

***Home Page***



***Logo***



***URL***

<http://visual.merriam-webster.com/index.php>

***Subject***

Special dictionaries (Visual)

***Accessibility***

Free

***Language***

English

***Publisher***

Merriam-Webster, Inc. This dictionary is powered by ikonet.com and copyright is given to QA International.

***Brief History***

This dictionary started its journey in print form in 1982. Then through various editions (in different names) 1986, 1989, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1997, 2002, 2003 it got its first proper CD-ROM version in 2004. In 2006 the present Merriam-Webster's Visual Dictionary got published. The copyright date of the present online

dictionary is given i.e. 2016.

### ***Scope and Coverage***

This dictionary covers 20,000 terms with contextual definitions, developed by terminology experts and there are also 6,000 full-coloured images of a wide variety of objects from all aspects of life (like astronomy, earth, plant and gardening, animal kingdom, human being, food and kitchen, energy, science, society, sports and games etc.) available.

### ***Kind of Information***

Brief descriptions, coloured images and maps of various terms, coming from different phenomena are present here. Images are labeled and those labeled terms are also hyperlinked. Various terms are given with their meanings and pronunciation (audio format).

Various categories appear within a theme. A particular term is found under a sub category of a category. For example, the term “radar” comes under the sub category “Remote sensing” which is a part of the category “Geography” and this “Geography” is a division of the theme “Earth”. In the term “radar” besides the audio pronunciation brief meaning, a coloured image and cross referenced related terms with their meaning are found. The following print screen makes it easy for the users to understanding.

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying a dictionary entry for 'radar'. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: 'ABOUT THE VISUAL', 'GAMES', 'TOOLS', 'BOOKS', 'APPS', 'DOWNLOADS', and 'ABOUT US'. Below this is a 'Gmail for Work' advertisement. The search bar contains 'radar' and the search results show the word 'radar' with a definition: 'Detection device that emits electromagnetic waves and receives their echoes.' Below the definition is a diagram of an airplane labeled 'airborne radar' emitting a 'transmitted pulse' which reflects off a 'target' on the ground, returning as an 'echo' to form a 'radar image'. The website URL 'www.visualdictionaryonline.com' is visible in the diagram. Below the diagram, there is a list of related terms with their definitions: 'transmitted pulse', 'target', 'airborne radar', and 'echo'.

**radar** ◀  
Detection device that emits electromagnetic waves and receives their echoes.

**transmitted pulse** ◀  
Brief emission of electromagnetic waves produced by a radar.

**target** ◀  
Surface or object from which radar waves reflect.

**airborne radar** ◀  
Radar used aboard an aircraft.

**echo** ◀  
Waves reflected by the target and measured by a remote sensing device.

### ***Special Features***

- ❖ Links to Blog, Twitter, Facebook are available.
- ❖ Link to Merriam Webster Visual + , app for ipad is available here.
- ❖ Option of downloading this dictionary for Windows and Mac operating systems is also available here.
- ❖ Provision of sending feedback is there.
- ❖ Provision for fuzzy searching techniques are available.

### ***Arrangement Pattern***

Theme wise arrangement pattern is present here. Themes are divided into various categories. Categories are also divided into various sub categories. Under a particular sub category various terms are arranged. In the left side of the home page following themes are found: Astronomy, Earth, Plant and Gardening, Animal Kingdom, Human being, Food and Kitchen, Energy, Science, Society, Sports and Games etc. Under a particular theme like “Earth” there are four categories like Geography, Geology, Meteorology and Environment. The category “Geography” further divided into the following sub categories like Configuration of the continent, Cartography and Remote sensing. Under “Remote sensing” the Radar, Radarsat Satellite, Sonar etc.

### ***Remarks***

The Visual Dictionary is more than a reliable resource of meticulously labeled images—it innovates by combining dictionary-scale definitions with exceptional illustrations, making it the most complete dictionary.

The Visual Dictionary is an indispensable visual reference that goes beyond object identification to answer questions about function, significance and purpose. Ideal for teachers, parents, writers, translators and students of all skill levels, it helps the user understand a phenomenon and quickly grasp the meaning of a term, the characteristics of an object or simply learn something new.

***Comparable Tools***

- The Visual Dictionary ( <http://www.infovisual.info/>)
- English Visual Dictionary ( <http://www.memrise.com/course/54235/english-visual-dictionary/>)
- Visual Dictionary ( <http://www.ikonet.com/en/visualdictionary/>)

***Date of Access***

April 11, 2016