



▼ Search OALD

📖 🔍

Definition of **institution** **noun** from the Oxford Advanced American Dictionary



institution *noun*

/,ɪnstəˈtuːʃn/

- 1

[countable] a large important organization that has a particular purpose, for example, a university or bank

 - *an **educational/financial, etc. institution***
 - *the Smithsonian Institution*
- 2

[countable] (*usually disapproving*) a building where people with special needs are taken care of, for example because they are old or mentally ill

 - *a mental institution*
 - *We want this to be like a home, not an institution.*

- 3

[countable] a custom or system that has existed for a long time among a particular group of people

 - *the institution of marriage*
- 4

[uncountable] the act of starting or introducing something such as a system or a law

 - *the institution of new safety procedures*
- 5

[countable] (*informal*) (*humorous*) a person who is well known because they have been in a particular place or job for a long time

 - *You must know him—he's an institution around here!*

See **INSTITUTION** in the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary
Check pronunciation: [institution](#)

— Other Links

- [iWriter](#)
- [iSpeaker](#)
- [My Wordlists](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Word lists](#)
- [Oxford 3000](#)
- [Pronunciation](#)
- [Topics](#)



Be the first to try our
NEW Find Your Reading Level tool

Nearby words

[institute](#) *noun*

[institute](#) *verb*

institution *noun*

[institutional](#) *adjective*

[institutionalize](#) *verb*

Explore our topics

- [Animals](#)
- [Body and appearance](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Clothes and fashion](#)
- [Crime and law](#)
- [Culture](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Family and life stages](#)
- [Food and drink](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Houses and buildings](#)
- [Language](#)
- [Leisure](#)
- [Nature](#)
- [Personality and emotions](#)
- [Religion and politics](#)
- [Retail](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Social issues](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [The media](#)
- [Travel and tourism](#)
- [War and conflict](#)
- [Work](#)