

9. To be elated ; to rise into arrogance.

Your equal mind yet *swells* not into state.  
*Dryden.*

10. To grow more violent ; as, a moderate passion may *swell* to fury.

11. To grow upon the view ; to become larger.

—And monarchs to behold the *swelling* scene.  
*Shak.*

12. To become larger in amount. Many little debts added, *swell* to a great amount.

13. To become louder ; as, a sound gradually *swells* as it approaches.

14. To strut ; to look big.

—*Swelling* like a turkey cock. *Shak.*

15. To rise in altitude ; as, land *swells* into hills.

**SWELL**, *v. t.* To increase the size, bulk or dimensions of ; to cause to rise, dilate or increase. Rains and dissolving snow *swell* the rivers in spring, and cause floods. Jordan is *swelled* by the snows of mount Libanus.

2. To aggravate ; to lighten.

It is low ebb with the accuser, when such peccadillos are put to *swell* the charge.  
*Atterbury.*

3. To raise to arrogance ; as, to be *swelled* with pride or haughtiness.

4. To enlarge. These sums *swell* the amount of taxes to a fearful size. These victories served to *swell* the fame of the commander.

5. In *music*, to augment, as the sound of a note.

**SWELL**, *n.* Extension of bulk. *Shak.*

2. Increase, as of sound ; as the *swell* of a note.

3. A gradual ascent or elevation of land ; as an extensive plain abounding with little *swells*.

4. A wave or billow ; more generally, a succession of large waves ; as, a heavy *swell* sets into the harbor. *Swell* is also used to denote the waves or fluctuation of the sea after a storm, and the waves that roll in and break upon the shore.

5. In an *organ*, a certain number of pipes inclosed in a box, which being uncovered, produce a *swell* of sound. *Busby.*

**SWELL****ED**, *pp.* Enlarged in bulk ; inflated ; tumefied.

**SWELL****ING**, *ppr.* Growing or enlarging in its dimensions ; growing tumid ; inflating ; growing or making louder.

**SWELL****ING**, *n.* A tumor, or any morbid enlargement of the natural size ; as a *swelling* on the hand or leg.

2. Protuberance ; prominence.

The superficies of such plates are not even, but have many cavities and *swellings*.  
*Newton.*

3. A rising or enlargement by passion ; as the *swellings* of anger, grief or pride.  
*Taller.*

**SWELT**, for *swelled*, is not in use. *Spenser.*

**SWELT**, *v. i.* [Sax. *sweltan* ; Goth. *swiltan* ; *ga-swiltan*, to perish, to die ; properly to fail, to swoon. Qu. is not this formed on the root of *wilt* ?]

To faint ; to swoon. *Obs.* *Chaucer.*

**SWELT**, *v. t.* To overpower, as with heat ; to cause to faint. *Obs.* [We now use *swelter*.] *Hall.*

**SWELT****ER**, *v. i.* [from *swelt*.] To be overcome and faint with heat ; to be ready to perish with heat.

**SWELT****ER**, *v. t.* To oppress with heat.

*Bentley.*

**SWELT****ERED**, *pp.* Oppressed with heat.

**SWELT****ERING**, *ppr.* Fainting or languishing with heat ; oppressing with heat.

**SWELT****RY**, *a.* Suffocating with heat ; oppressive with heat ; sultry. [See *Sultry*, which is probably a contraction of *sweltry*.]

**SWEPT**, *pret.* and *pp.* of *sweep*.

**SWERD**, for *sward*, is not in use.

**SWERVE**, *v. i.* *swerve*. [D. *zuerven*, to swerve, to rove. In sense it coincides with the verb to *swarm*, and in German it is rendered *schwärmen*. It seems to be formed on *warp*, and all may spring from the root of *veer*. See *Vary*.]

1. To wander ; to rove. *Sidney.*

The *swerving* vines on the tall elms prevail.

*Dryden.*

2. To wander from any line prescribed, or from a rule of duty ; to depart from what is established by law, duty or custom ; to deviate.

I *swerve* not from thy commandments.

*Com. Prayer.*

They *swerve* from the strict letter of the law.

*Clarendon.*

Many who, through the contagion of evil example, *swerve* exceedingly from the rules of their holy religion—

*Atterbury.*

3. To bend ; to incline. *Milton.*

4. To climb or move forward by winding or turning.

The tree was high,

Yet nimbly up from bough to bough I *swerve*'d.

*Dryden.*

[This use of the word coincides with that of *swarm*, which see.]

**SWERVING**, *ppr.* Roving ; wandering ; deviating from any rule or standard ; inclining ; climbing or moving by winding and turning.

