

tints of blue or yellow. It is in grains more or less crystalized.

*Haüy. Phillips. Jameson.*

A subspecies of octahedral cornudum.

**SPINELLANE**, *n.* A mineral occurring in small crystalline masses and in minute crystals. It has been found only near the lake of Laach.

**SPINES/CENT**, *a.* [from *spine*.] Becoming hard and thorny.

**SPIN/ET**, *n.* [It. *spinetta*; Fr. *cpinette*; Sp. *espineta*.]

An instrument of music resembling a harpsichord, but smaller; a virginal; a clavi-chord.

**SPIN/ET**, *n.* [L. *spinetum*.] A small wood or place where briars and thorns grow. [Not in use.]

**SPINIF/EROUS**, *a.* [L. *spina*, spine, and *fero*, to bear.] Producing spines; bearing thorns.

**SPINK**, *n.* A bird; a finch.

**SPIN/NER**, *n.* One that spins; one skilled in spinning.

2. A spider.

**SPIN/NING**, *ppr.* Drawing out and twisting into threads; drawing out; delaying.

**SPIN/NING**, *n.* The act, practice or art of drawing out and twisting into threads, as wool, flax and cotton.

2. The act or practice of forming webs, as spiders.

**SPIN/NING-JENNY**, *n.* An engine or complicated machine for spinning wool or cotton, in the manufacture of cloth.

**SPIN/NING-WHEEL**, *n.* A wheel for spinning wool, cotton or flax into threads.

**SPIN/OLET**, *n.* A small bird of the lark kind.

**SPINOS/ITY**, *n.* The state of being spiny or thorny; crabbedness.

**SPINOUS**, *a.* [L. *spinus*, from *spina*.] Full of spines; armed with thorns; thorny.

**SPINOZISM**, *n.* The doctrines or principles of Spinoza, a native of Amsterdam, consisting in atheism and pantheism, or naturalism and hulotheism, which allows of no God but nature or the universe.

**SPIN/STER**, *n.* [spin and ster.] A woman who spins, or whose occupation is to spin. Hence,

2. In law, the common title by which a woman without rank or distinction is designated.

If a gentlewoman is termed a *spinster*, she may abate the writ.

**SPIN/STRY**, *n.* The business of spinning.

**SPIN/THERE**, *n.* A mineral of a greenish gray color.

**SPIN/Y**, *a.* [from *spine*.] Full of spines; thorny; as a *spiny* tree.

2. Perplexed; difficult; troublesome.

**SPIR/ACLE**, *n.* [L. *spiraculum*, from *spiro*, to breathe.]

1. A small aperture in animal and vegetable bodies, by which air or other fluid is exhaled or inhaled; a small hole, orifice or vent; a pore; a minute passage; as the *spiracles* of the human skin.

2. Any small aperture, hole or vent.

**SPIRAL**, *a.* [It. *spirale*; Fr. *spiral*; from L. *spira*, a spire.]

Winding round a cylinder or other round body, or in a circular form, and at the same time rising or advancing forward; winding like a screw. The magnificent column in the Place Vendome, at Paris, is divided by a *spiral* line into compartments. It is formed with *spiral* compartments, on which are engraved figures emblematical of the victories of the French armies. A whirlwind is so named from the *spiral* motion of the air. Water in a tunnel descends in a *spiral* form.

**SPIRALLY**, *adv.* In a spiral form or direction; in the manner of a screw.

**SPIRA/TION**, *n.* [L. *spiratio*.] A breathing. [Not used.]

**SPIRE**, *n.* [L. *spira*; Gr. *σπείρα*; Sp. *espira*; from the root of L. *spiro*, to breathe. The primary sense of the root is to throw, to drive, to send, but it implies a winding motion, like *throw*, *warp*, and many others.]

1. A winding line like the threads of a screw; any thing wreathed or contorted; a curl; a twist; a wreath.

His neck erect amidst his circling *spires*.  
Milton.

A dragon's fiery form belied the god;  
Sublime on radiant *spires* he rode.  
Dryden.

