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fraternity noun

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fra-ter-ni-ty | \ frə-ter-na-tē \

plural fraternities

Definition of fraternity

- 1 : a group of people associated or formally organized for a common purpose, interest, or pleasure: such as
a : a fraternal order
b : GUILD sense 1
c : a men's student organization formed chiefly for social purposes having secret rites and a name consisting of Greek letters
d : a student organization for scholastic, professional, or extracurricular activities // a debating fraternity
2 : the quality or state of being brothers : BROTHERLINESS
3 : persons of the same class, profession, character, or tastes // the racetrack fraternity

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Synonyms for fraternity

Synonyms

association, board, brotherhood, chamber, club, college, congress, consortium, council, fellowship, guild (also gild), institute, institution, league, order, organization, society, sodality

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Examples of fraternity in a Sentence

// an atmosphere of fraternity and cooperation
// a firm believer in community service and a dedicated member of the local fraternity of Good Samaritans

Recent Examples on the Web

// Strauss displayed a knack for making money early on, starting with the kitchen of his fraternity at Syracuse.
- San Diego Union-Tribune, "Column: Run of Kentucky Derby owner Bill Strauss of Del Mar 'gravy on a great life,'" 30 Apr. 2021
// The 148-page review was campus-wide, also looking, for example, at cases against fraternity members.
- Brett Martel, ajc, "LSU reeling from ongoing reviews of sexual misconduct cases," 17 Apr. 2021

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

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First Known Use of fraternity

14th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1

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The first known use of fraternity was in the 14th century

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- fraternal polyandry
fraternal twin
fraternal worker
fraternity
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More Definitions for fraternity

fraternity noun

English Language Learners Definition of fraternity

- : an organization of male students at a U.S. college
: a group of people who have the same job, interests, etc.
formal : the feeling of friendship that exists between people in a group

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Kids Definition of fraternity

: a club of boys or men (as in a college)

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Thesaurus: All synonyms and antonyms for fraternity
English: Translation of fraternity for Spanish Speakers
Britannica English: Translation of fraternity for Arabic Speakers

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A Cast of 12 Astrological Words

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'All Intensive Purposes' or 'All Intents and Purposes'?
'Nip it in the butt' or 'Nip it in the bud'?
Literally
Is Singular 'They' a Better Choice?

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