

hook²

hook —see also BILLHOOK, BOAT HOOK, sling one's hook (SLING)

hook¹ v [T] 1 to catch with a hook: *to hook a fish* 2 [+obj+adv/prep] to hang on or fasten (as if) with a hook: *Hook the rope over that nail.* 3 to hit (a ball) with a hook stroke

hook sth → up phr v [T (to) often pass] to connect to a power supply or central system: *The BBC is hooked up by satellite to the American network in order to broadcast the President's speech.* —hookup n: a satellite hookup with America

hookah /'hʊkə/ also water pipe — n a tobacco pipe whose smoke is drawn through water by a long tube before reaching the mouth

hooked /hʊkt/ adj 1 shaped like a hook: *a hooked nose* 2 having one or more hooks: 3 [F (on)] infml a dependent (on drugs); *addicted* 4 having a great liking for and very frequently using, doing, eating, etc.: *hooked on jogging*

hooker /'hʊkə/ n sl esp. AmE for PROSTITUTE

hook-nosed /'hʊk-ˈnoʊd/ adj having a nose that curves outwards and downwards to a point

hook worm /'hʊkwɔːm/ -xrm/ n 1 [C] a worm which lives in the intestines of humans or animals 2 [U] the disease caused by this worm

hooky, hooky /'hʊki/ n AmE sl play hooky to stay away from school without permission; play TRuant

hooligan /'hʊlɪɡən/ n a noisy rough person who causes trouble by fighting, breaking things, etc. —ism n [U]

hoop /hʊp/ hop, hup/ n 1 a circular band of wood or metal round a barrel 2 a similar circular band, such as one used as a child's toy 3 (formerly) to hold women's skirts out for animals to jump through at the circus 4 a metal arch through which the ball is driven in croquet 5 put/go through the hoop(s) to (cause someone to) go through a difficult test

hoop-la /'hʊp-lə/ 'hup-, 'hup-/ n [U] 1 a game in which prizes are won when a ring is thrown right over them 2 esp. AmE noisy advertising intended to attract attention, and also perhaps deceive; *hoopla*

hooray /'hʊreɪ/ Interj; n HURRAY

hoot¹ /hʊt/ n 1 [C] the sound an owl makes 2 [C] the sound made by a car's or ship's horn 3 [C] a shout of disapproval, unpleasant laughter, etc.: *a speech that was greeted with loud hoots with hoots of derision* 4 [S] infml esp. BrE something very amusing: *That play was an absolute hoot.* 5 not care/give a hoot/two hoots infml not to care at all: *He doesn't care two hoots what people think.*

hoot² v [LT (at)] 1 to (cause to) make a hoot: *I could hear an owl hooting.* [She hooted at me with her horn.] *hooted her horn at me.* 2 infml to laugh loudly (at), esp. to show disrespect or disapproval: *The audience hooted with derision.* [They hooted him off the stage.] (=made him leave by hooting)

hoot-er /'hʊtə/ n 1 something that makes a hooting sound, such as a car horn or a horn or whistle that signals the beginning or end of work 2 BrE sl the nose

hoover¹ /'hʊvə/ n trademark BrE (often cap.) (a type of) VACUUM CLEANER

hoover² v [LT] BrE to clean with a VACUUM CLEANER

hooves /hʊvz/ hufz/ pl of HOOF

hop¹ /hɒp/ hɒp/ v -pp- 1 [I] (of people) to jump on one leg b [+adv/prep] (of small animals, birds, etc.) to jump: *The bird hopped onto my finger.* 2 [T] to cross by hopping 3 [I+adv/prep] infml to get onto/into or off/out of a vehicle: *Hop in and I'll drive you to the station.* [We hopped onto the bus while it was still moving.] 4 [T] esp. AmE infml to get on (a public vehicle): *They hopped a plane for Los Angeles.* 5 Hop it! BrE sl Go away! 6 hopping mad infml very angry

hop² n 1 an act of hopping; a jump 2 old-fashioned infml a dance at which popular music is played 3 infml a distance travelled by a plane before landing: *It's only a short hop from London to Paris.* 4 on the hop infml unprepared, without warning: *I'm afraid your order has caught us on the hop — the goods aren't available yet.*

