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i·ron   **[ahy-ern]** [Pronunciation Key](#)

*-noun*

1. *Chemistry.* a ductile, malleable, silver-white metallic element, scarcely known in a pure condition, but much used in its crude or impure carbon-containing forms for making tools, implements, machinery, etc. *Symbol:* Fe; *atomic weight:* 55.847; *atomic number:* 26; *specific gravity:* 7.86 at 20°C. Compare [cast iron](#), [pig iron](#), [steel](#), [wrought iron](#).
2. something hard, strong, rigid, unyielding, or the like: *hearts of iron*.
3. an instrument, utensil, weapon, etc., made of iron.
4. an appliance with a flat metal bottom, used when heated, as by electricity, to press or smooth clothes, linens, etc.
5. *Golf.* one of a series of nine iron-headed clubs having progressively sloped-back faces, used for driving or lofting the ball. Compare [wood](#)<sup>1</sup> (def. 8).
6. a branding iron.

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7. any of several tools, structural members, etc., of metals other than iron.
8. the blade of a carpenter's plane.
9. *Slang.* a pistol.
10. a harpoon.
11. *Medicine/Medical.* a preparation of iron or containing iron, used chiefly in the treatment of anemia, or as a styptic and astringent.
12. irons, shackles or fetters: *Put him in irons!*
13. a sword.

*-adjective*

14. of, containing, or made of iron: *an iron skillet.*
15. resembling iron in firmness, strength, color, etc.: *an iron will.*
16. stern; harsh; cruel.
17. inflexible; unrelenting.
18. strong; robust; healthy.
19. holding or binding strongly: *an iron grip.*
20. irritating or harsh in tone: *an iron voice.*

*-verb (used with object)*

21. to smooth or press with a heated iron, as clothes or linens.
22. to furnish, mount, or arm with iron.
23. to shackle or fether with irons.
24. *Metalworking.* to smooth and thin the walls of (an object being deep-drawn).

*-verb (used without object)*

25. to press clothes, linens, etc., with an iron.

*—Verb phrase*

26. iron out,
  - a. to iron or press (an item of clothing or the like).
  - b. to remove (wrinkles) from by ironing.
  - c. to resolve or clear up (difficulties, disagreements, etc.):  
*The problem was ironed out months ago.*

*—Idioms*

27. in irons,
- a. *Nautical.* (of a sailing vessel) unable to maneuver because of the position of the sails with relation to the direction of the wind.
  - b. *Nautical.* (of a towing vessel) unable to maneuver because of tension on the towing line.
  - c. Also, into irons. in shackles or fetters.
28. irons in the fire, matters with which one is immediately concerned; undertakings; projects: *He had other irons in the fire, so that one failure would not destroy him.*
29. pump iron, to lift weights as an exercise or in competition.
30. strike while the iron is hot, to act quickly when an opportunity presents itself.

[Origin: bef. 900; ME, OE *ren* (n. and adj.), perh. < \**sren*, metathesized from *sern*, var. of *sen*; cf. OS, OHG, ON *sarn*, Goth *eisarn* < Gmc \**sarnam*, perh. < Celtic; cf. Gaulish *Ysarno-*, *Iserno-* (in place names), OBreton *hoiarn*, Welsh *haearn*, OIr *íarn*]

—*Related forms*



i· ron· less, *adjective*

i· ron· like, *adjective*

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i· ron   (' rn) [Pronunciation Key](#)

n.

1. *Symbol* Fe A silvery-white, lustrous, malleable, ductile, magnetic or magnetizable, metallic element occurring abundantly in combined forms, notably in hematite, limonite, magnetite, and taconite, and used alloyed in a wide range of important structural materials. Atomic number 26; atomic weight 55.845; melting point 1,535°C; boiling point 2,750°C; specific gravity 7.874 (at 20°C); valence 2, 3, 4, 6. See Table at [element](#).
2. An implement made of iron alloy or similar metal, especially a bar heated for use in branding, curling hair, or cauterizing.
3. Great hardness or strength; firmness: *a will of iron*.
4. *Sports* Any of a series of golf clubs having a bladelike metal head and numbered from one to nine in order of increasing loft.
5. A metal appliance with a handle and a weighted flat bottom, used when heated to press wrinkles from fabric.
6. A harpoon.
7. irons Fetters; shackles.
8. A tonic, pill, or other medication containing iron and taken as a dietary supplement.

adj.

