

**Quarter-sessions**, in England, a general court held quarterly by the justices of peace of each county, with jurisdiction to try and determine felonies and trespasses; but capital offenses are seldom or never tried in this court. *Blackstone.*

**Quarter-round**, in architecture, the cœlums or ovolo.

**Head-quarters**, the tent or mansion of the commander in chief of an army.

**QUARTER**, *v. t.* To divide into four equal parts.

2. To divide; to separate into parts.

3. To divide into distinct regions or compartments. *Shak.*

The sailors *quarter'd* heaven. *Dryden.*  
4. To station soldiers for lodging; as, to *quarter* troops in the city or among the inhabitants, or on the inhabitants.

5. To lodge; to fix on a temporary dwelling.

They mean this night in Sardis to be *quarter'd*. *Shak.*

6. To diet. [*Not in use.*] *Hudibras.*

7. To hear as an appendage to the hereditary arms.

The coat of Beauchamp—*quartered* by the earl of Hertford. *Peacham.*

**QUARTER**, *v. i.* To lodge; to have a temporary residence. The general *quarters* at a hotel in Church street.

**QUARTERAGE**, *n.* A quarterly allowance. *Hudibras.*

**QUARTER-DAY**, *n.* The day that completes three months, the quarter of a year; the day when quarterly payments are made of rent or interest. *Spectator.*

**QUARTERED**, *pp.* Divided into four equal parts or quarters; separated into distinct parts; lodged; stationed for lodging.

**QUARTERING**, *ppr.* Dividing into quarters or into distinct parts; stationing for lodgings.

**QUARTERING**, *n.* A station. *Mountagu.*

2. Assignment of quarters for soldiers.

3. The division of a shield containing many coats. *Aschmole.*

**QUARTERLY**, *a.* Containing or consisting of a fourth part; as *quarterly* seasons.

2. Recurring at the end of each quarter of the year; as *quarterly* payments of rent; a *quarterly* visitation or examination. The secretary requires *quarterly* returns from his officers.

**QUARTERLY**, *adv.* Once in a quarter of a year. The returns are made *quarterly*.

**QUARTERN**, *n.* The fourth part of a pint; a gill.

**QUARTILE**, *n.* An aspect of the planets, when they are distant from each other a quarter of the circle, ninety degrees, or three signs. *Harris. Dryden.*

**QUARTO**, *n.* [*L. quartus.*] A book of the size of the fourth of a sheet; a size made by twice folding a sheet, which then makes four leaves.

**QUARTO**, *a.* Denoting the size of a book, in which a sheet makes four leaves.

**QUARTZ**, *n.* *quartz.* [*G. quartz.*] A species of silicious minerals, of various colors, white, gray, reddish, yellowish or brownish; commonly amorphous, and frequently crystalized. The subspecies and varieties are numerous. *Kirwan. Cleaveland.*

**QUARTZ/Y**, *a.* Pertaining to quartz; partaking of the nature or qualities of quartz; resembling quartz. [*Quartz* is the regular adjective, and *quartzose* and *quartzous* may be dispensed with.]

**QUAS**, *n.* In *Russia*, a drink of common domestic use; being a liquor prepared from pollard, meal and bread, or from meal and malt, by an acid fermentation. *Tooke.*

**QUASH**, *v. t.* [*Sax. cwysan; D. kwetsen; G. quetschen; Fr. casser; It. squasare; L. quasso, quatit.* Class *Gs.* No. 17. 28. 60. 68. and Class *Gd.* No. 38. 76 See *Squeeze.*]

1. Properly, to heat down or beat in pieces; to crush.

The whales  
Against sharp rocks, like reeling vessels,  
*quash'd.* *Waller.*

2. To crush; to subdue; as, to *quash* a rebellion. *Addison.*

3. In *law*, to abate, annul, overthrow or make void; as, to *quash* an indictment. He prays judgment of the writ or declaration that the same may be *quashed.*

*Blackstone.*  
**QUASH**, *v. i.* To be shaken with a noise. *Sharp.*

**QUASH**, *n.* A species of cucurbita; but in America pronounced *squash*; so called probably from its softness. [*See the Verb.*]

**QUASHED**, *pp.* Crushed; subdued; abated.

**QUASHING**, *ppr.* Crushing; subduing; abating.

**QUASSATION**, *n.* [*L. quassatio.*] The act of shaking; concussion; the state of being shaken. *Gayton.*

**QUASSIA**, *n.* A plant, or rather a genus of plants of three species, the *amara*, *simaruba*, and *excelsa* or *polygama*, natives of South America and of some of the isles of the West Indies, and possessing valuable medicinal qualities. *Encyc.*

