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a·li·as

[**ey-lee-uhs**] [?](#) Show IPA
noun, **plural** -as-es, **adverb**

–noun

- a false name used to conceal one's identity; an assumed name: *The police files indicate that "Smith" is an alias for Simpson.*

–adverb

- at another time; in another place; in other circumstances; otherwise. "Simpson *alias* Smith" means that Simpson in other circumstances has called himself Smith.

Use **alias** in a Sentence

Origin:

1525–35; < L *aliās* (adv.): at another time, otherwise; cf. else

—Synonyms

- nom de guerre; nom de plume, pseudonym.

Dictionary.com Unabridged

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assumed name, false name, a.k.a., also known as

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World English Dictionary

alias (ˈeɪliəs) ?

— *adv*

1. at another time or place known as or named: *Dylan, alias Zimmerman*

— *n* , *-ases*

2. an assumed name

[C16: from Latin *aliās* (*adv*) otherwise, at another time, from *alius* other]

Collins English Dictionary - Complete & Unabridged 10th Edition
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Word Origin & History

alias

mid-15c., lit. "otherwise called," from L. *alias* "at another time, in another way," from *alius* "(an)other," from PIE **al-* "beyond" (cf. Skt. *anya* "other, different," Avestan *anya-*, Armenian *ail*, Gk. *allos* "another," Goth. *aljis* "other," O.E. *elles* "otherwise, else," Mod.Eng. *else*). The noun meaning "assumed name" is first recorded c.1600.

Online Etymology Dictionary, © 2010 Douglas Harper
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Legal Dictionary

Main Entry: **1 alias**

Pronunciation: 'A-IE-&s, 'Al-y&s

Function: *adverb*

Etymology: Latin, otherwise, from *alius* other

: otherwise called : also known as *alias* Legs Diamond>

Main Entry: **2 alias**

Function: *noun*

: an assumed or additional name

Main Entry: **3 alias**

Function: *adjective*

: issued after the original instrument has not produced any action
alias tax warrant> *alias* summons> —compare **PLURIES**

Merriam-Webster's Dictionary of Law, © 1996 Merriam-Webster, Inc.

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Computing Dictionary

ALIAS definition

[ALgorIthmic ASsembly language](#)

alias definition

1. A name, usually short and easy to remember and type, that is translated into another name or string, usually long and difficult to remember or type. Most [command interpreters](#) (e.g. [Unix's csh](#)) allow the user to define aliases for commands, e.g. "alias | ls -al". These are loaded into memory when the interpreter starts and are expanded without needing to refer to any file.

2. One of several alternative [hostnames](#) with the same [Internet address](#). E.g. in the [Unix hosts](#) database (`/etc/hosts` or [NIS map](#)) the first field on a line is the [Internet address](#), the next is the official hostname (the "[canonical](#) name" or "[CNAME](#)"), and any others are aliases.

Hostname aliases often indicate that the host with that alias provides a particular network service such as [archie](#), [finger](#), [FTP](#), or [World-Wide Web](#). The assignment of services to computers can then be changed simply by moving an alias (e.g. `www.doc.ic.ac.uk`) from one [Internet address](#) to another, without the clients needing to be aware of the change.

3. The name used by [Apple computer, Inc.](#) for [symbolic links](#) when they added them to the [System 7 operating system](#) in 1991. (1997-10-22)

4. Two names ([identifiers](#)), usually of local or global [variables](#), that refer to the same resource ([memory location](#)) are said to be aliased. Although names introduced in [programming languages](#) are typically mapped to different [memory](#) locations, aliasing can be introduced by the use of [address arithmetic](#) and [pointers](#) or language-specific features, like [C++ references](#).

Statically deciding (e.g. via a [program analysis](#) executed by a sophisticated [compiler](#)) which locations of a [program](#) will be aliased at run time is an [undecidable](#) problem.

[G. Ramalingam: "The Undecidability of Aliasing", [ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems \(TOPLAS\)](#), Volume 16, Issue 5, September 1994, Pages: 1467 - 1471, ISSN: 0164-0925.]

(2004-09-12)

The Free On-line Dictionary of Computing, © Denis Howe 2010 <http://foldoc.org>

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Famous Quotations

alias

"If there is one realm in which it is essential to be su..."

"The mirror in the hat store is triplicate, so that you ..."

""No, no; the real name," said Holmes sweetly. "It is al..."

"The price on the wanted poster was a-going down, o..."

"If your little savage were left to himself and be allow..."

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