

FISHER, n. One who is employed in catching fish.

2. A species of weasel. Pennant.

FISHERBOAT, n. A boat employed in catching fish.

FISHERMAN, n. One whose occupation is to catch fish.

2. A ship or vessel employed in the business of taking fish, as in the cod and whale fishery.

FISHERTOWN, n. A town inhabited by fishermen. Carver.

FISHERY, n. The business of catching fish. Addison.

2. A place for catching fish with nets or hooks, as the banks of Newfoundland, the coast of England or Scotland, or on the banks of rivers.

FISHFUL, a. Abounding with fish; as a fishful pond. Carver.

FISHGIG, } n. An instrument used for
FIZ GIG, } striking fish at sea, consisting of a staff with barbed prongs, and a line fastened just above the prongs.

FISHHOOK, n. A hook for catching fish.

FISHING, ppr. Attempting to catch fish; searching; seeking to draw forth by artifice or indirectly; adding a piece of timber to a mast or spar to strengthen it.

FISHING, n. The art or practice of catching fish.

2. A fishery. Spenser.

FISHING-FROG, n. The toad-fish, or Lophius, whose head is larger than the body. Encyc.

FISHING-PLACE, n. A place where fishes are caught with seines; a convenient place for fishing; a fishery.

FISHKETTLE, n. A kettle made long for boiling fish whole.

FISHLIKE, a. Resembling fish. Shak.

FISHMARKET, n. A place where fish are exposed for sale.

FISHMEAL, n. A meal of fish; diet on fish; abstemious diet.

FISHMONGER, n. A seller of fish; a dealer in fish.

FISHPOND, n. A pond in which fishes are bred and kept.

FISHROOM, n. An apartment in a ship between the after-hold and the spirit room. Mar. Dict.

FISHSPEAR, n. A spear for taking fish by stabbing them.

FISHWIFE, n. A woman that cries fish for sale. Beaumont.

FISHWOMAN, n. A woman who sells fish.

FISHY, a. Consisting of fish.

2. Inhabited by fish; as the fishy flood. Pope.

3. Having the qualities of fish; like fish; as a fishy form; a fishy taste or smell.

FIS-SHE, a. [*L. fissilis*, from *fissus*, divided, from *fundo*, to split.]

That may be split, cleft or divided in the direction of the grain, or of natural joints.

This crystal is a pellicid fissile stone.

FISSILITY, n. The quality of admitting to be cleft.

FIS-SIPED, a. [*L. fissus*, divided, and *pes*, foot.] Having separated toes.

FIS-SIPED, n. An animal whose toes are

separate, or not connected by a membrane. Brown.

FIS-SURE, n. *fish-ure*. [Fr. from *L. fissura*, from *fundo*, to split.]

1. A cleft; a narrow chasm made by the parting of any substance; a longitudinal opening; as the fissure of a rock.

2. In surgery, a crack or slit in a bone, either transversely or longitudinally, by means of external force. Encyc.

3. In anatomy, a deep, narrow sulcus, or depression, dividing the anterior and middle lobes of the cerebrum on each side.

FIS-SURE, v. t. To cleave; to divide; to crack or fracture. Wiseman.

FIS-SURED, pp. Cleft; divided; cracked.

FIST, n. [*Sax. fyst*; *D. vuist*; *G. faust*; *Russ. piast*; *Bohem. bost*. Qu. is it from the root of *fast*?] The hand clinched; the hand with the fingers doubled into the palm.

FIST, v. t. To strike with the fist. Dryden.

2. To gripe with the fist. [Little used.] Shak.

FISTICUFFS, n. [*fist* and *cuff*.] Blows or a combat with the fist; a boxing. Swift.

FISTULA, n. [*L. Eng. whistle*.] Properly, a pipe; a wind instrument of music, originally a reed.

2. In surgery, a deep, narrow and callous ulcer, generally arising from abscesses. It differs from a sinus, in being callous.

Fistula lachrymalis, a fistula of the lachrymal sac, a disorder accompanied with a flowing of tears. Core. Sharp.

