

**PIE/CEMEAL**, *adv.* [*piece* and *Sax. mel*, time. *Qu.*]

1. In pieces; in fragments.  
On which it *piecemeal* broke. *Chapman.*
2. By pieces; by little and little in succession.  
*Piecemeal* they win this acre first, then that. *Pope.*

**PIE/CEMEAL**, *a.* Single; separate; made of parts or pieces. *South.*

**PIE/CEMEAL**, *a.* Divided into small pieces. *Cotgrave.*

**PIE/CER**, *n.* One that pieces; a patcher.

**PIED**, *a.* [allied probably to *pie*, in *piebald*, and a contracted word, perhaps from the root of *L. pictus*.]

Variegated with spots of different colors; spotted. We now apply the word chiefly or wholly to animals which are marked with large spots of different colors. If the spots are small, we use *speckled*. This distinction was not formerly observed, and in some cases, *pie* is elegantly used to express a diversity of colors in small spots. Meadows trim with daisies *pie*. *Milton.*

**PIEDNESS**, *n.* Diversity of colors in spots. *Shak.*

**PIE/LED**, *a.* [See *Peel*.] Bald; bare.

**PIE/POUDRE**, *n.* [Fr. *pie*, foot, and *poudre*, dusty, from *poudre*, dust; or *pie* *puldreux*, a pedlar.]

An ancient court of record in England, incident to every fair and market, of which the steward of him who owns or has the toll, is the judge. It had jurisdiction of all causes arising in the fair or market. *Blackstone.*

**PIER**, *n.* [*Sax. per, pere*; *D. beer, steene beer*. If this word is from the French *pierre*, it is a contraction of *L. petra*. But more probably it is not from the French.]

1. A mass of solid stone work for supporting an arch or the timbers of a bridge or other building.
2. A mass of stone work or a mole projecting into the sea, for breaking the force of the waves and making a safe harbor.

**PIERCE**, *v. t. pers.* [Fr. *percer*; Gr. *περω*. The primary sense is probably to thrust or drive, and the word may be connected in origin with the *W. ber* or *pér*, a spit, a spear, *Ir. bior*.]

1. To thrust into with a pointed instrument; as, to *pierce* the body with a sword or spear; to *pierce* the side with a thorn.
2. To penetrate; to enter; to force a way into; as, a column of troops *pierced* the main body of the enemy; a shot *pierced* the ship.
3. To penetrate the heart deeply; to touch the passions; to excite or affect the passions. 1 Tim. vi.
4. To dive or penetrate into, as a secret or purpose.

**PIERCE**, *v. i. pers.* To enter; as a pointed instrument.

2. To penetrate; to force a way into or through any thing. The shot *pierced* through the side of the ship.

Her tears will *pierce* into a marble heart. *Shak.*

3. To enter; to dive or penetrate, as into a secret.

She would not *pierce* further into his meaning than himself should declare. *Sidney.*

4. To affect deeply.

**PIERCEABLE**, *a. pers'able*. That may be pierced. *Spenser.*

**PIERCED**, *pp. pers'cd*. Penetrated; entered by force; transfixed.

**PIERCER**, *n. pers'er*. An instrument that pierces, penetrates or bores.

2. One that pierces or perforates.

**PIERCING**, *ppr. pers'ingly*. Penetrating; entering, as a pointed instrument; making a way by force into another body.

2. Affecting deeply; as eloquence *piercing* the heart.

3. Affecting; cutting; keen.

**PIERCINGLY**, *adv. pers'ingly*. With penetrating force or effect; sharply.

**PIERCINGNESS**, *n. pers'ingness*. The power of piercing or penetrating; sharpness; keenness. *Derham.*

**PI/ETISM**, *n.* [See *Piety*.] Extremely strict devotion, or affectation of piety. *Frey.*

**PI/ETIST**, *n.* One of a sect professing great strictness and purity of life, despising learning, school theology and ecclesiastical polity, as also forms and ceremonies in religion, and giving themselves up to mystic theology. This sect sprung up among the protestants of Germany, in the latter part of the seventeenth century. *Encyc. Burnet.*

**PI/ETY**, *n.* [*L. pietas*, from *pius*, or its root, probably a contracted word; Fr. *piété*; *It. pietà*, piety, and pity; *Sp. piedad*, piety, pity, charity.]

1. Piety in principle, is a compound of veneration or reverence of the Supreme Being and love of his character, or veneration accompanied with love; and piety in practice, is the exercise of these affections in obedience to his will and devotion to his service.

