

2. A seeker; an inquirer. *Watts.*
3. An examiner; a trier; as the *Searcher* of hearts.

1. An officer in London, appointed to examine the bodies of the dead, and report the cause of their death. *Graunt.*
5. An officer of the customs, whose business is to search and examine ships outward bound, to ascertain whether they have prohibited goods on board, also baggage, goods, &c.
6. An inspector of leather. [*Local.*]
7. In *military affairs*, an instrument for examining ordnance, to ascertain whether guns have any cavities in them. *Encyc.*
8. An instrument used in the inspection of butter, &c. to ascertain the quality of that which is contained in firkins. [*Local.*]

Mass.

SEARCHING, *ppr. serch'ing.* Looking into or over; exploring; examining; inquiring; seeking; investigating.

2. *a.* Penetrating; trying; close; as a *searching* discourse.

SEARCHING, *n. serch'ing.* Examination; severe inquisition. *Judges v.*

SEARCHLESS, *a. serch'less.* Inscrutable; eluding search or investigation.

SEAR-CLOTH, *n.* [*Sax. sar-clath, sore-cloth.*]

A cloth to cover a sore; a plaster.

Mortimer.

SE'ARED, *pp.* [from *scar.*] Burnt on the surface; cauterized; hardened.

SE'AREDNESS, *n.* The state of being seared, cauterized or hardened; hardness; hence, insensibility. *Bp. Hall.*

SE'ASON, *n. se'zn.* [*Fr. saison; Arn. saison, sazun; Port. sazam, sezam,* season, proper time, state of being seasoned; *sazonar*, to season, ripen, temper, sweeten, bring to maturity; *Sp. sazón*, season, maturity, taste, relish; *sazonar*, to season. The primary sense, like that of time and opportunity, is to fall, to come, to arrive, and this word seems to be allied to *seize* and *assess*; to fall on, to set on.]

Season literally signifies that which comes or arrives; and in this general sense, is synonymous with *time*. Hence,

1. A fit or suitable time; the convenient time; the usual or appointed time; as, the messenger arrived in *season*; in good *season*. This fruit is out of *season*.
2. Any time, as distinguished from others.

The *season* prime for sweetest scents and airs. *Milton.*

3. A time of some continuance, but not long.

Thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a *season*. *Acts xiii.*

4. One of the four divisions of the year, spring, summer, autumn, winter. The *season* is mild; it is cold for the *season*.

We saw, in six days' traveling, the several *seasons* of the year in their beauty. *Addison.*

We distinguish the season by prefixing its appropriate name, as the spring-season, summer-season, &c.

To be in *season*, to be in good time, or sufficiently early for the purpose.

To be out of *season*, to be too late, beyond the proper time, or beyond the usual or appointed time.

From the sense of convenience, is derived the following.

5. That which matures or prepares for the taste; that which gives a relish.

You lack the *season* of all nature, sleep.

Shak.

But in this sense, we now use *seasoning*.

SE'ASON, *v. t.* [*Fr. assaisonner; Sp. Port. sazunar.*]

1. To render palatable, or to give a higher relish to, by the addition or mixture of another substance more pungent or pleasant; as, to *season* meat with salt; to *season* any thing with spices. *Lev. ii.*
2. To render more agreeable, pleasant or delightful; to give a relish or zest to by something that excites, animates or exhilarates.

You *season* still with sports your serious hours. *Dryden.*

The proper use of wit is to *season* conversation. *Tillotson.*

3. To render more agreeable, or less rigorous and severe; to temper; to moderate; to qualify by admixture.

When mercy *seasons* justice. *Shak.*

4. To imbue; to tinge or taint.

Season their younger years with prudent and pious principles. *Taylor.*

5. To fit for any use by time or habit; to mature; to prepare.

Who in want a hollow friend doth try,
Directly *seasons* him an enemy. *Shak.*

6. To prepare for use by drying or hardening; to take out or suffer to escape the natural juices; as, to *season* timber.

7. To prepare or mature for a climate; to accustom to and enable to endure; as, to *season* the body to a particular climate. Long residence in the West Indies, or a fever, may *season* strangers.

