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DEFINITIONS ▾

harass



TOP DEFINITIONS

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BRITISH

# harass

 [ *huh-ras, har-uhs* ] [SHOW IPA](#) [SEE SYNONYMS FOR \*harass\* ON THESAURUS.COM](#)

*verb (used with object)*

- 1 to disturb persistently; torment, as with troubles or cares; bother continually; pester; persecute.
- 2 to trouble by repeated attacks, incursions, etc., as in war or hostilities; harry; raid.

## WORDS RELATED TO HARASS

[burn](#), [raid](#), [tease](#), [intimidate](#), [pester](#), [torment](#), [persecute](#), [heckle](#), [hassle](#), [hound](#), [maraud](#), [bait](#), [distress](#), [exhaust](#), [strain](#), [vex](#), [foray](#), [worry](#), [devil](#), [tire](#)

## WORDS NEARBY HARASS

[harangue](#), [harappa](#), [harappan](#), [harar](#), [harare](#), **harass**, [harassment](#), [harbin](#), [harbinger](#), [harbinger-of-spring](#), [harbona](#)

 The  
2019  
WORD  
OF THE  
YEAR *is...* ×

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**ORIGIN OF HARASS**DEFINITIONS ▾ | **harass** 

1610–20; < French, Middle French *harasser* to harry, harass, verbal derivative of *harace*, *harache* (in phrase *courre a la harace* pursue), equivalent to *hare* cry used to urge dogs on (< Frankish *\*hara* here, from this side; compare Old High German *hera*, Middle Dutch *hare*) + *-asse* augmentative or pejorative suffix < Latin *-ācea*



**SYNONYMS FOR HARASS**

- 1 [badger](#), [vex](#), [plague](#), hector torture. See [worry](#).
- 2 molest.

**OTHER WORDS FROM HARASS****ha-rass-a-ble**, adjective**ha-rass-er**, noun**ha-rass-ing-ly**, adverb**ha-rass-ment**, noun

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**PRONUNCIATION NOTE FOR HARASS**

HARASS , a 17th-century French borrowing, has traditionally been pronounced  **[har-uhs]** , with stress on the first syllable. A newer pronunciation,  **[huh-ras]** , has developed in North American (but not British) English. While this newer pronunciation is sometimes criticized by older educated speakers, it has become the more common one in the U.S., especially among younger educated speakers, some of whom have only minimal familiarity with the older form.

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### EXAMPLES FROM THE WEB FOR HARASS

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Women are coming together online to shame men who *harass* and abuse them.

ONLINE SHAMING GIVES CREEPS THE SPOTLIGHT THEY DESERVE | SAMANTHA ALLEN | SEPTEMBER 23, 2014 | DAILY BEAST

But airstrikes now would only serve to *harass*, not defeat, ISIS.

WHY AIRSTRIKES IN SYRIA WON'T WORK | REP. ADAM SCHIFF | SEPTEMBER 4, 2014 | DAILY BEAST

We may not be able to stop men from wanting to *harass* women but Internet technologies can easily be rebuilt.

WILL THE INTERNET EVER BE SAFE FOR WOMEN? | SAMANTHA ALLEN | AUGUST 28, 2014 | DAILY BEAST

The poster asked people to *harass* Zelich by cellphone and email.

HOW 'MRHANDCUFFS' ENDED UP WITH TWO CORPSES IN SUITCASES | MICHAEL DALY | JUNE 30, 2014 | DAILY BEAST

SEE MORE EXAMPLES



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New Year's vs. New Year:

New Year's vs. New Year: How To Ring In The Year With Good Grammar

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Fiancé vs. Fiancée: Which

Fiancé vs. Fiancée: Which One Is Which?

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What's The Difference Between "Yule" And "Christmas"?

BRITISH DICTIONARY DEFINITIONS FOR HARASS



# harass (harəs, hə'ræs) /

Thesaurus.com

DEFINITIONS ▾

harass



*verb*

- 1 *(tr)* to trouble, torment, or confuse by continual persistent attacks, questions, etc

## DERIVED FORMS OF HARASS

**harassed**, adjective

**harassing**, adjective, noun

**harassment**, noun

## WORD ORIGIN FOR HARASS

C17: from French *harasser*, variant of Old French *harer* to set a dog on, of Germanic origin; compare Old High German *harēn* to cry out

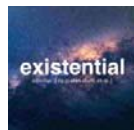
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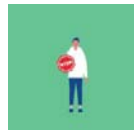


WORD OF THE DAY

splore

noun | [splawr, splohr]

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"i.e." vs. "e.g."?