1. Made of or containing iron: *iron bars; an iron alloy*.
2. Strong, healthy, and capable of great endurance: *an iron constitution*.
3. Inflexible; unyielding: *iron resolve*.
4. Holding tightly; very firm: *has an iron grip*.

v. i· roned, i· ron· ing, i· rons

v. *tr.*

- a. To press and smooth with a heated iron: *iron clothes*.
- b. To remove (creases) by pressing.
2. To put into irons; fether.
3. To fit or clad with iron.

v. *intr.*

To iron clothes.

*Phrasal Verb(s):*

iron out

To settle through discussion or compromise; work out.

*Idiom(s):*

in irons Nautical

Lying head to the wind and unable to turn either way.

*Idiom(s):*

iron in the fire

An undertaking or project in progress: *has many irons in the fire this year.*

[Middle English *iren*, from Old English *ren*; see *eis-* in Indo-European roots.]

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[Online Etymology Dictionary - Cite This Source](#)

iron

O.E. *isærn* (with M.E. rhotacism of *-s-*), from P.Gmc. *\*isarnan* (cf. O.S. *isarn*, O.N. *isarn*, M.Du. *iser*, O.H.G. *isarn*, Ger. *Eisen*) "holy metal" or "strong metal" (in contrast to softer bronze) probably an early borrowing of Celt. *\*isarnon* (cf. O.Ir. *iarn*, Welsh *haiarn*), from PIE *\*is-(e)ro-* "powerful, holy," from PIE *\*eis* "strong" (cf. Skt. *isirah* "vigorous, strong," Gk. *ieros* "strong"). The verb meaning "press clothes" (with a heated flat-iron) is first recorded 1680; *ironing board* is from 1843.

"Right so as whil that Iren is hoot men sholden smyte." [Chaucer, c.1386]

To *have (too) many irons in the fire* "to be doing too much at once" is from 1549. *Iron lung* "artificial respiration tank" is from 1932. *Ironside*, name given to a man of great hardihood or bravery (1297) first applied to Edmund II, king of England (d.1016), later also to Oliver Cromwell and his troops.

*Online Etymology Dictionary, © 2001 Douglas Harper*

[WordNet - Cite This Source](#)

iron

*adjective*

1. extremely robust; "an iron constitution" [syn: [cast-iron](#)]

*noun*

1. a heavy ductile magnetic metallic element; is silver-white in pure form but readily rusts; used in construction and tools and armament; plays a role in the transport of oxygen by the blood
2. a golf club that has a relatively narrow metal head
3. implement used to brand live stock
4. home appliance consisting of a flat metal base that is heated and used to smooth cloth

*verb*

1. press and smooth with a heated iron; "press your shirts"; "she stood there ironing"

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[American Heritage Dictionary of Idioms - Cite This Source](#)

iron

In addition to the idioms beginning with [iron](#), also see [pump iron](#); [strike while the iron's hot](#).

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[Kernerman English Multilingual Dictionary \(Beta Version\) - Cite This Source](#)

iron<sub>1</sub> [ ai n] *pun*

(also adjective) (of) an element that is the most common metal, is very hard, and is widely used for making tools etc

Example: *Steel is made from iron; The ground is as hard as iron; iron railings; iron determination (= very strong determination)*

