



SINCE 1828

GAMES | BROWSE THESAURUS | WORD OF THE DAY | WORDS AT PLAY

accident

DICTIONARY

THESAURUS

accident noun

 Save Word

ac-ci-dent | \ 'ak-sə-dənt , - ,dent , 'aks-dənt\

Definition of *accident*

- 1 **a** : an unforeseen and unplanned event or circumstance
*// Their meeting was an **accident**.*
- b** : lack of intention or necessity : [CHANCE](#)
*// They met **by accident** rather than by design.*
- 2 **a** : an unfortunate event resulting especially from carelessness or ignorance
*// was involved in a traffic **accident***
- b** *medical* : an unexpected and medically important bodily event especially when injurious
*// a cerebrovascular **accident***
- c** *law* : an unexpected happening causing loss or injury which is not due to any fault or misconduct on the part of the person injured but for which legal relief may be sought
- d** *US, informal* —used euphemistically to refer to an uncontrolled or involuntary act or instance of urination or defecation (as by a baby or a pet)
*// The puppy had an **accident** on the rug.*
- 3 : a nonessential property or quality of an entity or circumstance
*// the **accident** of nationality*