

A

➤ **cut something out** to stop doing something

B

cut *NOUN* **cuts**

① cutting; the result of cutting • *Your hair could do with a cut.* ② a small wound

C

③ (informal) a share of profits

➤ **be a cut above something** to be superior

D

cute *ADJECTIVE* (informal)

pretty or attractive

E

cuticle (say **kew**-tik-ul) *NOUN* **cuticles**

the skin round a nail

F

cutlass *NOUN* **cutlasses**

a short sword with a broad curved blade

G

cutlery *NOUN*

knives, forks and spoons used for eating

H

cutlet *NOUN* **cutlets**

a thick slice of meat for cooking

I

cut-out *NOUN* **cut-outs**

a shape cut out of paper, cardboard, etc.

J

K

cut-price *ADJECTIVE*

for sale at a reduced price

L

cutter *NOUN* **cutters**

① a person or thing that cuts ② a small fast sailing ship

M

N

cutting *NOUN* **cuttings**

① something cut out of a newspaper or magazine ② a piece cut from a plant to form a new plant ③ a steep-sided passage cut through high ground for a road or railway

O

P

cuttlefish *NOUN* **cuttlefish**

a sea creature with ten arms, which sends out a black liquid when attacked

Q

R

cyanide *NOUN*

a very poisonous chemical

S

cycle *NOUN* **cycles**

① a bicycle or motorcycle ② a series of events that are regularly repeated in the same order • *Rainfall is part of the water cycle.*

T

U

cycle *VERB* **cycles, cycling, cycled**

to ride a bicycle or tricycle

V

cyclical, cyclic *ADJECTIVE*

repeated regularly in the same order

W

cyclist *NOUN* **cyclists**

a person who rides a bicycle

X

Y

cyclone *NOUN* **cyclones**

a violent tropical storm in which strong winds rotate round a calm central area

Z

➤ **cyclonic** *ADJECTIVE*

cygnet (say **sig**-nit) *NOUN* **cygnets**

a young swan

cylinder *NOUN* **cylinders**

an object with straight sides and circular ends

cylindrical *ADJECTIVE*

shaped like a cylinder

cymbal *NOUN* **cymbals**

a percussion instrument consisting of a metal plate that is hit to make a ringing sound

SPELLING

Take care not to confuse with **symbol**.

cynic (say **sin**-ik) *NOUN* **cynics**

a person who believes that people's reasons for doing things are usually selfish or bad,

➤ **cynicism** *NOUN*

cynical *ADJECTIVE*

believing that people's reasons for doing things are usually selfish or bad

cypress *NOUN* **cypresses**

an evergreen tree with dark leaves

cyst (say **sist**) *NOUN* **cysts**

an abnormal swelling in the body containing fluid or soft matter

czar (say **zar**) *NOUN* **czars**

a different spelling of **tsar**

Dd

dab *NOUN* **dabs**

① a quick gentle touch, usually with something wet ② a small amount of something put on a surface • *a dab of paint*

dab *VERB* **dabs, dabbing, dabbed**

to touch something quickly and gently • *I dabbed my eyes with a handkerchief.*

dabble *VERB* **dabbles, dabbling, dabbled**

① to splash something about in water ② to do something as a hobby or not very seriously • *I dabble in astronomy.*

dachshund (say **daks**-huund) *NOUN*

dachshunds

a small dog with a long body and very short legs **WORD ORIGIN** German = badger-dog (because dachshunds were once used to dig badgers from their sets)

dad, daddy *NOUN* **dads, daddies** (informal)
father

daddy-long-legs *NOUN* **daddy-long-legs**
a crane fly

daffodil *NOUN* **daffodils**
a yellow flower that grows from a bulb

daft *ADJECTIVE* (British) (informal)
silly or stupid

dag *NOUN* **dags** (informal)
(Australian/NZ) a dirty or untidy person
WORD ORIGIN shortening of *daglock* = a piece of dung-coated wool on a sheep's hindquarters

dagger *NOUN* **daggers**
a pointed knife with two sharp edges, used as a weapon
➤ **look daggers at someone** to glare angrily at someone

dahlia (say *day-lee-a*) *NOUN* **dahlias**
a garden plant with brightly-coloured flowers
WORD ORIGIN named after Andreas *Dahl*, a Swedish botanist

daily *ADVERB & ADJECTIVE*
every day

dainty *ADJECTIVE* **daintier, daintiest**
small, delicate and pretty
➤ **daintily** *ADVERB*
➤ **daintiness** *NOUN*

dairy *NOUN* **dairies**
a place where milk, butter, etc. are produced or sold

dairy *ADJECTIVE*
to do with the production of milk; made from milk • *dairy farming* • *dairy products*

dais (say *day-iss*) *NOUN* **daises**
a low platform, especially at the end of a room

daisy *NOUN* **daisies**
a small flower with white petals and a yellow centre **WORD ORIGIN** from *day's* eye (because the daisy opens in daylight and closes at night)

dale *NOUN* **dales**
a valley

dally *VERB* **dallies, dallying, dallied**
to dawdle or waste time

dam *NOUN* **dams**
a barrier built across a river to hold water back

dam *VERB* **dams, damming, dammed**
to hold water back with a dam

damage *NOUN*
harm or injury done to something • *The storm caused a lot of damage.*

damage *VERB* **damages, damaging, damaged**
to harm or spoil something

damages *PLURAL NOUN*
money paid as compensation for an injury or loss

Dame *NOUN* **Dames**
the title of a woman who has been given the equivalent of a knighthood

dame *NOUN* **dames**
a comic middle-aged woman in a pantomime, usually played by a man

damn *VERB* **damns, damning, damned**
① to condemn someone to eternal punishment in hell ② to swear at someone or curse them

damn *EXCLAMATION*
(informal) said to show you are angry or annoyed

damnation *NOUN*
being condemned to hell

damned *ADJECTIVE*
hateful or annoying

damp *ADJECTIVE*
slightly wet; not quite dry
➤ **damply** *ADVERB*
➤ **dampness** *NOUN*

damp *NOUN*
moisture in the air or on a surface or all through something

damp *VERB* **damps, damping, damped**
① to make something slightly wet ② to reduce the strength of something • *The defeat damped their enthusiasm.*

damp course *NOUN* **damp courses**
(British) a layer of material built into a wall to prevent dampness in the ground from rising

dampen *VERB* **dampens, dampening, dampened**
① to make something damp ② to reduce the strength of something • *Even the awful weather didn't dampen their spirits.*

damper *NOUN* **dampers**
① a felt pad that presses against a piano string to stop it vibrating ② a metal plate that can be moved to increase or decrease the amount of air flowing into a fire or furnace
➤ **put a damper on something** to reduce people's enthusiasm or enjoyment