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## Definition of 'mate'

- Learner: mate
- Video
- American: mate<sup>1</sup>
- American: mate<sup>2</sup>
- American: maté
- English: mate<sup>1</sup>
- English: mate<sup>2</sup>
- English: maté
- Example sentences
- Trends
- Transl

mate  
(meɪt )

Collins COBUILD

**Word forms:** mates, mating, mated

**1.** countable noun

Someone's wife, husband, or sexual partner can be referred to as their **mate**.

*He has found his ideal mate.*

**2.** countable noun

An animal's **mate** is its sexual partner.

*The males guard their mates zealously.*

**3.** reciprocal verb

When animals **mate**, a male and a female have sex in order to produce young.

*This allows the pair to mate properly and stops the hen from staying in the nest.*

*They want the males to mate with wild females.*

**4.** See also classmate, roommate, running mate

Video: pronunciation of 'mate'



mate in American <sup>1</sup>

(mɛt  ; māt)

noun

1. **a.** a companion, comrade, or fellow worker

*often used in compounds [classmate]*

**b.** British, *Informal*

a chum; buddy; pal

*often used as a familiar form of address*

2. one of a pair, esp. of a matched pair

3. **a.** a husband or wife; spouse

**b.** the male or female of animals paired for propagation

4. *Archaic*

an equal; fit associate

5. Nautical

**a.** an officer of a merchant ship, ranking below the captain; specif., first mate

**b.** an assistant

*; in the U.S. Navy, mate is used in the designators of certain petty officers and ratings, as machinist's mate, boatswain's mate*

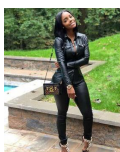
verb transitive

**Word forms:** 'mated or 'mating

6. to join as a pair; couple

7. to couple in marriage or sexual union

8. to provide with a mate





verb intransitive

9. to become mated

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Word origin of 'mate'

ME < MDu, a companion < *gemate* < Gmc *\*gamatan* < *\*ga-*, together (for IE base see com-) + *\*mad-*, food, meat: hence, orig., one who share meals: cf. companion<sup>1</sup>

mate in American <sup>2</sup>

(meɪt □ ; māt)

noun, interjection, verb transitive

Word forms: 'mated or 'mating

checkmate

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Word origin of 'mate'

ME *mat* < OFr: see checkmate

maté in American

('mɑːteɪ □ ; mə'tā ; 'mæteɪ □ ; mə'tā)

noun

- 1. a beverage made from the dried leaves of a South American evergreen tree (*Ilex paraguariensis*) of the holly family
- 2. this tree
- 3. the dried leaves of this tree

Also written mate

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Word origin of 'mate'

AmSp *mate* < Quechua *mati*, calabash: in allusion to the gourd in which it is steeped

mate in British <sup>1</sup>

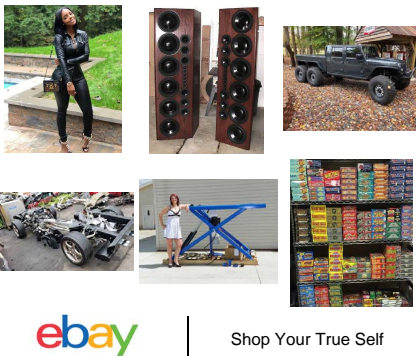
(meɪt □ )

noun

1. the sexual partner of an animal
2. a marriage partner
3. **a.** *informal*, mainly British, Australian and New Zealand  
a friend, usually of the same gender: often used between males in direct address
- b.** (*in combination*)  
an associate, colleague, fellow sharer, etc  
*a classmate*  
*a flatmate*
4. one of a pair of matching items
5. nautical
  - a.** short for first mate
  - b.** any officer below the master on a commercial ship
  - c.** a warrant officer's assistant on a ship
6. (in some trades) an assistant  
*a plumber's mate*
7. *archaic*  
a suitable associate

verb

8. to pair (a male and female animal) or (of animals) to pair for reproduction



9. to marry or join in marriage

10. (*transitive*)  
to join as a pair; match

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### Derived forms

**mateless** ('mateless) *adjective*

### Word origin of 'mate'

C14: from Middle Low German; related to Old English *gemetta* table-guest, from *mete* MEAT

mate in British 2

(mɛt □ )

noun, verb

chess checkmate

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maté in British

or **mate** ('mɑːteɪ □ , 'mæteɪ □ )

noun

1. an evergreen tree, *Ilex paraguariensis*, cultivated in South America for its leaves, which contain caffeine: family *Aquifoliaceae*
2. a stimulating milky beverage made from the dried leaves of this tree