**SWERVING**, *n.* The act of wandering ; deviation from any rule, law, duty or standard.

**SWIFT**, *a.* [Sax. *swift*, from *swifan*, to turn, to rove, to wander, to whirl round ; D. *zweven*, to rove, to hover, to fluctuate ; Dan. *svæver* ; Sw. *sväfn* ; G. *schweben*, to wave, soar or hover. The latter appear to be formed on the root of *wave*. See *Swivel* and *Waft*.]

1. Moving a great distance or over a large space in a short time ; moving with celerity or velocity ; fleet ; rapid ; quick ; speedy. We say, *swift* winds, a *swift* stream, *swift* lightnings, *swift* motion, *swift* as thought, a fowl *swift* of wing, a man *swift* of foot. *Swift* is applicable to any kind of motion.

2. Ready ; prompt.

Let every man be *swift* to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath. *Jaues i.*

3. Speedy ; that comes without delay.

There shall be false teachers among you, who shall privily bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves *swift* destruction. 2 Pet. ii.

**SWIFT**, *n.* The current of a stream. [Little used.] *Walton.*

2. In *domestic affairs*, a reel or turning instrument for winding yarn. [This is a sense directly from the Saxon verb.]

3. A bird, a species of swallow, so called from the rapidity of its flight. *Derham.*

4. The common newt or eft, a species of lizard. *Cyc.*

**SWIFT****ER**, *n.* In a *ship*, a rope used to confine the bars of the capstan in their sockets, while men are turning it ; also, a rope used to encircle a boat longitudinally, to strengthen and defend her sides from the impulse of other boats. *Swifters* also are two shrouds fixed on the starboard and larboard sides of the lower masts, above all the other shrouds, to give the masts additional security.

**SWIFT****ER**, *v. t.* To stretch, as shrouds by tackles.

**SWIFTLY**, *adv.* Fleetly ; rapidly ; with celerity ; with quick motion or velocity.

Pleas'd with the passage, we slide *swiftly* on.

*Dryden.*

**SWIFTNESS**, *n.* Speed ; rapid motion ; quickness ; celerity ; velocity ; rapidity. *Swiftness* is a word of general import, applicable to every kind of motion, and to every thing that moves ; as the *swiftness* of a bird ; the *swiftness* of a stream ; *swiftness* of descent in a falling body ; *swiftness* of thought, &c.

**SWIG**, *v. t.* or *i.* [See *swiga*. Qu. *suck*.] To drink by large draughts ; to suck greedily.

**SWIG**, *n.* A large draught. [Vulgar.]

2. In *seamen's language*, a pulley with ropes which are not parallel.

**SWIG**, *v. t.* [Sax. *swigan*, to stupefy.] To castrate, as a ram, by binding the testicles tight with a string. [Local.] *Cyc.*

**SWILL**, *v. t.* [Sax. *swelgan*, *swylgan*, to swallow.]

1. To drink grossly or greedily ; as, to *swill* down great quantities of liquors.

*Arbutnot.*

2. To wash ; to drench. *Shak.*

3. To inebriate ; to swill with fullness.

I should be both

To meet the rudeness and *swill*'d insolence

Of such late wassailers. *Milton.*

**SWILL**, *n.* Large draughts of liquor ; or drink taken in excessive quantities.

2. The wash or mixture of liquid substances, given to swine ; called in some places *swillings*.

**SWILL****ED**, *pp.* Swallowed grossly in large quantities.

**SWILL****ER**, *n.* One who drinks voraciously.

**SWILL****ING**, *ppr.* Swallowing excessive quantities of liquors.

**SWILLINGS**, *n.* Swill.

**SWIM**, *v. i.* *pret.* *swam* ; *pp.* *swum*. [Sax. *swimman* ; D. *zweemen*, to swim ; *zweymen*, to swoon ; G. *schwemmen*, *schwimmen* ; Dan. *svimle*, *svømme* ; Sw. *svima*, to swoon.]

1. To float ; to be supported on water or other fluid ; not to sink. Most species of wood will *swim* in water. Any substance will *swim*, whose specific gravity is less than that of the fluid in which it is immersed.

2. To move progressively in water by means of the motion of the hands and feet, or of fins. In Paris, boys are taught to *swim* by instructors appointed for that purpose. Is. xxv.

Leap in with me into this angry flood,  
And *swim* to yonder point. *Shak.*

3. To float ; to be borne along by a current. In all states there are men who will *swim* with the tide of popular opinion.

4. To glide along with a smooth motion, or with a waving motion.