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heyday

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heyday

interjection hey day \ ha- da \

Popularity: Top 40% of words | Updated on: 27 Jul 2018



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- sequacious inadmissible oligarch, pejorative emolument troll
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- 1. sequacious 'intellectually servile'
- 2. <u>inadmissible 'not capable of being allowed'</u>
- 3. <u>oligarch, pejorative 'a member a government in which a small group exercises control especially for corrupt and selfish purposes'</u>
- 4. <u>emolument 'the returns arising from office or employment usually in the form of compensation or perquisites'</u>
- 5. troll 'to harass, criticize, or antagonize especially by disparaging or mocking public statements'

SEE ALL

Examples: heyday in a Sentence Editor's Note: Did You Know?

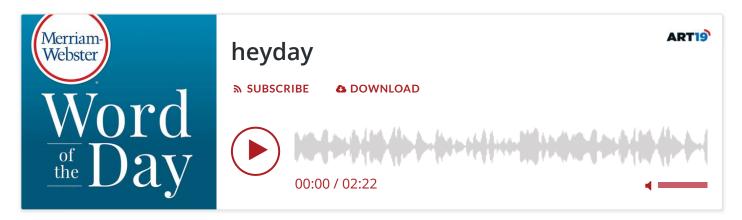
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- <u>Time Traveler! Explore the year a word first appeared</u>

Definition of heyday

archaic

—used to express elation or wonder

heyday was our Word of the Day on 02/01/2012. Hear the podcast!



Theme music by Joshua Stamper ©2006 New Jerusalem Music/ASCAP

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Origin and Etymology of heyday

irregular from hey

NEW! Time Traveler

First Known Use: 1599

in the meaning defined above

See Words from the same year

2

heyday

noun

Definition of heyday

1 archaic: high spirits

2: the period of one's greatest popularity, vigor, or prosperity

See *heyday* defined for English-language learners

See *heyday* defined for kids

Examples of *heyday* in a Sentence

1. in its heyday, the circus was a major form of entertainment for small-town America

Recent Examples of heyday from the Web

- How shows get road-tested, and where, has changed greatly since Boston's *heyday* as a tryout town, which lasted roughly from the 1920s to the early 1970s.
 - don aucoin, BostonGlobe.com, "A comeback role for Boston theaters?," 14 July 2018
- Get our daily newsletter EVEN during its *heyday* in the 1930s, the Shanghai of legend seemed to live under a premonition of death.
 - The Economist, "A gripping tale of Sodom sliding towards its bloody end," 12 July 2018
- In KGB's *heyday*, the District was home to underground punk, hard core, hip-hop and go-go music scenes, all with their own taggers.
 - anthony j. rivera, Washington Post, "Living D.C. graffiti legend went from rowdy thug to art teacher," 28 June 2018

- The 300th anniversary of the pirate's *heyday* and demise is being marked with events ranging from educational displays and symposia to wakes.
 - john bordsen, USA TODAY, "N.C.'s haul from 'native son' Blackbeard's 300th anniversary: Tourist gold," 22 June 2018
- Cerro Gordo's *heyday* lasted from just after the Civil War until the late 1870s, when a fire and falling silver prices caused prospectors to abandon the mine, according to the town's website.
 - gabby ferreira, sacbee, "You can buy this entire ghost town for less than the price of a San Francisco condo," 12 June 2018
- Though the number of lanes has decreased from the sport's *heyday* last century, there are still a handful of classic lanes around, including Patterson Bowling Center, 2105 Eastern Ave.
 - <u>baltimoresun.com</u>, "Best of Baltimore 2018: Arts and activities," 11 Apr. 2018
- Amid the fast food joints and low-budget casinos, remnants of Searchlight's mining *heyday* survive.
 San Francisco Chronicle, "One Day, One Place: L.A. to Vegas along the scenic route," 19 Mar. 2018
- The video game industry has changed since the Wii's heyday, though.
 chris morris, Fortune, "Nintendo Switch Tops Lifetime Sales of Its Predecessor in 10 Months," 31 Jan. 2018

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

Did You Know?

