

- son of *soft* manners. He has a *soft* way of asking favors.
10. Placid; still; easy.
On her *soft* axle while she paces even,
She bears thee *soft* with the smooth air along.
Milton.
11. Effeminate; viciously nice.
An idle *soft* course of life is the source of criminal pleasures.
Broome.
12. Delicate; elegantly tender.
Her form more *soft* and feminine.
Milton.
13. Weak; impressible.
The deceiver soon found this *soft* place of Adam's. [*Not elegant.*]
Glanville.
14. Gentle; smooth or melodious to the ear; not loud, rough or harsh; as a *soft* voice or note; a *soft* sound; *soft* accents; *soft* whispers.
Dryden. Pope.
15. Smooth; flowing; not rough or vehement.
The solema nightingale tun'd her *soft* lays.
Milton.
Soft were my numbers, who could take offense?
Pope.
16. Easy; quiet; undisturbed; as *soft* slumbers.
17. Mild to the eye; not strong or glaring; as *soft* colors; the *soft* coloring of a picture.
The sun shining on the upper part of the clouds, made the *softest* lights imaginable.
Brown.
18. Mild; warm; pleasant to the feelings; as *soft* air.
19. Not tinged with an acid; not hard; not astringent; as, *soft* water is the best for washing.
20. Mild; gentle; not rough, rude or irritating.
A *soft* answer turneth away wrath. Prov. xv.
SOFT, *adv.* Softly; gently; quietly.
SOFT, *exclam.* for *be soft*, hold; stop; not so fast.
But, *soft*, my muse, the world is wide.
Suckling.
- SOFTEN**, *v. t. sof'n.* To make soft or more soft; to make less hard.
Their arrow's point they *soften* in the flame.
Gay.
2. To mollify; to make less fierce or intractable; to make more susceptible of humane or fine feelings; as, to *soften* a hard heart; to *soften* savage natures. The heart is *softened* by pity.
Diffidence conciliates the proud, and *softens* the severe.
Rambler.
3. To make less harsh or severe; as, to *soften* an expression.
4. To palliate; to represent as less enormous; as, to *soften* a fault.
5. To make easy; to compose; to mitigate; to alleviate.
Music can *soften* pain to ease.
Pope.
6. To make calm and placid.
Bid her be all that cheers or *softens* life.
Pope.
7. To make less harsh, less rude, less offensive or violent.
But sweetly temper'd awe, and *soften'd* all he spoke.
Dryden.
8. To make less glaring; as, to *soften* the coloring of a picture.
9. To make tender; to make effeminate; to enervate; as troops *softened* by luxury.
10. To make less harsh or grating; as, to *soften* the voice.
- SOFTEN**, *v. i. sof'n.* To become less hard; to become more pliable and yielding to pressure; as, iron or wax *softens* in heat; fruits *soften* as they ripen.
2. To become less rude, harsh or cruel; as, savage natures *soften* by civilization.
3. To become less obstinate or obdurate; to become more susceptible of humane feelings and tenderness; to relent. The heart *softens* at the sight of woe.
4. To become more mild; as, the air *softens*.
5. To become less harsh, severe or rigorous.
- SOFTENED**, *pp.* Made less hard or less harsh; made less obdurate or cruel, or less glaring.
- SOFTENING**, *ppr.* Making more soft; making less rough or cruel, &c.
- SOFTENING**, *n.* The act of making less hard, less cruel or obdurate, less violent, less glaring, &c.
- SOFT-HEARTED**, *a.* Having tenderness of heart; susceptible of pity or other kindly affection; gentle; meek.
- SOFT/LING**, *n.* An effeminate person; one vitiously nice. [*Little used.*]
Woolton.
- SOFT/LY**, *adv.* Without hardness.
2. Not with force or violence; gently; as, he *softly* pressed my hand.
3. Not loudly; without noise; as, speak *softly*; walk *softly*.
In this dark silence *softly* leave the town.
Dryden.
4. Gently; placidly.
She *softly* lays him on a flowery bed.
Dryden.
5. Mildly; tenderly.
The king must die;
Though pity *softly* pleads within my soul—
Dryden.
- SOFTNER**, *n.* He or that which softens.
2. One that palliates. *Swift.*
- SOFTNESS**, *n.* The quality of bodies which renders them capable of yielding to pressure, or of easily receiving impressions from other bodies; opposed to *hardness*.
