



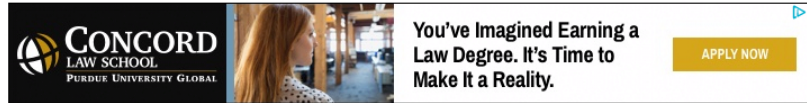
SINCE 1828

think tank



DICTIONARY

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think tank noun

Definition of *think tank*

: an institute, corporation, or group organized to study a particular subject (such as a policy issue or a scientific problem) and provide information, ideas, and advice

// an information technology *think tank*

// ... was responsible for the armies of new political-action committees, lobbyists and rightward *think tanks* that poured into Washington to counter the consumer and environmental movements he helped to inspire.

— Jonathan Rowe

Examples of *think tank* in a Sentence

Recent Examples on the Web

// The next day, representatives from two conservative *think tanks* published blog posts defending Google and attacking the article's call for antitrust enforcement.

— Casey Newton, *The Verge*, "How Congress missed another chance to hold big tech accountable," 12 Dec. 2018

// Two *think tanks*, the Urban Institute and the Brookings Institute, looked at the state-by-state results to see if the tracts selected had higher levels of distress than those that didn't.

— Jeff Andrews, *Curbed*, "Opportunity zones: vital community development tool or tax windfall for the rich?," 3 Oct. 2018

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'think tank.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. Send us feedback.

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First Known Use of *think tank*

1958, in the meaning defined above

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Resources for *think tank*




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farouche

marked by shyness and lack of polish

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Homophone Quiz



In order to judge how people felt, the senator's office hired a firm to take a _____.

poll

pole

pol

poal

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Dictionary Entries near *think tank*

- [think over](#)
- [think piece](#)
- [think-so](#)
- [think tank](#)**
- [think the world of](#)
- [think things over](#)
- [think through](#)

Statistics for *think tank*

Last Updated
7 Jan 2019

Look-up Popularity
Bottom 50% of words

Time Traveler for *think tank*

The first known use of *think tank* was in 1958

[See more words from the same year](#)

More Definitions for *think tank*

think tank noun

English Language Learners Definition of *think tank*

: an organization that consists of a group of people who think of new ideas on a particular subject or who give advice about what should be done

[See the full definition for *think tank* in the English Language Learners Dictionary](#)

More from Merriam-Webster on *think tank*

- Rhyming Dictionary: [Words that rhyme with *think tank*](#)
- Thesaurus: [All synonyms and antonyms for *think tank*](#)
- English: [Translation of *think tank* for Spanish Speakers](#)
- Britannica English: [Translation of *think tank* for Arabic Speakers](#)

Comments on *think tank*




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A step up from 'there,' 'their,' and 'they're'



The Verbing Adventures of 'Weigh' and 'Weight'

They both do it, but (mostly) differently

ASK THE EDITORS



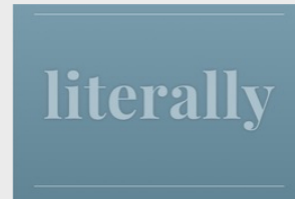
Some Odd Words with ISMO: "People Tipping"

Comedian ISMO on the complexities of the word 'tip'



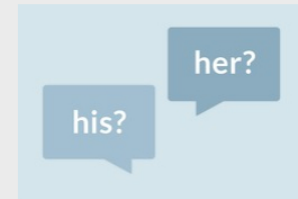
Some Odd Words with ISMO: "The One-derful Won"

Comedian ISMO tries to figure out 'one' and 'two'



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The awkward case of 'his or her'



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More/moor than/then
two/too/to.

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