<i>Arabic:</i>	<i>Japanese:</i> 鉄 (テ)
	<i>Korean:</i>
<i>Chinese (Simplified):</i> 铁	<i>Lithuanian:</i> geležis
<i>Chinese (Traditional):</i> 鐵	<i>Norwegian:</i> jern
<i>Czech:</i> železo; železný	<i>Polish:</i> elazo
<i>Danish:</i> jern; jern-	<i>Portuguese (Brazil):</i> ferro
<i>Dutch:</i> ijzer	<i>Portuguese (Portugal):</i> ferro
<i>Estonian:</i> raud	<i>Romanian:</i> fier
<i>Finnish:</i> rauta	<i>Russian:</i>
<i>French:</i> fer	<i>Slovak:</i> železo; železný
<i>German:</i> das Eisen; eisern	<i>Slovenian:</i> železo
<i>Greek:</i> ,	<i>Spanish:</i> hierro
	<i>Swedish:</i> järn
	<i>Turkish:</i> demir
<i>Hungarian:</i> vas	
<i>Icelandic:</i> járn	
<i>Indonesian:</i> besi	
<i>Italian:</i> ferro	

## iron2 [ ai n]pun

a flat-bottomed instrument that is heated up and used for smoothing clothes etc

Example: *I've burnt a hole in my dress with the iron.*

<i>Arabic:</i>	<i>Japanese:</i> アイロン
<i>Chinese (Simplified):</i> 熨斗	<i>Korean:</i>
<i>Chinese (Traditional):</i> 熨斗	<i>Latvian:</i> gludeklis
<i>Czech:</i> žehli ka	<i>Lithuanian:</i> lygintuvas
<i>Danish:</i> strygejern	<i>Norwegian:</i> strykejern
<i>Dutch:</i> strijkijzer	<i>Polish:</i> elazko
<i>Estonian:</i> triikraud	<i>Portuguese (Brazil):</i> ferro de passar
<i>Finnish:</i> silitysrauta	<i>Portuguese (Portugal):</i> ferro de engomar
<i>French:</i> fer (à repasser)	

<i>German:</i> das Bügeleisen	<i>Romanian:</i> fier (de c I-cat)
<i>Greek:</i>	<i>Russian:</i>
<i>Hungarian:</i> vasaló	<i>Slovak:</i> žehli ka
<i>Icelandic:</i> straujárn	<i>Slovenian:</i> likalnik
<i>Indonesian:</i> seterikaan	<i>Spanish:</i> plancha
<i>Italian:</i> ferro (da stiro)*	<i>Swedish:</i> strykjärn
	<i>Turkish:</i> ütü

iron3 [ ai n]pun

a type of golf-club

<i>Arabic:</i>	<i>Italian:</i> mazza
	<i>Japanese:</i> アイアン
	<i>Korean:</i>
	<i>Norwegian:</i> kølle
<i>Chinese (Simplified):</i> ( 高尔夫球 ) 铁头球棒	<i>Polish:</i> !!(typ kija golfowego)
<i>Chinese (Traditional):</i> (高爾夫球) 鐵頭球棒	<i>Portuguese (Brazil):</i> ferro de golfe
<i>Czech:</i> kovová golfová h l	<i>Portuguese (Portugal):</i> taco de golfe
<i>Danish:</i> kølle	<i>Romanian:</i> cros (de golf)
<i>Dutch:</i> iron	<i>Russian:</i>
<i>Estonian:</i> raudkepp	<i>Slovak:</i> kovová golfová
<i>Finnish:</i> rautamaila	palica
<i>French:</i> fer	<i>Slovenian:</i> palica za golf
<i>German:</i> das Eisen	<i>Spanish:</i> palo de hierro
<i>Greek:</i> μ	<i>Swedish:</i> järn
<i>Hungarian:</i> vas golfüt	
<i>Icelandic:</i> járnkylfa	



*Indonesian:* pemukul  
golf

*Turkish:* maden  
uçlu golf  
sopası

iron [ ai n ] *verb*

to smooth (clothes etc) with an iron

Example: *This dress needs to be ironed; I've been ironing all afternoon.*

*Arabic:*

*Japanese:* アイロン

*Chinese (Simplified):* 熨

をかける

*Chinese (Traditional):* 熨

*Korean:*

*Czech:* žehlit

*Latvian:* gludināt

*Danish:* stryge

*Lithuanian:* lyginti

*Dutch:* strijken

*Norwegian:* stryke

*Estonian:* triikima

(klær)