hop³ n 1 a tall climbing plant with flowers 2 [usu. pl.] the seed-cases of this plant, esp. when dried and used for giving taste to beer

hope¹ /həʊp/ v [I (for), T obj] 1 to wish and expect, want (something) to happen and have some confidence that it will happen: *We're hoping for a big order from the Middle East.* [+to-v] *She hopes to go to university next year.* [+that] *I hope you'll come and see us when you're in London.* [We hope and pray that she will recover.] *"Will he come back?" "I sincerely hope so, no."* The hoped-for improvement in trade has still not happened. 2 hope against hope to continue to hope when there is little chance of success 3 hope for the best to trust that things will go well, esp. when a rather risky or unsatisfactory arrangement has been made: *You don't need to make the soup carefully, just mix everything together and hope for the best.*

■ USAGE Compare hope and wish. You hope for things that are possible, but wish for things that you think are impossible or unlikely: *I hope you pass your exam.* (=I think it is possible) *I hope you will help me.* (=I want you to, and I think you can) *I wish I were 20 years younger.* (=but that is impossible) *I wish you would help me.* (=I want you to, but it seems unlikely judging by your behaviour so far) —see also *EXTRACT (USAGE)*

hope² n 1 [C, U (of)] the expectation that something will happen as one wishes: *The situation looks bad, but don't give up hope.* [Hopes of (reaching) a pea settlement are now fading.] [+that] *Is there any hope that she'll recover?* [We've postponed the game until Monday in the hope that (—hoping that) the weather will improve.] [The doctors don't hold out much hope for her.] We're pinning all our hopes on the new manager. (=all our hopes depend on him/her) [Things look bad but we live in hope.] (=we haven't given up hoping yet) The one glimmer/ray of hope is the possibility that the government will provide emergency assistance. Her hopes were dashed (=destroyed) when she failed the exam. 2 [C] a person or thing that seems likely to bring success: *You're my last hope.* [They're our only hope.] 3 beyond/past hope beyond the possibility of a good result —see also *WHITE HOPE*

■ USAGE Compare I hope to do sth to I want to do sth and I hope to do sth to I want to do sth but I know I can't.

hope chest /'həʊp-ˈtʃest/ n AmE for WEDDING DRAWER

hopeful¹ /'həʊpfl/ adj 1 [usu. pl.] (of people) feeling hope: *hopeful of success* [+that] *I'm hopeful that he'll arrive early.* 2 giving cause for hope of success: *hopeful signs of economic recovery* —ness n [U]

hopeful² n a person who wants to succeed or seems likely to succeed: *The audition was attended by scores of young hopefuls.*

hope-ful-ly /'həʊpflɪ/ adv 1 in a hopeful way: *The little boy looked at her hopefully as she handed out the sweets.* 2 if our hopes succeed: *Hopefully we'll be there by dinnertime.*

■ USAGE This second meaning of hopefully is now very common, especially in speech, but it is thought by some people to be incorrect.

hope-less /'həʊpləs/ adj 1 showing lack of hope: *hopeless tears* 2 giving no cause for hope: *Our position is hopeless: we'll never get out alive.* [a hopeless case] 3 infml very bad or unskilled: *I'm hopeless at maths.* —-ly adv —-ness n [U]

hop-pler /'hɒp-ˈplə/ n a large FORKED through which grain or coal is passed

hop-scotch /'hɒp-ˈskɒtʃ/ n [U] a children's game in which a stone is thrown onto numbered squares and each child wags and jumps from one to another

horde /hɔːd/ hɔːrd/ n also hordes pl- [(of)] a large moving crowd, esp. one that is noisy or disorderly: *a horde of children* [Hordes of children were running round the building.]

hor-izon /'hɒːrɪzən/ n 1 [the +S] the limit of one's view across the surface of the earth, where the sky seems to meet the earth or sea: *We could see a ship at*

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Hoover

adj. 1 conferring speech) implying of words. as a honour) (esp. of a degree mark of esteem.

or group (sisterhood, neighbourhood). [OE -hād, orig. an independent noun, = person, condition, quality] hooded /'hʊdɪd/ adj. having a hood; covered with a hood. hooded crow a piebald grey and black crow. *Corvus cornix*.

hoodie /'hʊdi/ n. = hooded crew.

