

Oxford English Dictionary Online (www.oed.com)

The *Oxford English Dictionary* is widely acknowledged to be the most authoritative and comprehensive dictionary of English in the world. It also traces the evolution of more than 600,000 words over the last 1,500 years through 2.5 million quotations from a wide range of sources – from classic literature and periodicals to film scripts and pop songs.

OED Online offers:

- **Unprecedented access** to the 20-volume Second Edition and 3 Additions series volumes
- **Quarterly updates** comprising at least 2,5 00 new and revised words
- **Extensive search options** enabling users to answer the following questions in seconds...
 - What was the original meaning of the adjective NICE? (foolish!)
 - When was the first recorded use of MOBILE PHONE? (1945)
 - What is a ROBOT in South Africa? (Traffic signal)
 - Which band, according to the OED, invented COOL BRITANNIA, and when? (Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band, 1967)
 - How many English words have a Hindi origin? (469 as at February 2006)
 - "Beware the jubjub bird" is a quote from which book? (Through the Looking Glass)

OED Online is also a crossword solvers' dream! Not only is it the biggest dictionary of English in the world, it is possible to search for words with wildcards (missing letters can be denoted with a ?), and to search for words on the basis of their definitions. Find out about wildcard searches at <http://www.oed.com/help/search/wildcard.html>.

Other special features...

- Add an *OED Online* search box to your library website – find out how at <http://www.oed.com/services/>
- Look up words in *OED Online* direct from any other website – find out how at <http://www.oed.com/services/browser-button.html>

Further information...

- Find out more about *OED Online* at <http://www.oed.com>
- A tour is available at <http://www.oed.com/tour>
- Download the *OED Online* brochure at <http://www.oed.com/pdfs/oed-brochure.pdf> and the OED Quick Reference Guide at <http://www.oed.com/pdfs/oed-quickref.pdf>
- Comprehensive help is available at www.oed.com/help, and really useful tutorial searches can be found at www.oed.com/help/examples
- Sign up for the OED Word of the Day at <http://www.oed.com/services/email-wotd.html>