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## hub

[noun](#)

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\ 'hʌb \

### Definition of *hub*

- 1 : the central part of a circular object (such as a wheel or propeller) spokes attached to the hub of the wheel
- 2a : a center of activity : [focal point](#) The island is a major tourist hub.
- b : an airport or city through which an airline routes most of its traffic
- c : a central device that connects multiple computers on a single network (see [network entry 1 sense 3b](#))
- 3 : a steel punch from which a working die (see [die entry 2 sense 3a](#)) for a coin or medal is made

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## Synonyms for *hub*



Synonyms

- [axis](#),
- [base](#),
- [capital](#),
- [center](#),
- [central](#),
- [core](#),
- [cynosure](#),
- [epicenter](#),
- [eye](#),
- [focus](#),
- [ground zero](#),
- [heart](#),
- [locus](#),
- [mecca](#),
- [navel](#),
- [nerve center](#),
- [nexus](#),
- [nucleus](#),
- [omphalos](#),
- [seat](#)

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## Examples of *hub* in a Sentence

the *hub* of the city She was at the *hub* of all the activity.

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Recent Examples on the Web To the customer, there's not a huge difference in going to a food *hub* versus another specialty food store or restaurant. — [Janelle Bitker, SFChronicle.com, "The future of Bay Area restaurant industry might be food hubs, a worker-driven twist on food halls," 4 Nov. 2020](#) That compares with Memphis International, the nation's top air cargo *hub* and FedEx's home base, handling more than 24 billion pounds of cargo last year. — [Anthony Mcauley, Staff Writer, NOLA.com, "Amazon Air adds New Orleans to its expanding air cargo network," 4 Nov. 2020](#)

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

1649, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

## History and Etymology for *hub*

probably alteration of [hob entry 2](#)

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Time Traveler for *hub*



## The first known use of *hub* was in 1649

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## Dictionary Entries near *hub*

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Last Updated

7 Nov 2020

Look-up Popularity

Top 1% of words

Cite this Entry

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More Definitions for *hub*

hub

[noun](#)



## English Language Learners Definition of *hub*

: the central and most active part or place  
: the airport or the city through which an airline sends most of its flights  
: the center of a wheel, propeller, fan, etc.

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

hub

[noun](#)

\ 'həb \

## Kids Definition of *hub*

1 : the center of a wheel, propeller, or fan  
2 : a center of activity The port is the island's *hub*.

hub

[noun](#)

\ 'həb \

## Medical Definition of *hub*

: the enlarged base by which a hollow needle may be attached to a device (as a syringe)

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**WORD OF THE DAY**

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**fulvous** 

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**pompous and  
overblown**

**rousing and  
inspiring**

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### WORDS AT PLAY

- **On the Difference Between 'Incite' vs 'Insight'**

Not that we're looking to start something.

- **The Words of the Week - 11/13/20**

Words from the week of 11/13/2020

- **The Ruling on 'Amiable' vs. 'Amicable'**

**'Avoid Like the Plague': A History**

Heading straight toward its origins

**ASK THE EDITORS**

•

**'All Intensive Purposes' or 'All Intents and Purposes'?**

We're intent on clearing it up

•

**'Nip it in the butt' or 'Nip it in the bud'?**

We're gonna stop you right there

•

**Literally**

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

•

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

The awkward case of 'his or her'

**WORD GAMES**

•

**What did you just call me?! A Quiz**

Never be caught off guard

**TAKE THE QUIZ**

•

**Where in the World? A Quiz**

Do you know what languages these words come from?

**TAKE THE QUIZ**

•

**Spell It**

Can you spell these 10 commonly misspelled words?

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•

**Dictionary Devil**

The dictionary has been scrambled —can you put i...

[\*\*PLAY THE GAME\*\*](#)

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