SE'ASON, *v. i.* To become mature; to grow fit for use; to become adapted to a climate, as the human body.

2. To become dry and hard by the escape of the natural juices, or by being penetrated with other substance. Timber *seasons* well under cover in the air, and ship timber *seasons* in salt water.

3. To betoken; to savor. *Obs. Beaum.*

SE'ASONABLE, *a.* Opportune; that comes, happens or is done in good time, in due season or in proper time for the purpose; as a *seasonable* supply of rain.

Mercy is *seasonable* in the time of affliction. *Eccles.*

SE'ASONABLENESS, *n.* Opportuneness of time; the state of being in good time, or in time convenient for the purpose or sufficiently early. *Addison.*

SE'ASONABLY, *adv.* In due time; in time convenient; sufficiently early; as, to sow or plant *seasonably*.

SE'ASONAGE, *n.* Seasoning; sauce. [*Not used.*]

SE'ASONED, *pp.* Mixed or sprinkled with something that gives a relish; tempered; moderated; qualified; matured; dried and hardened.

SE'ASONER, *n.* He that seasons; that which seasons, matures or gives a relish.

SE'ASONING, *ppr.* Giving a relish by something added; moderating; qualifying; maturing; drying and hardening; fitting by habit.

SE'ASONING, *n.* That which is added to any species of food to give it a higher relish; usually, something pungent or aromatic;

as salt, spices or other aromatic herbs, acids, sugar, or a mixture of several things. *Arbuthnot.*

2. Something added or mixed to enhance the pleasure of enjoyment; as, wit or humor may serve as a *seasoning* to eloquence.

Political speculations are of so dry and austere a nature, that they will not go down with the public without frequent *seasonings*.

Addison.

SEAT, *n.* [*It. sedia; Sp. sede, sitio, from L. sedes, situs; Sw. sät; Dan. sade; G. sitz; D. zetel, zitplaats; W. sez; Ir. saith; W. with a prefix, gosod, whence gosodi, to sit. See Set and Sit.* The English *seat* retains the Roman pronunciation of *situs*, that is, *sectus*.]

1. That on which one sits: a chair, bench, stool or any other thing on which a person sits.

Christ—overthrew the tables of the money changers and the *seats* of them that sold doves. *Matt. xxi.*

2. The place of sitting; throne; chair of state; tribunal; post of authority; as the *seat* of justice; judgment-seat.

3. Mansion; residence; dwelling; abode; as Italy the *seat* of empire. The Greeks sent colonies to seek a new *seat* in Gaul. In Alba he shall fix his royal *seat*.

Dryden.

4. Site; situation. The *seat* of Eden has never been incontrovertibly ascertained.

5. That part of a saddle on which a person sits.

6. In *horsemanship*, the posture or situation of a person on horseback. *Encyc.*

7. A pew or slip in a church; a place to sit in.

8. The place where a thing is settled or established. London is the *seat* of business and opulence. So we say, the *seat* of the muses, the *seat* of arts, the *seat* of commerce.

SEAT, *v. t.* To place on a seat; to cause to sit down. We *seat* ourselves; we *seat* our guests.

The guests were no sooner *seated* but they entered into a warm debate. *Arbuthnot.*

2. To place in a post of authority, in office or a place of distinction. He *seated* his son in the professor's chair.

Then high was king Richard *seated*. *Shak.*

3. To settle; to fix in a particular place or country. A colony of Greeks *seated* themselves in the south of Italy; another at Massilia in Gaul.

4. To fix; to set firm.

From their foundations, loosening to and fro,
They pluck'd the *seated* hills. *Milton.*

5. To place in a church; to assign seats to. In New England, where the pews in churches are not private property, it is customary to *seat* families for a year or longer time; that is, assign and appropriate *seats* to their use.

6. To appropriate the pews in, to particular families; as, to *seat* a church.

7. To repair by making the seat new; as, to *seat* a garment.

8. To settle; to plant with inhabitants; as, to *seat* a country. [*Not much used.*]

Stith, Virg.

SEAT, *v. i.* To rest; to lie down. [*Not in use.*]

Spenser.