

2. To manage; to use; to wield.

That fellow *handles* a bow like a crow-keeper.
Shak.

3. To make familiar by frequent touching.

The breeders in Flanders—*handle* their colts six months every year.
Temple.

4. To treat; to discourse on; to discuss; to use or manage in writing or speaking. The author *handled* the subject with address. The speaker *handled* the arguments to the best advantage.

5. To use; to deal with; to practice.

They that *handle* the law knew me not.
Jer. ii.

6. To treat; to use well or ill.

How wert thou *handled*?
Shak.

7. To manage; to practice on; to transact with.

You shall see how I will *handle* her.
Shak.

HANDLE, *n.* [*Sax. Qu. L. ansa, Norm. hanse,*]

1. That part of a vessel or instrument which is held in the hand when used, as the haft of a sword, the bail of a kettle, &c.

2. That of which use is made; the instrument of effecting a purpose.
South.

HANDLEAD, *n.* A lead for sounding.

HANDLELED, *pp.* Touched; treated; managed.

HANDLELESS, *a.* Without a hand.
Shak.

HANDLELING, *ppr.* Touching; feeling; treating; managing.

HANDMAID, *n.* A maid that waits at
HANDMAIDEN, *n.* hand; a female servant or attendant.
Scripture.

HANDMILL, *n.* A mill moved by the hand.
Dryden.

HANDSAILS, *n.* Sails managed by the hand.
Temple.

HANDSAW, *n.* A saw to be used with the hand.
Mortimer.

HANDSCREW, *n.* An engine for raising heavy timbers or weights; a jack.

HANDSEL, *n.* [*Dan. handels; Sax. handselen, from handsyllan, to deliver into the hand. See Sale and Sell.*]

1. The first act of using any thing; the first sale.
Elyot.

2. An earnest; money for the first sale.
[*Little used*]
Hooker.

HANDSET, *v. t.* To use or do any thing the first time.
Dryden.

HANDSOME, *a.* [*D. handzaam, soft, limber, tractable; hand and zaam, together. Zaam, or saam, we see in assemble. The sense of docility is taken from hand, as in G. behandeln, D. behandelen, to handle, to manage. The Dutch sense of soft, limber, is probably from the sense of easily managed or handled.*]

1. Properly, dextrous; ready; convenient.

For a thief it is so *handsome*, as it may seem it was first invented for him.
Spenser.

This sense is either from the original meaning of hand, or from the use of the hand, or rather of the right hand. In this sense the word is still used. We say of a well fought combat and victory, it is a *handsome* affair, an affair well performed, done with dexterity or skill. [*See Handy.*]

2. Moderately beautiful, as the person or other thing; well made; having symmetry of parts; well formed. It expresses less than beautiful or elegant; as a *handsome* woman or man; she has a *handsome*

person or face. So we say, a *handsome* house; a *handsome* type.

3. Graceful in manner; marked with propriety and ease; as a *handsome* address.

4. Ample; large; as a *handsome* fortune.

5. Neat; correct; moderately elegant; as a *handsome* style or composition.

6. Liberal; generous; as a *handsome* present.

The applications of this word in popular language are various and somewhat indefinite. In general, when applied to things, it imports that the form is agreeable to the eye, or to just taste; and when applied to manner, it conveys the idea of suitability or propriety with grace.

HANDSOME, as a verb, to render neat or beautiful, is not an authorized word.

HANDSOMELY, *adv.* Dextrously; cleverly; with skill.
Spenser.

2. Gracefully; with propriety and ease.

3. Neatly; with due symmetry or proportions; as, a thing is *handsomely* made or finished.

4. With a degree of beauty; as a room *handsomely* furnished or ornamented.

5. Amply; generously; liberally. She is *handsomely* endowed.

HANDSOMENESS, *n.* A moderate degree of beauty or elegance; as the *handsomeness* of the person or of an edifice.