FISTULAR, a. Hollow, like a pipe or reed.

FISTULATE, v. i. To become a pipe or fistula.

FISTULATE, v. t. To make hollow like a pipe. [Little used.]

FISTULIFORM, a. [*fistula* and *form*.] Being in round hollow columns, as a mineral.

Stalactite often occurs fistuliform. Phillips.

FISTULOUS, a. Having the form or nature of a fistula; as a fistulous ulcer. Wiseman.

FIT, n. [*Qu. W. filth*, a gliding or darting motion. The French express the sense of this word by *boutade*, from *bout*, the primary sense of which is to shoot or push out. It seems to be allied to *L. peto*, *impeto*, to assault, or to *Eng. pet*, and primarily to denote a rushing on or attack, or a start. See *Fit*, suitable.]

1. The invasion, exacerbation or paroxysm of a disease. We apply the word to the return of an ague, after intermission, as a cold fit. We apply it to the first attack, or to the return of other diseases, as a fit of the gout or stone; and in general, to a disease however continued, as a fit of sickness.

2. A sudden and violent attack of disorder, in which the body is often convulsed, and sometimes senseless; as a fit of apoplexy or epilepsy; hysteric fits.

3. Any short return after intermission; a turn; a period or interval. He moves by fits and starts.

By fits my swelling grief appears. Addison.

4. A temporary affection or attack; as a fit

of melancholy, or of grief; a fit of pleasure.

5. Disorder; distemperance. Shak.

6. [*Sax. fitl*, a song.] Anciently, a song, or part of a song; a strain; a canto. Lye. Johnson.

FIT, a. [*Flemish, viltten*; *G. pass*, fit, and a pace; *passen*, to be fit, suitable, right. This is from the root of *Eng. pass*; *D. pass*, time, season; *van pass*, fitting, fit, convenient; *Eng. pat*; *Dan. passer*, to be fit. In *L. competo*, whence *compatibile*, signifies properly to meet or to fall on, hence to suit or be fit, from *peto*. This is probably the same word. The primary sense is to come to, to fall on, hence to meet, to extend to, to be close, to suit. To come or fall, is the primary sense of time or season, as in the Dutch. See Class Bd. No. 45. 64. and Class Br. No. 52. 53. 70.]

1. Suitable; convenient; meet; becoming. Is it fit to say to a king, thou art wicked? Job xxxv.

2. Qualified; as men of valor fit for war. No man having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God. Luke ix.

FIT, v. t. To adapt; to suit; to make suitable.

The carpenter—marketh it out with a line, he fitteth it with planes. Is. xlv.

2. To accommodate a person with any thing; as, the tailor fits his customer with a coat. The original phrase is, he fits a coat to his customer. But the phrase implies also furnishing, providing a thing suitable for another.

3. To prepare; to put in order for; to furnish with things proper or necessary; as, to fit a ship for a long voyage. Fit yourself for action or defense.

4. To qualify; to prepare; as, to fit a student for college.

To fit out, to furnish; to equip; to supply with necessities or means; as, to fit out a privateer.

To fit up, to prepare; to furnish with things suitable; to make proper for the reception or use of any person; as, to fit up a house for a guest.

FIT, v. i. To be proper or becoming. Nor fits it to prolong the feast. Pope.

2. To suit or be suitable; to be adapted. His coat fits very well. But this is an elliptical phrase.

FITCH, n. A chick-pea.

FITCHET, n. A polecat; a founmart. [W. *fitchew*, *gruecill* or *gruecyn*.]

FITFUL, a. Varied by paroxysms; full of fits. Shak.

FITLY, adv. Suitably; properly; with propriety. A maxim fitly applied.

2. Commodiously; conveniently.

FITMENT, n. Something adapted to a purpose. [Not used.] Shak.

FITNESS, n. Suitableness; adaptedness; adaptation; as the fitness of things to their use.

3. Propriety; meetness; justness; reasonableness; as the fitness of measures or laws.

3. Preparation; qualification; as a student's fitness for college.

4. Convenience; the state of being fit.