Modern Greek name: Paraguay tea, yerba, yerba maté

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Word origin of 'mate'

C18: from American Spanish (originally referring to the vessel in which the drink was brewed), from Quechua *máti* gourd

### Example sentences containing 'mate'

□ These examples have been automatically selected and may contain sensitive content. [Read more...](#)

Roy only drank maté, a form of health beverage -- particularly disgusting -- alleged to promote longevity.

**Salley Vickers** *INSTANCES OF THE NUMBER 3* (2002)

`Then I'd suggest chopinho or maté, depending on your taste.

**MacNeill, Alistair** *ALASTAIR MCLEAN'S 'NIGHT WATCH'* (2002)

### Synonyms of 'mate'

**friend**, pal, companion, buddy

**partner**, lover, companion, spouse

**double**, match, fellow, twin

**assistant**, subordinate, apprentice, helper

**colleague**, associate, companion, co-worker

**pair**, couple, breed, copulate

**marry**, match, wed, get married

**join**, match, couple, pair

## More Synonyms of mate

## Word Lists

America

## Trends of 'mate'

In Common Usage. mate is one of the 10000 most commonly used words in the Collins dictionary ●●●●●

View usage over: Since Exist

170817681828188819482008YearsRecorded Usage

## Translations for 'mate'

British English: mate  /meɪt/ noun

You can refer to someone's friends as their *mates*.

*He's gone out with his mates.*

American English: buddy

Arabic: رفيق

Brazilian Portuguese: colega

Chinese: 伙伴

Croatian: drug

Czech: kamarád

Danish: partner

Dutch: maat  vriend

European Spanish: colega  compañero

Finnish: kaveri

French: pote

German: Kumpel

Greek: φίλος

Italian: compagno

Japanese: 仲間

Korean: 친구

Norwegian: kamerat

Polish: kolega

European Portuguese: colega

Romanian: coleg

Russian: товарищ

Spanish: colega

Swedish: kompis

Thai: เพื่อน

Turkish: ahbap

Ukrainian: товариш

Vietnamese: bạn

Translate your text for free

## Nearby words of 'mate'

[matchsticks](#)

[matchup](#)

[matchwood](#)

**mate**

[mate's rates](#)

[matelasse](#)

[matellasse](#)

All ENGLISH words that begin with 'M'

## Related Terms of 'mate'

[age-mate](#)

[mess mate](#)

[soul mate](#)

[team-mate](#)

[first mate](#)

View more related words

## Source

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The exclamation mark is used after exclamations and emphatic expressions. I can't believe it! Oh, no! Look at this mess! The exclamation mark loses its effect if it is overused. It is better to...

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Word of the day:

## cruciverbalist

a crossword puzzle enthusiast

[See full definition](#)

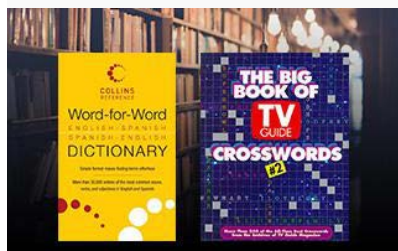
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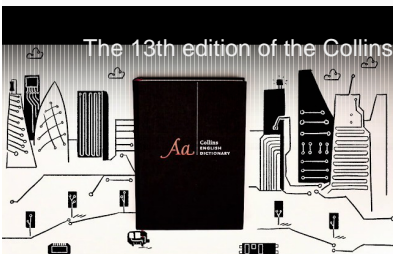


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## SCRABBLE™

Scrabble score for 'mate':  
6



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OwO *Dec 17, 2018*

blind hole *Dec 17, 2018*

leilapia *Dec 15, 2018*

Glass dream *Dec 14, 2018*

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