2. Grace; gracefulness; ease and propriety in manner.

HANDSPIKE, *n.* A wooden bar, used with the hand as a lever, for various purposes, as in raising weights, heaving about a windlass, &c.

HANDSTAFF, *n.* A javelin; plu. *hand-staves*. Ezek. xxxix.

HANDVISE, *n.* A vise used by hand, or for small work.
Mazon.

HANDWEAPON, *n.* Any weapon to be wielded by the hand. Numb. xxxv.

HANDWRITING, *n.* The east or form of writing peculiar to each hand or person.
Shak.

2. Any writing.

HANDY, *a.* [*D. handig, behendig; Dan. handig; from hand.*]

1. Performed by the hand.

They came to *handy* blows. *Obs. Knolles.*

2. Dextrous; ready; adroit; skilled to use the hands with ease in performance; applied to persons. He is *handy* with the saw or the plane. Each is *handy* in his way.
Dryden.

3. Ingenious; performing with skill and readiness.

4. Ready to the hand; near. My books are very *handy*.

5. Convenient; suited to the use of the hand.

6. Near; that may be used without difficulty or going to a distance. We have a spring or pasture that is *handy*.

HANDYBLOW, *n.* A blow with the hand; an act of hostility.
Harmar.

HANDYDANDY, *n.* A play in which children change hands and places.
Shak.

HANDYGRIPPE, *n.* Seizure by the hand.
Hudibras.

HANDYSTROKE, *n.* A blow inflicted by the hand.
Beaumont.

HANG, *v. t.* pret. and pp. *hanged* or *hung*. [*Sax. hangan; Sw. hänga; Dan. hænger; G. D. hangen; W. hongian, to hang; hong, a hanging or dangling; hanc, a shake, a wagging; hancuæ, to shake, wag, stagger, to waver. The latter seems to be the primary sense.*]

1. To suspend; to fasten to some fixed object above, in such a manner as to swing or move; as, to *hang* a thief. Pharaoh *hanged* the chief baker. Hence,

2. To put to death by suspending by the neck.

Many men would rebel, rather than be ruined; but they would rather not rebel than be *hanged*. *Ames.*

3. To place without any solid support or foundation.

He *hangeth* the earth upon nothing. Job xxxvi.

4. To fix in such a manner as to be movable; as, to *hang* a door or grate on hooks or by butts.

5. To cover or furnish by any thing suspended or fastened to the walls; as, to *hang* an apartment with curtains or with pictures.

Hung be the heavens with black—*Shak.*
And *hung* thy holy roofs with savage spoils.
Dryden.

To hang out, to suspend in open view; to display; to exhibit to notice; as, to *hang out* false colors.

2. To hang abroad; to suspend in the open air.

To hang over, to project or cause to project above.

To hang down, to let fall below the proper situation; to bend down; to decline; as, to *hang down* the head, and elliptically, to *hang the head*.

To hang up, to suspend; to place on something fixed on high.

2. To suspend; to keep or suffer to remain undecided; as, to *hang up* a question in debate.

HANG, *v. i.* To be suspended; to be sustained by something above, so as to swing or be movable below.

2. To dangle; to be loose and flowing below.

3. To bend forward or downward; to lean or incline.
Addison.

His neck obliquely o'er his shoulder *hung*.
Pope.

4. To float; to play.

And all those sayings from that gentle tongue,
Where civil speech and soft persuasion *hung*.
Prior.

5. To be supported by something raised above the ground; as a *hanging* garden on the top of a house.
Addison.

6. To depend; to rest on something for support. This question *hangs* on a single point.

7. To rest on by embracing; to cling to; as, to *hang* on the neck of a person.

Two infants *hanging* on her neck.
Peaecham.

8. To hover; to impend; with *over*. View the dangers that *hang over* the country.

9. To be delayed; to linger.

A noble stroke he lifted high,
Which *hung* not.
Milton.

10. To incline; to have a steep declivity; as *hanging* grounds.
Mortimer.