**QUAT**, *n.* A pustule or pimple. [*Not used.*] *Shak.*

**QUATER-COUSINS**, *n.* *ka ter-cuzns.* [*L. quatuor, four, and cousin.*]

Those within the first four degrees of kindred. *Skinner.*

**QUATERN**, *a.* [*L. quaterni, four, from quatuor, four.*]

Consisting of four; fourfold; growing by fours; as *quatern* leaves. *Martyn.*

**QUATERNARY**, *n.* [*L. quaternarius, from quatuor, four.*]

The number four. *Boyle.*

**QUATERNARY**, *a.* Consisting of four. *Gregory.*

**QUATERNION**, *n.* [*L. quaternio, from quatuor, four.*]

1. The number four. *Milton.*

2. A file of four soldiers. Acts xii.

**QUATERNION**, *v. t.* To divide into files or companies. *Milton.*

**QUATERNITY**, *n.* [*supra.*] The number four. *Brown.*

**QUATRAIN**, *n.* [*Fr. from quatre, L. quatuor, four.*]

A stanza of four lines rhyming alternately. *Dryden.*

**QUAVE**, for *quaver*, is not used.

**QUAVEMIRE**, for *quagmire*, is not used.

**QUAVER**, *v. i.* [*W. cwibaw, to quaver, to trill; Sp. quicbro, a musical shake or trill;*

*quiebra*, a break, fracture, failure. It coincides in elements with *quibble*, *quiver*, *whiffle*, *wabble*. The primary sense is to move, hence to break, applied to motion and sound. See *Quiver* and *Vibrate.*]

1. To shake the voice; to utter or form sound with rapid vibrations, as in singing; to sing with tremulous modulations of voice. *Bacon.*

2. To tremble; to vibrate.

The finger—moved with a *quavering* motion. *Newton.*

**QUAVER**, *n.* A shake or rapid vibration of the voice, or a shake on an instrument of music. *Addison.*

2. A note and measure of time in music, equal to half a crotchet or the eighth of a semibreve.

**QUAVERED**, *a.* or *pp.* Distributed into quavers. *Harmar.*

**QUAVERER**, *n.* A warbler.

**QUAVERING**, *ppr.* Shaking the voice or the sound of an instrument.

**QUAVERING**, *n.* The act of shaking the voice, or of making rapid vibrations of sound on an instrument of music.

**QUAY**, *n. ke.* [*Fr. quai; D. kaai; Arm. qac; Ir. ceigh.* If this word is radically the same as *key*, the sense is that which fastens or secures. Class *Cg* or *Gk.*]

A key; a mole or wharf, constructed in harbors for securing vessels and receiving goods unladen or to be shipped on board.

**QUAY**, *v. t.* To furnish with quays. *J. Barlow.*

**QUEACH**, *n.* A thick bushy plot. *Obs.*

**QUEACH**, *v. i.* To stir; to move. *Obs.*

[*See Quick.*]

**QUEACHY**, *a.* [*from queach.*] Shaking; moving, yielding or trembling under the feet, as moist or boggy ground.

The *queachy* fens. *Drayton.*  
Godwin's *queachy* sands. *Ib.*

[This word is still in use in New England, and if the word is from the root of *quick*, we recognize the application of it in *quicksand.*]

2. Thick; bushy. [*Not in use.*] *Cockeram.*

**QUEAN**, *n.* [*Sax. cwæn or cwen, a woman.* See *Queen.*]

A worthless woman; a slut; a strumpet. [*Not in common use.*] *Dryden. Swift.*

**QUEASINESS**, *n.* *s* as *z.* [*from queasy.*]

Nausea; qualmishness; inclination to vomit.

**QUEASY**, *a.* *s* as *z.* [*allied perhaps to the W. chudy, [Llwyd.] Corn. huedzka, Arm. chueda or hnyda, to vomit.* Class *Gs.* No. 19. Class *Gd.* No. 51.]

1. Sick at the stomach; affected with nausea; inclined to vomit. *Shak.*

2. Fastidious; squeamish; delicate. *Shak. Dryden.*

3. Causing nausea; as a *queasy* question. *Shak.*

**QUECK**, *v. i.* [*G. quackeln, to quake, to be unsettled, to lurch.*]

To shrink; to flinch. *Obs.* *Bacon.*

**QUEEN**, *n.* [*Sax. cwæn or cwen, Goth. queins, quens, Dan. quinde, Sw. quinna, a woman; Sans. kanya. Qu. Ir. coinne and Gr. γυνή.*]

1. The consort of a king; a *queen consort.*