blackish brown, and various shades of green. It is found amorphous and in crystals. *Phillips. Encyc.*

**SPHENOID**, *a.* [Gr. σφην, a wedge, and εδος, form.] Resembling a wedge.

The *sphenoid bone*, is the pterygoid bone of the basis of the skull. *Core.*

**SPHERE**, *n.* [Fr. from L. *sphæra*, Gr. σφαῖρα, whence It. *sfera*, Sp. *esfera*, G. *sphäre*.]

1. In *geometry*, a solid body contained under a single surface, which in every part is equally distant from a point called its center. The earth is not an exact sphere. The sun appears to be a sphere.

2. An orb or globe of the mundane system. First the sun, a mighty sphere, he fram'd. *Milton.*

Then mortal ears  
Had heard the music of the spheres.

3. An orbicular body, or a circular figure representing the earth or apparent heavens. *Dryden.*

4. Circuit of motion; revolution; orbit; as the diurnal sphere. *Milton.*

5. The concave or vast orbicular expanse in which the heavenly orbs appear.

6. Circuit of action, knowledge or influence; compass; province; employment. Every

man has his particular sphere of action, in which it should be his ambition to excel. Events of this kind have repeatedly fallen within the sphere of my knowledge. This man treats of matters not within his sphere.

6. Rank; order of society. Persons moving in a higher sphere claim more deference.

Sphere of activity of a body, the whole space or extent reached by the effluvia emitted from it. *Encyc.*

A right sphere, that aspect of the heavens in which the circles of daily motion of the heavenly bodies, are perpendicular to the horizon. A spectator at the equator views a right sphere.

A parallel sphere, that in which the circles of daily motion are parallel to the horizon. A spectator at either of the poles, would view a parallel sphere.

An oblique sphere, that in which the circles of daily motion are oblique to the horizon, as is the case to a spectator at any point between the equator and either pole.

Armillary sphere, an artificial representation of the circles of the sphere, by means of brass rings.

**SPHERE**, *v. t.* To place in a sphere.

The glorious planet Sol  
In noble eminence enthron'd, and sphere'd  
Amidst the rest. [Unusual.] *Shak.*

2. To form into roundness; as light sphered in a radiant cloud. *Milton.*

**SPHERIC**, *a.* [It. *sferico*; Fr. *spherique*; L. *sphæricus*.]

1. Globular; orbicular; having a surface in every part equally distant from the center; as a spherical body. Drops of water take a spherical form.

2. Planetary; relating to the orbs of the planets.

We make guilty of our disasters the sun, the moon and the stars, as if we were villains by spherical predominance. *Shak.*

Spherical geometry, that branch of geometry which treats of spherical magnitudes.

Spherical triangle, a triangle formed by the mutual intersection of three great circles of the sphere.

Spherical trigonometry, that branch of trigonometry which teaches to compute the sides and angles of spherical triangles.

**SPHERICALLY**, *adv.* In the form of a sphere.

**SPHERICALNESS**, *n.* The state or quality of being orbicular or spherical; roundness; as the sphericity of a drop of water.

**SPHERICALITY**, *n.* The doctrine of the sphere.

**SPHEROID**, *n.* [*sphere* and Gr. εδος, form.]

A body or figure approaching to a sphere, but not perfectly spherical. A spheroid is oblate or prolate. The earth is found to be an oblate spheroid, that is, flatted at the poles, whereas some astronomers formerly supposed it to be prolate or oblong.

**SPHEROIDAL**, *a.* Having the form of a spheroid.

**SPHEROIDALITY**, *n.* The state or quality of being spheroidal.

2. In *crystallography*, bounded by several convex faces.

**SPHEROIDITY**, *n.* The state or quality of being spheroidal.

**SPHEROSIDERITE**, *n.* A substance found in the basaltic compact lava of Steinheim; called also glass lava or hyatite.

**SPHERULE**, *n.* [L. *sphæricula*.] A little sphere or spherical body. Mercury or quicksilver when poured upon a plane, divides itself into a great number of minute spherules.

**SPHERULITE**, *n.* A variety of obsidian or pearl-stone, found in rounded grains. *Dict. Nat. Hist.*

**SPHERY**, *a.* Belonging to the sphere. *Milton.*

2. Round; spherical. *Shak.*

**SPHINCTER**, *n.* [from Gr. σφιγγω, to constrain, to draw close.]

In *anatomy*, a muscle that contracts or shuts; as the sphincter labiorum; sphincter vesicæ. *Core.*

**SPHINX**, *n.* [Gr. σφιγξ; L. *sphinx*.] A famous monster in Egypt, having the body of a lion and the face of a young woman. *Peachum.*

2. In *entomology*, the hawk-moth, a genus of insects.

**SPHRAGID**, *n.* A species of ochreous clay which falls to pieces in water with the emission of many bubbles; called also earth of Lemnos.

**SPIAL**, *n.* A spy; a scout. [Not in use.] *Bacon.*

**SPICATE**, *a.* [L. *spicatus*, from *spica*, a spike.] Having a spike or ear. *Lee.*

**SPICE**, *n.* [Fr. *epice*; It. *spezie*; Sp. *especia*.]

1. A vegetable production, fragrant or aromatic to the smell and pungent to the taste; used in saures and in cookery.

2. A small quantity; something that enriches or alters the quality of a thing in a small degree, as spice alters the taste of a thing.

3. A sample. [Fr. *espece*.]

**SPICE**, *v. t.* To season with spice; to mix aromatic substances with; as, to spice wine.

2. To tincture; as the spiced Indian air. *Shak.*

3. To render nice; to season with scruples. *Chaucer.*

**SPICED**, *pp.* Seasoned with spice.

**SPICER**, *n.* One that seasons with spice.

2. One that deals in spice. *Camden.*

**SPICERY**, *n.* [Fr. *epicerie*.] Spices in general; fragrant and aromatic vegetable substances used in seasoning.

2. A repository of spices. *Addison.*

*Spick and span*, bright; shining; as a garment spick and span new, or span-new.

*Spick* is from the root of the It. *spicco*, brightness; *spicare*, to shine; *spiccar le parole*, to speak distinctly; *spicciare*, to rush out, the radical sense of which is to shoot or dart. *Span* is probably from the root of *spangle*, Gr. σφιγγω, G. *spiegel*, a mirror.

**SPICK/NEL**, *n.* The herb maldmony or

**SPIG/NEL**, *n.* bear wort. (*Dict.*) the *Athamanta Meum* (Parr.) *Ethusa Meum* (Lee.)

**SPICOSITY**, *n.* [L. *spica*.] The state of having or being full of ears, like corn. [Not in use.] *Dict.*

**SPICULAR**, *a.* [L. *spiculum*, a dart.] Resembling a dart; having sharp points.