*Finnish:* silittää

*Polish:* prasowa

*French:* repasser

*Portuguese (Brazil):* passar a

*German:* bügeln

ferro

*Greek:*

*Portuguese (Portugal):* passar a

*Hungarian:* vasal

ferro

*Icelandic:* strauja

*Romanian:* a călca

*Indonesian:* menyeterika

(cu

*Italian:* stirare

fierul)

*Russian:*

*Slovak:* žehli

*Slovenian:* likati

*Spanish:* planchar

*Swedish:* stryka,

pressa



*Turkish:* ütü

yapmak

See also: [ironing](#), [ironing-board](#), [ironmonger](#), [ironmongery](#), [irons](#), [have several, too many irons in the fire](#), [iron out](#), [strike while the iron is hot](#)

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iron   (' rn) [Pronunciation Key](#)

*Symbol* Fe

A silvery-white, hard metallic element that occurs abundantly in minerals such as hematite, magnetite, pyrite, and ilmenite. It is malleable and ductile, can be magnetized, and rusts readily in moist air. It is used to make steel and other alloys important in construction and manufacturing. Iron is a component of hemoglobin, which allows red blood cells to carry oxygen and carbon dioxide through the body. Atomic number 26; atomic weight 55.845; melting point 1,535°C; boiling point 2,750°C; specific gravity 7.874 (at 20°C); valence 2, 3, 4, 6. See [Periodic Table](#). See Note at [element](#).

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*American Heritage Stedman's Medical Dictionary - Cite This Source*

i· ron (**ī** ɝrn)

*n.*

1. *Symbol* **Fe** A lustrous, malleable, ductile, magnetic or magnetizable metallic element. Atomic number 26; atomic weight 55.847; melting point 1,538°C; boiling point 2,860°C; specific gravity 7.874 (at 20°C); valence 2, 3, 4, 6.
2. A pill or other medication containing iron and taken as a dietary supplement.

*adj.*

Made of or containing iron.

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Houghton Mifflin Company.*

[Merriam-Webster's Medical Dictionary - Cite This Source](#)

Main Entry: iron

Pronunciation: ' I ( - & ) r n

Function: *noun*

1 : a heavy malleable ductile magnetic silver-white metallic element that readily rusts in moist air, occurs native in meteorites and combined in most igneous rocks, is the most used of metals, and is vital to biological processes (as in transport of oxygen in the body) —symbol *Fe*; —see [ELEMENT](#) table

2 : iron chemically combined <*iron* in the blood> —iron *adjective*

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[Free On-line Dictionary of Computing - Cite This Source](#)

iron

Hardware, especially older and larger hardware of [mainframe](#) class with big metal cabinets housing relatively low-density electronics (but the term is also used of modern [supercomputers](#)). Often in the phrase [big iron](#). Oppose [silicon](#).

See also [dinosaur](#).

[[The Jargon File](#)]

(1994-11-04)

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iron

n. Hardware, especially older and larger hardware of [mainframe](#) class with big metal cabinets housing relatively low-density electronics (but the term is also used of modern supercomputers). Often in the phrase [big iron](#). Oppose [silicon](#). See also [dinosaur](#).

*Jargon File 4.2.0*

[U.S. Gazetteer - Cite This Source](#)

Iron River, MI (city, FIPS 40980) Location: 46.09884 N, 88.63820 W

Population (1990): 2095 (1107 housing units)

Area: 9.0 sq km (land), 0.1 sq km (water)

Zip code(s): 49935

Iron Belt, WI Zip code(s): 54536

Iron City, GA (town, FIPS 41344) Location: 31.01296 N, 84.81376 W

Population (1990): 503 (200 housing units)

Area: 2.1 sq km (land), 0.0 sq km (water)

Zip code(s): 31759

Iron City, TN (city, FIPS 37360) Location: 35.02560 N, 87.58368 W

Population (1990): 402 (161 housing units)

Area: 2.4 sq km (land), 0.0 sq km (water)

Zip code(s): 38463

Iron Ridge, WI (village, FIPS 37150) Location: 43.39756 N, 88.53206 W

Population (1990): 887 (317 housing units)

