



SINCE 1828

GAMES

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WORD OF THE DAY

contumacious

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contumacious adjective

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con·tu·ma·cious | \ ,kän-tü-'mā-shəs , -tyü-'mā-, -chə-'mā- \

Definition of *contumacious*

: stubbornly disobedient : [REBELLIOUS](#)

// She was warned that her *contumacious* conduct would not be tolerated.

Other Words from *contumacious*

contumaciously *adverb*

Synonyms & Antonyms for *contumacious*

Synonyms

[balky](#), [contrary](#), [defiant](#), [disobedient](#), [froward](#), [incompliant](#), [insubordinate](#), [intractable](#), [obstreperous](#), [rebel](#), [rebellious](#), [recalcitrant](#), [recusant](#), [refractory](#), [restive](#), [ungovernable](#), [unruly](#), [untoward](#), [wayward](#), [willful](#) (or [wilful](#))

Antonyms

[amenable](#), [biddable](#), [compliant](#), [conformable](#), [docile](#), [obedient](#), [ruly](#), [submissive](#), [tractable](#)

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Did You Know?

Legal contexts are one area where you might encounter this fancy word for "rebellious" or "insubordinate" - and the link between *contumacious* and the law goes back to Latin. The Latin adjective *contumax* means "rebellious." or, in specific

cases, "showing contempt of court." *Contumacious* is related to *contumely*, meaning "harsh language or treatment arising from haughtiness and contempt." Both *contumacious* and *contumely* are thought to ultimately come from the Latin verb *tumēre*, meaning "to swell" or "to be proud."