In its earliest appearances in English, in the 16th century, "heyday" was used as an interjection that expressed elation or wonder (similar to our word *hey*, from which it derives). Around the same time, "heyday" saw use as a noun meaning "high spirits." (This sense can be seen in Act III, Scene IV of *Hamlet*, when the Prince of Denmark tells his mother, "You cannot call it love; for at your age / The heyday in the blood is tame....") It wasn't until the 18th century that English speakers, perhaps interpreting the "day" of the second syllable to mean "a time or period," began using "heyday" to refer to the period when one's achievement or popularity has reached its zenith.

First Known Use of heyday

1590

in the meaning defined at sense 1

See Words from the same year > NEW! Time Traveler

heyday Synonyms

Synonyms

bloom, blossom, florescence, flower, flush, high noon, prime, salad days;

Near Antonyms

decay, decline, downfall;

bottom, nadir;

shriveling (or shrivelling), wilting, withering;

Related Words

autumn, Indian summer;

blooming, blossoming, efflorescence, flowering;

acme, apex, climax, meridian, peak, pinnacle, summit, zenith;

glory, grandeur, splendor;

belle epoque (or belle époque), golden age, silver age;

comeback, recovery, revival;

HEYDAY Defined for English Language Learners

heyday

<u>noun</u>

Definition of *heyday* for English Language Learners

• : the time when someone or something is most successful, popular, etc.

HEYDAY Defined for Kids

heyday

noun hey day \ ha-da \

Definition of heyday for Students

: the time of greatest strength, popularity, or success

Learn More about heyday

1. See words that rhyme with heyday Thesaurus: All synonyms and antonyms for heyday Spanish Central:

<u>Translation of heyday</u> Nglish: <u>Translation of heyday for Spanish speakers</u> Britannica English: <u>Translation of heyday for Arabic speakers</u>

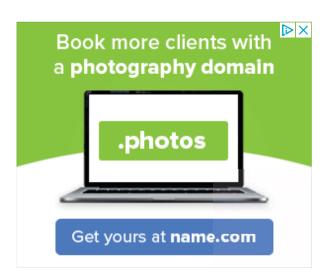
Seen and Heard

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TRENDING NOW

- 1 <u>sequacious</u> 'intellectually servile'
- 2 inadmissible 'not capable of being allowed'
- 3 <u>oligarch, pejorative</u>

 'a member a government in which a small group exercises control especially f...
- 4 <u>emolument</u>

 'the returns arising from office or employment usually in the form of compen...
- 5 <u>troll</u>
 <u>'to harass, criticize, or antagonize especially by disparaging or mocking publi...</u>

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BROWSE DICTIONARY

<u>hey</u>

hey cockalorum

heyday

Heydrich

<u>Heyerdahl</u>



Test Your Vocabulary

Semantic Drift Quiz

Which of the following was once a synonym for fun?

hoax	<u>pear</u>
dutch	<u>golf</u>

Can you spell these 10 commonly misspelled words? <u>TAKE THE QUIZ</u>

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Test Your Knowledge} - and learn some interesting things along the way. \\ \hline \textbf{TAKE THE QUIZ} \end{tabular}$

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WORDS AT PLAY

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14 Words Inspired by Dogs

A lexicographer's best friend

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The Good, The Bad, & The Semantically Imprecise - 8/3/2018

Words from the week of 8/3/2018

•

Rare and Amusing Insults: Pillock, Mooncalf, and More

Rare and Amusing Insults

•

The Many Different Faces of 'Franchise'

How one word got so many meanings.

ASK THE EDITORS

•

Ghost Word

The story of an imaginary word that managed to sneak past our editors and enter the dictionary.

•

2017 Word of the Year: Behind the Scenes

How we chose 'feminism'

•

Literally

How to use a word that (literally) drives some people nuts.

•

<u>Is Singular 'They' a Better</u> <u>Choice?</u>

The awkward case of 'his or her'

WORD GAMES

Semantic Drift Quiz

A challenging quiz of changing words.

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July 2018 Words of the Day Quiz

An extra challenging WOTD quiz

TAKE THE QUIZ >

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Spell It

<u>Can you spell these 10 commonly</u> <u>misspelled words?</u>

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