Area: 1.8 sq km (land), 0.0 sq km (water)

Zip code(s): 53035

Iron Mountain, MO Zip code(s): 63650

Iron Mountain, MI (city, FIPS 40960) Location: 45.82765 N, 88.06147 W

Population (1990): 8525 (3789 housing units)

Area: 18.7 sq km (land), 1.6 sq km (water)

Zip code(s): 49801

Iron River, WI Zip code(s): 54847

Iron Station, NC Zip code(s): 28080

Iron Gates, MO (village, FIPS 35414) Location: 37.06350 N, 94.55695 W

Population (1990): 309 (129 housing units)

Area: 0.7 sq km (land), 0.0 sq km (water)

Iron Gate, VA (town, FIPS 40024) Location: 37.79880 N, 79.79058 W

Population (1990): 417 (201 housing units)

Area: 0.9 sq km (land), 0.0 sq km (water)

Iron County, WI (county, FIPS 51) Location: 46.32639 N, 90.26154 W

Population (1990): 6153 (5243 housing units)

Area: 1961.4 sq km (land), 419.6 sq km (water)

Iron County, UT (county, FIPS 21) Location: 37.85650 N, 113.27694 W

Population (1990): 20789 (8499 housing units)

Area: 8543.1 sq km (land), 9.4 sq km (water)

Iron County, MO (county, FIPS 93) Location: 37.54610 N, 90.75682 W

Population (1990): 10726 (4700 housing units)

Area: 1428.2 sq km (land), 1.7 sq km (water)

Iron County, MI (county, FIPS 71) Location: 46.20508 N, 88.51385 W

Population (1990): 13175 (9039 housing units)

Area: 3021.2 sq km (land), 115.7 sq km (water)

Iron Junction, MN (city, FIPS 31238) Location: 47.41643 N, 92.60665 W

Population (1990): 133 (52 housing units)

Area: 2.0 sq km (land), 0.0 sq km (water)

Iron Mountain Lake, MO (city, FIPS 35430) Location: 37.68508 N,  
90.61467 W

Population (1990): 632 (440 housing units)

Area: 5.1 sq km (land), 0.3 sq km (water)

Gilmanton Iron W, NH Zip code(s): 03837

Parkers-Iron Springs, AR (CDP, FIPS 53555) Location: 34.60525 N,  
92.32222 W

Population (1990): 3611 (1377 housing units)

Area: 20.8 sq km (land), 0.1 sq km (water)

Iron, MN Zip code(s): 55751

Mountain Iron, MN (city, FIPS 44548) Location: 47.52641 N, 92.62685 W

Population (1990): 3362 (1422 housing units)

Area: 127.8 sq km (land), 7.5 sq km (water)

Zip code(s): 55768

*U.S. Gazetteer, U.S. Census Bureau*

*Easton's 1897 Bible Dictionary - Cite This Source*

Iron

Tubal-Cain is the first-mentioned worker in iron (Gen. 4:22). The Egyptians wrought it at Sinai before the Exodus. David prepared it in

great abundance for the temple (1 Chr. 22:3; 29:7). The merchants of Dan and Javan brought it to the market of Tyre (Ezek. 27:19). Various instruments are mentioned as made of iron (Deut. 27:5; 19:5; Josh. 17:16, 18; 1 Sam. 17:7; 2 Sam. 12:31; 2 Kings 6:5, 6; 1 Chr. 22:3; Isa. 10:34). Figuratively, a yoke of iron (Deut. 28:48) denotes hard service; a rod of iron (Ps. 2:9), a stern government; a pillar of iron (Jer. 1:18), a strong support; a furnace of iron (Deut. 4:20), severe labour; a bar of iron (Job 40:18), strength; fetters of iron (Ps. 107:10), affliction; giving silver for iron (Isa. 60:17), prosperity.

*Easton's 1897 Bible Dictionary*

*Acronym Finder - Cite This Source*

IRON

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*On-line Medical Dictionary - Cite This Source*

iron

[iron](#): in CancerWEB's On-line Medical Dictionary

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