2. Susceptibility of feeling or passion; as the *softness* of the heart or of our natures.
3. Mildness; kindness; as *softness* of words or expressions. *Watts.*
4. Mildness; civility; gentleness; as *softness* of manners. *Dryden.*
5. Effeminacy; vicious delicacy.
He was not delighted with the *softness* of the court. *Clarendon.*
6. Timorousness; pusillanimity; excessive susceptibility of fear or alarm.
This virtue could not proceed out of fear or *softness*. *Bacon.*
7. Smoothness to the ear; as the *softness* of sounds, which is distinct from *civility* or *fineness*. *Bacon.*
8. Facility; gentleness; candor; easiness to be affected; as *softness* of spirit. *Hooker.*
9. Gentleness, as contrary to *vehemence*.
With strength and *softness*, energy and ease—
Harte.
10. Mildness of temper; meekness.
For contemplation he and valor form'd,
For *softness* she, and sweet attractive grace.
Milton.
11. Weakness; simplicity.
12. Mild temperature; as the *softness* of a climate. *Milford.*
- SOG/GY**, *a.* [allied probably to *soak*, which see; *W. soggy*, and *soggi*, to steep.]
1. Wet; filled with water; soft with moisture; as *soggy* land. Timber that has imbibed water is said to be *soggy*. *B. Jonson.*
2. Steaming with damp. *Shak.*
- SOHO**, *exclam.* A word used in calling from a distant place; a sportsman's halloo.
- SOIL**, *v. t.* [*Sax. sclar, sylian*; *Dan. soler*; *Sw. sôla*; *Fr. salir, souiller*; *Arm. salicza*; *Ir. salaighin*. Class St. No. 35. Syr.]
1. To make dirty on the surface; to foul; to dirt; to stain; to defile; to tarnish; to sully; as, to *soil* a garment with dust.
Our wonted ornaments now *soil'd* and stain'd.
Milton.
2. To cover or tinge with any thing extraneous; as, to *soil* the earth with blood. *Tate.*
3. To dung; to manure. *South.*
To *soil* a horse, is to purge him by giving him fresh grass. *Johnson.*
To *soil* cattle, in husbandry, is to feed them with grass daily mowed for them, instead of pasturing them.
- SOIL**, *n.* [*G. sùle*. See the Verb.] Dirt; any foul matter upon another substance; foulness; spot.
2. Stain; tarnish.
A lady's honor—will not bear a *soil*. *Dryden.*
3. The upper stratum of the earth; the mold, or that compound substance which furnishes nutriment to plants, or which is particularly adapted to support and nourish them. [*L. solum, W. sul.*]
4. Land; country. We love our native *soil*.
5. Dung; compost.
Improve land by dung and other sort of *soils*. *Mortimer.*
- To take *soil*, to run into the water, as a deer when pursued. *B. Jonson.*
- SOIL/ED**, *pp.* Fouled; stained; tarnished; manured; fed with grass.
- SOIL/INESS**, *n.* Stain; foulness. [*Little used.*]
Bacon.
- SOIL/LING**, *ppr.* Defiling; fouling; tarnishing; feeding with fresh grass; manuring.
- SOIL/LING**, *n.* The act or practice of feeding cattle or horses with fresh grass, instead of pasturing them.
- SOIL/LESS**, *a.* Destitute of soil. *Bigsby.*
- SOIL/URE**, *n.* [*Fr. souillure*.] Stain; pollution. [*Not in use.*]
Shak.
- SOJOURN**, *v. i. sojurn.* [*Fr. sejourner*; *It. soggiornare*, which seems to be formed from the noun *soggiorno*; *sub and giorno*, a day.]
- To dwell for a time; to dwell or live in a place as a temporary resident, or as a stranger, not considering the place as his permanent habitation. So Abram *sojourned* in Egypt. Gen. xii.
The soldiers assembled at New Castle, and there *sojourned* three days. *Hayward.*
- SOJOURN**, *n.* A temporary residence, as that of a traveler in a foreign land. *Milton.*
- SOJOURNER**, *n.* A temporary resident; a stranger or traveler who dwells in a place for a time.
We are strangers before thee and *sojourners*, as all our fathers were. 1 Chron. xxix.
- SOJOURNING**, *ppr.* Dwelling for a time.
- SOJOURNING**, *n.* The act of dwelling in a place for a time; also, the time of abode. Ex. xii.