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pebble



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# pebble

noun

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peb·ble | \ 'pe-bəl  \

## Definition of *pebble*

(Entry 1 of 2)


1 : a small usually rounded stone especially when worn by the action of water

2 : transparent and colorless quartz : [rock crystal](#)

3 : an irregular, crinkled, or grainy surface

pebble

[verb](#)

pebbled; pebbling \ 'pe-b(ə-)liŋ  \

Definition of *pebble* (Entry 2 of 2)

[transitive verb](#)

1 : to pelt with [pebbles](#)

2 : to pave or cover with pebbles or something resembling pebbles


3 : to grain (a material, such as leather) so as to produce a rough and irregularly indented surface

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## Other Words from *pebble*

Noun

pebbly \ 'pe-b(ə-)lē  \ adjective

## Examples of *pebble* in a Sentence

Recent Examples on the Web: Noun But that ubiquity also means that when a *pebble* drops in the middle of Let's Encrypt's pond, the ripples can travel a long way. — [Brian Barrett, \*Wired\*, "Last Week's Internet Calamity That Wasn't," 9 Mar. 2020](#) Rather than hardscape, the garden designers created pathways of delicate gravels and small *pebbles* that can be walked on barefoot. — [Heather Arndt Anderson, \*Sunset Magazine\*, "Feng Shui Brings Harmony to a Colorado Garden," 3 Mar. 2020](#)

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'pebble.' 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 *pebble*

Noun

before the 12th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Verb

1605, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

## History and Etymology for *pebble*

Noun

Middle English *pobble*, from Old English *papolstān*, from *papol-* (of unknown origin) + *stān* stone

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Time Traveler for *pebble*



**The first known use of *pebble* was before the 12th century**

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Last Updated

13 Mar 2020

Look-up Popularity

Bottom 40% of words

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More Definitions for *pebble*

pebble

*noun*



## English Language Learners Definition of *pebble*

: a small, round stone especially : one that has been made smooth by the movement of water

[See the full definition for \*pebble\* in the English Language Learners Dictionary.](#)

pebble

*noun*

peb·ble | \ 'pe-bəl \

## Kids Definition of *pebble*

: a small rounded stone

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Spanish Central: [Translation of \*pebble\*](#)

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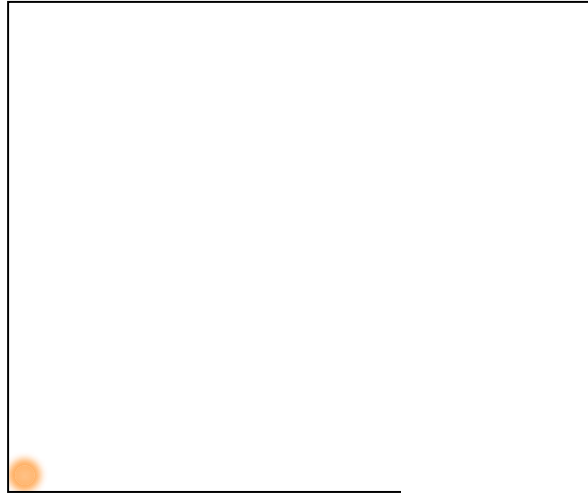
Britannica English: [Translation of \*pebble\* for Arabic Speakers](#)

Britannica.com: [Encyclopedia article about \*pebble\*](#)

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crwth 

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[jealousy](#)

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On a marsupial with various names

- 

#### The Words of the Week - 3/13/20

Words from the week of 3/13/2020

- 

#### 'Quarantine' vs 'Isolation'

The vocabulary of keeping distance

- 

#### 'Pandemic' vs 'Epidemic'

How they overlap and where they  
differ

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### **2019 Word of the Year: Behind the Scenes**

How we chose 'they'

•

### **Is It 'Hanger' or 'Hangar'?**

How to remember which is which

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### **Literally**

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

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### **Is Singular 'They' a Better Choice?**

The awkward case of 'his or her'

## WORD GAMES

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