2. A body that shoots up to a point; a tapering body; a round pyramid or pyramidal body; a steeple.

With glistening *spires* and pinnacles adorn'd.  
Milton.

3. A stalk or blade of grass or other plant. How humble ought man to be, who cannot make a single *spire* of grass.

4. The top or uppermost point of a thing.

**SPIRE**, *v. i.* To shoot; to shoot up pyramidally.

2. To breathe. [Not in use.]

3. To sprout, as grain in malting.

**SPIRED**, *a.* Having a spire.

**SPIR/IT**, *n.* [Fr. *esprit*; It. *spirito*; Sp. *espiritu*; L. *spiritus*, from *spiro*, to breathe, to blow. The primary sense is to rush or drive.]

1. Primarily, wind; air in motion; hence, breath.

All bodies have *spirits* and pneumatical parts within them.  
Bacon.

[This sense is now unusual.]

2. Animal excitement, or the effect of it; life; ardor; fire; courage; elevation or vehemence of mind. The troops attacked the enemy with great *spirit*. The young man has the *spirit* of youth. He speaks or acts with *spirit*. *Spirits*, in the plural, is used in nearly a like sense. The troops began to recover their *spirits*.

3. Vigor of intellect; genius.

His wit, his beauty and his *spirit*.  
Butler.

The noblest *spirit* or genius cannot deserve enough of mankind to pretend to the esteem of heroic virtue.  
Temple.

4. Temper; disposition of mind, habitual or temporary; as a man of a generous *spirit*, or of a revengeful *spirit*; the ornament of a meek and quiet *spirit*.

Let us go to the house of God in the *spirit* of prayer.

5. The soul of man; the intelligent, immaterial and immortal part of human beings. [See *Soul*.]

The *spirit* shall return to God that gave it.  
Eccles. xii.

6. An immaterial intelligent substance. *Spirit* is a substance in which thinking, knowing, doubting, and a power of moving do subsist.

Hence,  
7. An immaterial intelligent being.

By which he went and preached to the *spirits* in prison. I Pet. iii.

God is a *spirit*. John iv.

8. Turn of mind; temper; occasional state of the mind.  
A perfect judge will read each work of wit,  
With the same *spirit* that its author writ.  
Pope.

9. Powers of mind distinct from the body.  
In *spirit* perhaps he also saw  
Rich Mexico, the seat of Montezumac.  
Milton.

10. Sentiment; perception.  
Your *spirit* is too true, your fears too certain.  
Shak.

11. Eager desire; disposition of mind excited and directed to a particular object.  
God has made a *spirit* of building succeed a *spirit* of pulling down.  
South.

12. A person of activity; a man of life, vigor or enterprise.

The watery kingdom is no bar  
To stop the foreign *spirits*, but they come.  
Shak.

13. Persons distinguished by qualities of the mind.

Such *spirits* as he desired to please, such would I choose for my judges.  
Dryden.

14. Excitement of mind; animation; cheerfulness; usually in the plural. We found our friend in very good *spirits*. He has a great flow of *spirits*.

—To sing thy praise, would heaven my breath prolong,  
Infusing *spirits* worthy such a song.  
Dryden.

15. Life or strength of resemblance; essential qualities; as, to set off the face in its true *spirit*. The copy has not the *spirit* of the original.

16. Something eminently pure and refined.

Nor doth the eye itself,  
That most pure *spirit* of sense, behold itself.  
Shak.

17. That which hath power or energy; the quality of any substance which manifests life, activity, or the power of strongly affecting other bodies; as the *spirit* of wine or of any liquor.

18. A strong, pungent or stimulating liquor, usually obtained by distillation, as rum, brandy, gin, whiskey. In America, *spirit*, used without other words explanatory of its meaning, signifies the liquor distilled from cane-juce, or rum. We say, new *spirit*, or old *spirit*, Jamaica *spirit*, &c.

19. An apparition; a ghost.

20. The renewed nature of man. Matt. xxvi. Gal. v.

21. The influences of the Holy Spirit. Matt. xxvii.

*Holy Spirit*, the third person in the Trinity.

**SPIR/IT**, *v. t.* To animate; to actuate; as a *spirit*.