*Piety* is the only proper and adequate relief of decaying man. *Rambler.*

2. Reverence of parents or friends, accompanied with affection and devotion to their honor and happiness.

**PIEZOM/ETER**, *n.* [Gr. *πιζω*, to press, and *μετρον*, measure.]

An instrument for ascertaining the compressibility of water, and the degree of such compressibility under any given weight. *Perkins.*

**PIG**, *n.* [*D. big*. In *Sax. piga*, *Dan. pige*, is a little girl; *Sw. piga*, a maid-servant. The word signifies a little one, or issue.]

1. The young of swine, male or female.
2. An oblong mass of unforged iron, lead or other metal. A pig of lead is the eighth of a fother, or 250 pounds. *Encyc.*

**PIG**, *v. t. or i.* To bring forth pigs.

**PIG/EON**, *n.* [Fr. *id.*; *It. piccione*. This word seems to belong to the family of *pick*, *peck*, *pie*, *pica*.]

A fowl of the genus *Columba*, of several species, as the stock dove, the ring dove, the turtle dove, and the migratory or wild pigeon of America. The domestic pigeon breeds in a box, often attached to a building, called a *dovecot* or *pigeon-house*. The wild pigeon builds a nest on a tree in the forest.

**PIG/EON-FOOT**, *n.* A plant. *Ainsworth.*

**PIG/EON-HE/ARTED**, *a.* Timid; easily frightened. *Beaum.*

**PIG/EON-HOLE**, *n.* A little apartment or division in a case for papers.

**PIG/EON-HOLES**, *n.* An old English game in which balls were rolled through little cavities or arches. *Steevens.*

**PIG/EON-LIVERED**, *a.* Mild in temper; soft; gentle. *Shak.*

**PIG/EON-PEA**, *n.* A plant of the genus *Cytisus*.

**PIG/GIN**, *n.* [*Scot. a milking pail*.] A small wooden vessel with an erect handle, used as a dipper.

**PIG/HEADED**, *a.* Having a large head; stupid. *B. Jonson.*

**PIGHT**, *pp. pite*. [*Scot. pight* or *picht*; from *pitch*, *W. picine*.] Pitched; fixed; determined. *Obs. Shak.*

**PIGHT**, *v. t.* [*W. pigaw*.] To pierce. *Obs. Wickliffe.*

**PIGHTEL**, *n.* A little inclosure. [*Local*.]

**PIGME/AN**, *a.* [from *pigmy*.] Very small; like a pigmy; as an image of *pigmean* size. *Parkhurst.*

**PIG/MENT**, *n.* [*L. pigmentum*, from the root of *pingo*, to paint.]

Paint; a preparation used by painters, dyers, &c. to impart colors to bodies. *Encyc.*

**PIG/MY**, *n.* [*It. Sp. Port. pigmeo*; *L. pygmaeus*; *Gr. πυγμαίος*, from *πυγμα*, the fist.]

A dwarf; a person of very small stature; a name applied to a fabled nation said to have been devoured by cranes.

**PIG/MY**, *a.* Very small in size; mean; feeble; inconsiderable.

**PIGNORA/TION**, *n.* [*L. pignero*, to pledge.] The act of pledging or pawning.

**PIG/NORATIVE**, *a.* Pledging; pawning. [*Little used*.] *Dict.*

**PIG/NUT**, *n.* [*pig* and *nut*.] The ground nut, a plant of the genus *Bunium*; also, a tree and its fruit of the genus *Juglans*.

**PIG/SNEY**, *n.* [*Sax. piga*, a little girl.] A word of endearment to a girl. [*Little used*.] *Hudibras.*

**PIG/TAIL**, *n.* [*pig* and *tail*.] A cue; the hair of the head tied in the form of a pig's tail.

2. A small roll of tobacco.

**PIGWID/GEON**, *n.* [*pig* and *widgeon*.] A fairy; a cant word for any thing very small. *Cleaveland.*

**PIKE**, *n.* [This word belongs to a numerous family of words expressing something pointed, or a sharp point, or as verbs, to dart, to thrust, to prick; *Sax. piic*, a small needle; *W. pig*, a point, a pike; *pigaw*, to prick; *picave*, to dart; *It. pica*, a pike; *picure*, to prick or sting; *Sp. pica*, *picar*; *Fr. pique*, *piquer*; *Arm. picq*, *picqal*; *D. piek*; *G. picke*; *Sw. Dan. pik*; *Eng. peak*, *beak*, &c. Class Bg.]

1. A military weapon consisting of a long wooden shaft or staff, with a flat steel head pointed; called the spear. This weapon was formerly used by infantry, but its use is now limited to officers, and it is called a *sponton* or *spoutoon*. Its use among soldiers is superseded by the bayonet.

2. A fork used in husbandry; but we now use *fork* or *pitchfork*. *Tusser.*

3. Among turners, the iron sprigs used to fasten any thing to be turned. *Moron.*

4. In *ichthyology*, a fish of the genus *Esox*, so named from its long shape or from the form of its snout. It is a fresh water fish,