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<sup>1</sup>con·trol *verb* \kən-'trōl\

con·trolled con·trol·ling

### Definition of CONTROL

Like

*transitive verb*

- a** *archaic* : to check, test, or verify by evidence or experiments

**b** : to incorporate suitable **controls** in <a *controlled* experiment>
- a** : to exercise restraining or directing influence over : **REGULATE**

**b** : to have power over : **RULE**

**c** : to reduce the incidence or severity of especially to innocuous levels <*control* an insect population> <*control* a disease>

*intransitive verb*

: to incorporate controls in an experiment or study —used with *for* <*control* for socioeconomic differences>

- con·trol·la·bil·i·ty *noun*
- con·trol·la·ble *adjective*
- con·trol·ment *noun*

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### Examples of CONTROL

- The parents could not *control* their child.
- The police *controlled* the crowd.
- The small boy could not *control* the big dog.
- Her family *controls* the business.
- One country *controls* the whole island.

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The rebel army now *controls* nearly half the country.

The lights on stage are *controlled* by this computer.

She struggled to *control* the cart as it rolled before her down the steep, bumpy road.

He *controlled* the volume by turning the radio's knob.

A thermostat *controls* the room's temperature.

#### Origin of CONTROL

Middle English *countrollen*, from Anglo-French *contrerouler*, from *contreroule* copy of an account, audit, from Medieval Latin *contrarotulus*, from Latin *contra-* + Medieval Latin *rotulus* roll — more at [ROLL](#)

First Known Use: 15th century

#### Related to CONTROL

**Synonyms:** [bridle](#), [check](#), [constrain](#), [contain](#), [curb](#), [govern](#), [hold](#), [inhibit](#), [keep](#), [measure](#), [pull in](#), [regulate](#), [rein \(in\)](#), [restrain](#), [rule](#), [tame](#)

**Antonyms:** [lose](#)

[+] [more](#)

See Synonym Discussion at [conduct](#)

#### Rhymes with CONTROL

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## <sup>2</sup>control *noun, often attributive*

#### Definition of CONTROL

- 1 **a** : an act or instance of [controlling](#); *also* : power or authority to guide or manage
  - b** : skill in the use of a tool, instrument, technique, or artistic medium
  - c** : the regulation of economic activity especially by government directive —usually used in plural <price *controls*>
  - d** : the ability of a baseball pitcher to control the location of a pitch within the strike zone
- 2 : [RESTRAINT](#), [RESERVE](#)
- 3 : one that [controls](#): as
  - a** (1) : an experiment in which the subjects are treated as in a parallel experiment except for omission of the procedure or agent under test and which is used as a standard of comparison in judging experimental effects —called also *control experiment* (2) : one (as an organism, culture, or group) that is part of a control
  - b** : a device or mechanism used to regulate or guide the operation of a machine, apparatus, or system
  - c** : an organization that directs a spaceflight <mission *control*>
  - d** : a personality or spirit believed to actuate the utterances or performances of a spiritualist medium

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**Examples of CONTROL**

The city wanted local *control* of education.  
The tribes fought for *control* over the territory.  
He *took control* of the family farm.  
She hired an accountant to *take control* of her money.  
He lost all muscle *control* in his left arm.  
The soccer player showed good *control* of the ball.  
a teacher with good *control* of her students  
The farmer used an organic pest *control* on his crops.  
To cut down on competition, the government passed price *controls* on prescription drugs.  
The President wants stricter *controls* on immigration.

**First Known Use of CONTROL**

1590

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