

# ap·pro·pri·ate<sup>1</sup>

S2 W1 AC

/ə'prəʊpri-<sup>1</sup>t \$ ə'prɒv-<sup>1</sup>/

adjective

RIGHT/PROPER Correct or suitable for a particular time, situation, or purpose

OPP

**appropriate for**

*clothes appropriate for a job interview*

**appropriate to**

*an education system which is more appropriate to the needs of the students*

**it is appropriate (for somebody) to do something**

*It would not be appropriate for me to discuss that now.*

**it is appropriate (that)**

*It seemed somehow appropriate that we should begin our journey here.*

**appropriate time/place etc**

*I didn't feel that this was an appropriate time to mention the subject of money.*

**highly/entirely/wholly appropriate**

*I thought his remark was highly appropriate, given the circumstances.*

*The timing of the announcement was **particularly appropriate**.*

***Where appropriate**, I delegate as much work as possible.*

*Mark box 1 or 2, **as appropriate**.*

*I can assure you that **appropriate action** will be taken.*

— **appropriately** *adv*:

*The painters met, **appropriately enough**, in an art gallery*  
(= used to emphasize that something is very appropriate).

*appropriately dressed*

— **appropriateness** *noun* [uncountable]

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## ap·pro·pri·ate<sup>2</sup>

/ə'prəʊpriət \$ ə'prɒv-/

*verb* [transitive] (*formal*)

**1** *STEAL* to take something for yourself when you do not have the right to do this

**SYN** steal

*He is suspected of appropriating government funds.*

**2** *USE SOMETHING* to take something, especially money, to use for a particular purpose:

**appropriate something for something**

*Congress appropriated \$5 million for International Women's Year.*

→ **misappropriate**

### Word origin

**Date:** 1400–1500

**Language:** Late Latin

**Origin:** past participle of *appropriare*, from Latin *ad-* 'to' + *proprius* 'own'