Make the most of vocabulary.
Discover Unlimited Quizzes and Games >>

strive *verb*

/ˈstrīv /
strived /ˈstrīvd /, **strove** /ˈstrōv /, **striven** /ˈstrivən /, **strivan** /ˈstrivən /, **strive** /ˈstrīv /, **strived**, **striving** /ˈstrīviŋ /, **strives** /ˈstrīvz /

Definition of strive

intransitive *verb*

1 to devote serious effort or energy : ENDEAVOR
strive to finish a project

2 to struggle in opposition : CONTEND

Other Words from strive
Synonyms
Choose the Right Synonym
More Example Sentences
Learn More about strive

Keep exploring for more
sponsored
Instant Grammar Checker
Grammar, spelling, punctuation, clarity, and plagiarism checks.
Try Now!
Ads by Merriam-Webster

Other Words from strive

striver /ˈstrīvər /, **striver**

Synonyms for strive

Synonyms

fung away, forsee (away), dig (away), drudge, endeavor, fag, grub, hustle, labor, moil, pay (away), plod, plug, pound, slog, sweat, struggle, swear, toil, travail, work

Ads Get Thesaurus for Word >>

Choose the Right Synonym for strive

ATTEMPT, TRY, ENDEAVOR, STRIVE, STRIVEN mean to make an effort to achieve something. ATTEMPT implies no success, initiative or beginning of an effort, if not attempted. *I photograph the rare bird or TRY to allow time for ATTEMPT* TRY implies a degree of success or failure. *Attempted to photograph the rare bird* ENDEAVOR implies effort directed toward an end, *endeavored to photograph the rare bird* STRIVE implies exertion and difficulty, if endeavored to find success. *Strived to photograph the rare bird* STRIVEN is a variant of STRIVE and suggests tentative trying or experimenting. *I will strive a dramatic role for the first time in 20 years* STRIVEN implies a determined effort against difficulty. *I will striven to suggests persistent effort. It continues to strive for peace in*

Examples of strive in a Sentence

of the must all strive to do better
of the always strives for perfection.

See more >>

Recent Examples on the Web

Kelly Ripa and Mark Consuelos have to admire and strive to match, as the duo celebrate their 32nd Valentine's Day in Florida. Some first consistent culture and identity sustains long-term success. *Forbes, 15 Feb 2022* Ms. Ripa, 51, and Mr. Consuelos, 52, have been married since Friday in Florida's Keys. *Forbes, 15 Feb 2022*

Of Such recommendations should give us all pause, scientist or not, to do better next time and strive to make original such discoveries. *Forbes, 15 Feb 2022*

— Fumiko Ayukawa, The Conversation, "Why scientists and public alike should be wary of the rush to publish COVID-19 research", *Forbes*, 15 Feb 2022

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

See More >>

First Known Use of strive

15th century, in the meaning defined at *verse 1*

History and Etymology for strive

Middle English, to quarrel, contend, fight, endeavor, from Anglo-French *estriver* to quarrel, from *estrif* strife — more at STRIFE

See more words from strive

Keep exploring for more
sponsored
Instant Grammar Checker
Grammar, spelling, punctuation, clarity, and plagiarism checks.
Try Now!
Ads by Merriam-Webster

Learn More about *strive*

Share strive

Time Traveler for strive
The first known use of strive was in the 15th Century
See more words from the same century.

Dictionary Entries near strive
strip windows
strip
strip-windows
strive
strix
strix
Strix
strixes

See More Nearby Entries >>

Statistics for strive
Last Updated
20 Nov 2020

Look-up Popularity
Top 1% of words

Cite this Entry

"Strive." *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/strive. Accessed 24 Nov. 2020.

Style: MLA

Keep exploring for more
sponsored
Instant Grammar Checker
Grammar, spelling, punctuation, clarity, and plagiarism checks.
Try Now!
Ads by Merriam-Webster

More Definitions for *strive*

strive *verb*

/ ˈstrī v /
strive | ˈstrīv, **strives** | ˈstrīvz, **strived** | ˈstrīvd, **striving** | ˈstrīviŋ

English Language Learners Definition of *strive*

formal : to try very hard to do or achieve something

See the full definition for strive in the English Language Learners Dictionary

strive *verb*

/ ˈstrī v /
strive | ˈstrīv, **strives** | ˈstrīvz, **striven** | ˈstrivən, **strived**, **striving** | ˈstrīviŋ

Kids Definition of *strive*

to try very hard
of life will strive to win.

Keep exploring for more

sponsored
Instant Grammar Checker
Grammar, spelling, punctuation, clarity, and plagiarism checks.
Try Now!
WORD OF THE DAY
virtual
See Definitions and Examples »
Get Word of the Day daily email!
Your email address
SIGN UP
TEST YOUR VOCABULARY
A Thanksgiving Word Quiz
November comes from a word for which of the following?
Pumpkin pie
Turkey day
Harvest
All
Take your word chops to the next level
Take Quiz
Test Your Knowledge: and things along the way
Take Quiz
Ads by Merriam-Webster

Love words? Need even more definitions?
Subscribe to Merriam-Webster Unlimited for unlimited access to our dictionary, thesaurus, and medical dictionary — ad-free!
SIGN UP: MERRIAM-WEBSTER.COM/SUBSCRIBE

WORDS AT PLAY

On 'Jacobin' and 'Jacobite'
Once a scary, now either is a curio.

8 Ways to Tell Someone to Be Quiet
Should you ask someone to be or not.

Talking Turkey On 'Gobble'
And how the bird got its nickname

The Words of the Week – 11 24 20
Words of the Week for 11/20/2020

SEE THE EDITORS

'Nip It in the bud' or 'Nip it in the bud'?
We're gonna stop you right there

'All Inclusive Purposes' or 'All Intents and Purposes'?
We're intent on clearing it up

Literally
How to use a word that literally drives some pro...

TAKE THE QUIZ

A Thanksgiving Word Quiz
We are thankful for obscure words.

TAKE THE QUIZ

Great Scrabble Words – A Quiz
Words to improve your Scrabble game.

TAKE THE QUIZ

Spell It
Can you spell these 10 commonly misspelled words?

TAKE THE QUIZ

Sic: Called
Listen to the word that's spell through all these ...

PLAY THE GAME

WORD GAMES
Learn a new word every day.

Wordle
Guess the word in six tries.

Spelling Bee
How many words can you make out of seven letters?

Crossword
Test your word knowledge.

Learn a new word every day. Delivered to your inbox!
Your email address

SPANISH-ENGLISH TRANSLATION
GRAMMAR & USAGE DICTIONARY
SYNONYM DICTIONARY
COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY
WEBSTER'S NEW COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY
SPANISH-ENGLISH TRANSLATION
ENGLISH - SPANISH-ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Browse the Dictionary: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Home | Help | Apps | About Us | Shop | Advertising Info | Dictionary APIs | Contact Us | Join MW+ | Video | Word of the Year | Today | Merriam-Webster Unabridged | Privacy Notice | Do Not Sell My Info | Cookie Notice | Terms of Use | Do Not Sell My Info

Browse the Thesaurus | Browse the Medical Dictionary | Browse the Legal Dictionary
Browse the Spanish-English Dictionary

Lumina Create & Edit
Free - In App Purchases
INSTALL
Ads by Merriam-Webster