hoodlum /'hʊdləm/ n. 1 a street hooligan, a young thug. 2 a gangster. [19th c. orig. unkn.]

hoodoo /'hʊdʊ:/ n. & v. esp. US. -n. 1 a bad luck. 2 a thing or person that brings or causes this. 2 voodoo. 3 a fantastic rock pinnacle or column of rock formed by erosion etc. -v. tr. (hoodooes, hoodooed) 1 make unlucky. 2 bewitch. [alt. of voodoo]

hoodwink /'hʊdwɪŋk/ v. tr. deceive, delude. [orig. 'blindfold', f. hood' n. + wink]

hokey /'hʊki/ n. & int. sl. nonsense, humbug [20th c. orig. unkn.]

hoof /hʊf/ n. & v. -n. (pl. hoofs or hooves /-vz/) the horny part of the foot of a horse, antelope, and other ungulates. -v. 1 tr. strike with a hoof. 2 tr. sl. kick or shove. ch hoof it sl. 1 go on foot. 2 dance. on the hoof (of cattle) not yet slaughtered. oo hooped adj. (also in comb.). [OE hōf f. Gmc]

hoofbeats /'hʊfbi:t/ n. sl. a professional dancer.

hoo-ha /'hʊ:hə/ n. sl. a commotion, a row; uproar, trouble. [20th c. orig. unkn.]

hook /hʊk/ n. & v. -n. 1 a piece of metal or other material bent back at an angle or with a round bend, for catching hold or for hanging things on. 2 (in full fish-hook) a bent piece of wire, usu. barbed and baited, for catching fish. 3 a curved cutting instrument (reaping hook). 4 a sharp bend, e.g. in a river. 5 a projecting point of land (Hook of Holland). 6 a sand-spit with a curved end. 7 a Cricket & Golf a hooking stroke (see sense 5 of v.). 8 Boxing a short swinging blow with the elbow bent and rigid. 9 a trap, a snare. 10 a curved stroke in handwriting, esp. as made in learning to write. 11 Mus. an added stroke transverse to the stem in the symbol for a quaver etc. 12 (in pl.) sl. fingers. -v. 1 tr. a grasp with a hook. 2 secure with a hook or hooks. 3 (often foll. by on, up) a tr. attach with or as with a hook. 4 join or become attached with a hook. 5 tr. catch with or as with a hook (the hooked a fish, she hooked a husband). 6 tr. sl. steal. 7 tr. a Cricket play (the ball) round from the off to the on side with an upward stroke. 8 (also absol.) Golf strike (the ball) so that it deviates towards the striker. 9 tr. Rugby Football secure (the ball) and pass it backward with the foot in the scrum. 10 tr. Boxing strike (one's opponent) with the elbow bent and rigid. 11 be hooked on sl. be addicted to or captivated by. 12 by hook or by crook by one means or another, by fair means or foul. 13 hook and eye a small metal hook and loop as a fastener on a garment. 14 hook it sl. make off, run away. 15 hook, line, and sinker entirely. 16 hook-nose an aquiline nose. 17 hook-nosed having an aquiline nose. 18 hook-up a connection, esp. an interconnection of broadcasting equipment for special transmissions. 19 off the hook 1 colloq. no longer in difficulty or trouble. 2 (of a telephone receiver) not on its rest, and so preventing incoming calls. 3 off the hooks sl. dead, on one's own hook sl. on one's own account. 4 sl. (or take) one's hook sl. = hook it. 5 oo hookless adj. hooklet n. hooklike adj. [OE hōc: sense 3 of n. prob. influenced by Du. hoek corner]

hookah /'hʊ:kə/ n. an oriental tobacco-pipe with a long tube passing through water for cooling the smoke as it is drawn through. [Urdu f. Arab. ḥuqqaḥ casket]

hooked /'hʊkt/ adj. 1 hook-shaped (hooked nose). 2 furnished with a hook or hooks. 3 in senses of hook v. 4 (of a rug or mat) made by pulling woollen yarn through canvas with a hook.

hooker /'hʊkə(r)/ n. 1 Rugby Football the player in the middle of the front row of the scrum who tries to hook the ball. 2 sl. a prostitute. 3 a person or thing that hooks.

hooker /'hʊkə(r)/ n. 1 a small Dutch or Irish fishing-vessel. 2 derog. any ship. [Du. hooier f. hook]

