

universal adjective

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uni·ver·sal | \ yü-nə-'vər-səl 🜒 \

Definition of *universal* (Entry 1 of 2)

- including or covering all or a whole collectively or distributively without limit or exception especially: available equitably to all members of a society
 universal health coverage
- 2 a : present or occurring everywhere
 - **b** : existent or operative everywhere or under all conditions // universal cultural patterns
- **a** : embracing a major part or the greatest portion (as of humankind)

// a universal state

// universal practices

- **b** : comprehensively broad and versatile

 // a universal genius
- **4 a** : affirming or denying something of all members of a class or of all values of a variable
 - **b** : denoting every member of a class

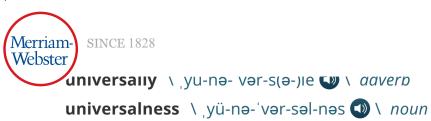
 // a universal term
- s adapted or adjustable to meet varied requirements (as of use, shape, or size)II a universal gear cutter

// a universal remote control

universal noun

Definition of universal (Entry 2 of 2)

- 1 : one that is universal: such as
 - **a**: a universal proposition in logic
 - **b**: a predicable of traditional logic
 - c: a general concept or term or something in reality to which it corresponds: ESSENCE
- **2** a: a behavior pattern or institution (such as the family) existing in all cultures
 - **b**: a culture trait characteristic of all normal adult members of a particular society
- Other Words from universal
- **J** Synonyms
- More Example Sentences
- Phrases Containing universal
- Learn More About universal



Synonyms for *universal*

Synonyms: Adjective

adaptable, all-around (also all-round), protean, versatile

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Examples of *universal* in a Sentence

Adjective

// an idea with universal appeal

// a pattern that is universal across all cultures

Recent Examples on the Web: Adjective

// This school year in particular marks 10 years since the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, which prompted universal background checks and expanded the state's assault weapons ban.

— Stephen Underwood, *Hartford Courant*, 26 July 2022

// Schumer could have once again forced Republicans to vote against universal background checks or an assault weapons ban.

— David R. Jones, The Conversation, 7 July 2022

II Its *universal* healthcare system also means that research subjects would never be refused follow-up care if something went awry.

— Melissa Healy, Los Angeles Times, 30 June 2022

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

Phrases Containing universal

<u>universal joint</u> <u>universal grammar</u>

<u>universal suffrage</u> <u>universal resource locator</u>

<u>universal motor</u> <u>universal recipient</u>

<u>universal donor</u>

First Known Use of universal

Adjective

14th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1

Noun

15th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1

History and Etymology for *universal*Adjective



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The first known use of *universal* was in the 14th century

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univerbation

universal

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universal adjective

uni·ver·sal | \ yü-nə- vər-səl 🕥 \

Kids Definition of universal

- including, covering, or taking in all or everythinguniversal medical care
- 2 : present or happening everywhere// universal celebration

Other Words from universal

universally adverb

universal adjective

uni·ver·sal | \ yü-nə- vər-səl 🜒 \

Legal Definition of universal

- 1 in the civil law of Louisiana
 - **a** : encompassing or burdening all of one's property especially causa mortis

 // granted him a *universal* usufruct
 - see also <u>UNIVERSAL LEGACY</u> at <u>LEGACY</u>
 - compare <u>UNIVERSAL TITLE</u> at <u>TITLE</u>
 - **b** : of or relating to a universal conveyance or a conveyance under a universal title // a universal donee
 - see also <u>UNIVERSAL SUCCESSOR</u>
- 2 : not confined by limitations or exceptions : general in application

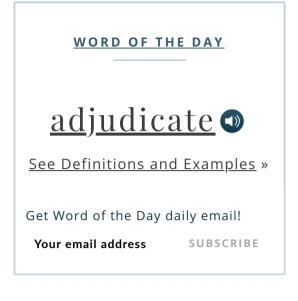
Other Words from universal

universally adverb

Merriam-Webster SINCE 1828

Britannica English: <u>Translation of *universal* for Arabic Speakers</u>

Britannica.com: Encyclopedia article about universal



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