A **company**, abbreviated as **co.**, is a [legal entity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legal_personality) made up of an [association](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voluntary_association) of people, be they [natural](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_person), [legal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legal_personality), or a mixture of both, for carrying on a [commercial](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commerce) or [industrial](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industry) [enterprise](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enterprise_%28disambiguation%29). Company members share a common purpose, and unite in order to focus their various [talents](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desire) and organize their collectively available [skills](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skill) or [resources](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resource) to achieve specific, declared [goals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goal). Companies take various forms, such as:

* [voluntary associations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voluntary_association), which may include [nonprofit organizations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nonprofit_organization)
* [business entities](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Companies_law) with an aim of gaining a [profit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Profit_%28economics%29)
* [financial entities](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Financial_capital) and [banks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bank)