Hooke's law /'hʊks/ n. the law that the strain in a solid is proportional to the applied stress within the elastic limit of that solid. [R. Hooke, Engl. scientist d. 1703]

hokey /'hʊki/ n. (also hokey) US oblique hokey a gambling guessing game at cards. play hokey sl. play truant. [19th c. orig. unkn.]

hookworm /'hʊkwɜ:m/ n. 1 any of various nematode worms, with hooklike mouthparts for attachment and feeding, infesting humans and animals. 2 a disease caused by one of these, often resulting in severe anaemia.

hooligan /'hʊlɪɡən/ n. a young ruffian, esp. a member of a gang. oo hooliganism n. [19th c. orig. unkn.]

hoop /hʊp/ n. & v. -n. 1 a circular band of metal, wood, etc., esp. for binding the staves of casks etc. or for forming part of a framework. 2 a ring bowled along by a child. 3 a large ring usu. with paper stretched over it for circus performers to jump through. 4 an arch of iron etc. through which the balls are hit in croquet. 5 hist. a circle of flexible material for expanding a woman's petticoat or skirt. 6 (in full hoop petticoat) a petticoat expanded with this. 7 a band in contrasting colour on a jockey's blouse, sleeves, or cap. 8 Austral. colloq. a jockey. -v. tr. 1 bind with a hoop or hoops. 2 encircle with or as with a hoop. 3 be put (or go) through the hoop (or hoops) undergo an ordeal. 4 hoop-iron iron in long thin strips for binding casks etc. 5 hoop-la 1 Brit. a game in which rings are thrown in an attempt to encircle one of various prizes. 2 sl. commotion. 3 sl. pretentious nonsense. [OE hōp f. WG]

hoop- var. of whoop.

hoopoe /'hʊpʊ:/ n. a salmon-pink bird, *Upupa epops*, with black and white wings and tail, a large erectile crest, and a long decurved bill. [alt. of ME hoop f. OF *huppe* f. L *upupa*, imit. of its cry]

hooray /'hʊreɪ/ int. 1 = hurrah. 2 Austral. & NZ goodbye. 3 hooray Henry 'hureɪ/ Brit. sl. an ineffectual young man, esp. one who is fashionable, extroverted, and conventional. [var. of hurrah]

hoosegow /'hʊsgəʊ/ n. US sl. a prison. [Amer. Sp. *juzgado*, Sp. *juzgado* tribunal f. L *judicium* court, past part. of *judicare* judge]

hoot /hʊt/ n. & v. -n. 1 an owl's cry. 2 the sound made by a motor horn or a steam whistle. 3 a shout expressing scorn or disapproval; an inarticulate shout. 4 colloq. a laughter, b a cause of this. 5 (also two hoots) sl. anything at all (don't care a hoot, don't give a hoot, doesn't matter two hoots). -v. 1 intr. a (of an owl) utter its cry. b (of a motor horn or steam whistle) make a hoot. c (often foll. by at) make loud sounds, esp. of scorn or disapproval or colloq. merriment (hooted with laughter). 2 tr. a assail with scornful shouts. 3 (often foll. by out, away) drive away by hooting. 4 tr. sound (a motor horn or steam whistle). [ME hūten (v.), perh. imit.]

hootch var. of whoosh.

hootenanny /'hʊtənəni/ n. (pl. -ies) US colloq. an informal gathering with folk music. [orig. dial. = 'gadget']

hooter /'hʊtə(r)/ n. 1 Brit. a siren or steam whistle, esp. as a signal for work to begin or cease. 2 Brit. the horn of a motor vehicle. 3 sl. a nose. 4 a person or animal that hoots.

hoots /'hʊts/ int. Sc. & N.Engl. expressing dissatisfaction or impatience. [natural exclamation, cf. Sw. *hūt* begone, Welsh *hūt* away, Ir. *uít* out, all in similar sense]

Hoover /'hʊvə(r)/ n. & v. -n. propr. a vacuum cleaner (properly one made by the Hoover company). -v. (hoover) 1 tr. (also absol.) clean (a carpet etc.) with a vacuum cleaner. 2 (foll. by up) a tr. suck up with or as with a vacuum cleaner (hoovered up the