

adequate *adj* of a level of quality that meets one's needs or standards <This old computer is probably *adequate* if you just want to do some word processing.>

synonyms acceptable, all right, decent, fairish, fine, good, OK (*or* okay), passable, respectable, satisfactory, serviceable, tolerable

related words agreeable, bearable, enduring, sufferable; average, fair, indifferent, mediocre, middling, minimal; common, ordinary, run-of-the-mill, run-of-the-mine (*or* run-of-mine), second-rate, so-so; standard, unexceptional; appropriate, correct, due, fitting, meet, proper, right, seemly, suitable, useful, worthy; gratifying, satisfying

phrases up to snuff

near antonyms disagreeable, disreputable, improper, indecent, objectionable, unfit, unsuitable, unworthy, useless, wrong; bad, cheap, defective, faulty, imperfect, incomplete, lamentable, pitiful, shoddy; dissatisfying; insufficient, meager (*or* meagre), mean, miserly, niggardly, poor, scanty, shabby, short, skimpy, spare, stingy; insufferable, intolerable, unbearable, unendurable; atrocious, execrable, miserable, vile, wretched; exceptional, exquisite, extreme, fancy, first-class, high-grade, matchless, maximized, maximum, optimal, optimum, peerless, preeminent, premium, special, supreme, unmatched, unparalleled; A1,

clam up *vb* to stop talking <The little girl *clammed up* when the doctor came into the room.> — see SHUT UP 1

clan *n* **1** a group of people sharing a common interest and relating together socially <That *clan* of football fans has parties every weekend on which the New England Patriots play.> — see GANG 2

2 a group of persons who come from the same ancestor <The whole *clan* gets together only for holidays.> — see FAMILY 1

clandestine *adj* undertaken or done so as to escape being observed or known by others <I took a *clandestine* peek at the price tag on the diamond necklace.> — see SECRET 1

clang *n* the loud sound made when metal strikes metal <The horseshoe hit the stake with a satisfying *clang*.>

synonyms clangor, clank, clash, whang

related words chime, ding-dong, knell, peal, ping, plink, ring, tintinnabulation; chink, clink, clinkety-clank, jangle, jingle, rattle, tang, tinkle, twang; clap, clip-clop, clop, crack, crash, crunch; clump, clunk, thump

clangor *n* **1** loud, confused, and usually inharmonious sound <the *clangor* of pots and pans coming from the kitchen as the cooks threw together an impromptu meal> — see NOISE 1

2 the loud sound made when metal strikes metal <the *clan-*

ebbing *n* a gradual sinking and wasting away of mind or body <Seniors who stay active can keep at bay some of the *ebbing* of the memory that can come with advanced years.> — see DECLINE 1

ebony *adj* having the color of soot or coal <The *ebony* appliances look very sleek and modern.> — see BLACK 1

ebullition *n* a sudden intense expression of strong feeling <the earsplitting *ebullition* of the fans following the from-the-jaws-of-defeat victory> — see OUTBURST 1

eccentric *adj* different from the ordinary in a way that causes curiosity or suspicion <His *eccentric* decorating style isn't going over well with the neighbors.> — see ODD 2

eccentric *n* a person of odd or whimsical habits <an *eccentric* who designed his house to look like a Scottish castle>

synonyms character, codger, crack, crackbrain, crackpot, crank, flake, kook, nut, oddball, oddity, screwball, weirdo, zany

related words bohemian, maverick, nonconformist, quixote; coot, geezer; curio, rarity; freak

phrases odd duck, piece of work

near antonyms conformer, conformist, follower, sheep

eccentricity *n* an odd or peculiar habit <One of the woman's *eccentricities* was her lifelong habit of reading while soaking in the bathtub for hours.> — see IDIOSYNCRASY