

I'm not a bot



This List of English words with dual French and Anglo-Saxon variations describes various English words generally describing the same person, place or thing with two or more different words. After the Norman invasion of England in 1066 many of the more refined English (Anglo-Saxon) words describing finished products were replaced by words imported from Anglo-Norman (such as "beef," a prepared food). In contrast, common unfinished equivalents continued to use the native English term (such as "cow," a living animal). This replacement can be explained by the fact that meat was an expensive product at the time and that the lord and nobleman of Norman origin were eating it more often than the commoners, who were raising the livestock. This duality is also mirrored in French, where "beef" is bouef, but "cow" is vache. These dual version words later formed the basis of the Middle English wordstock, and were eventually passed into the modern language.[1] In some cases, these dual variations are distant etymological twins, as in cow/beef, both from Proto-Indo-European *gʷous, but in other cases, such as calf/veal, they come from distinct PIE roots. Generally, words coming from French often retain a higher register than words of Anglo-Saxon origin, and are considered by some to be more elaborate, sophisticated, or pretentious. Compare drink (Anglo-Saxon) and beverage (French). However, this is not always the case: weep, groom and stone (from Anglo-Saxon) occupy a slightly higher register than cry, brush and rock (from French). Words taken directly from Latin and Ancient Greek are generally perceived as colder, more technical, and more medical or scientific - compare life (Anglo-Saxon) with biology (classical compound - a modern coinage created from Greek roots). List of English words with dual Old English/Old French variations Foods Anglo-Saxon origin words Old French origin words Notes Cow (Old English Cū) Beef (Anglo-Norman Beof; Old French Boef) [2] Calf (Old English Cealf) Veal (Anglo-Norman Vel; Old French Veel, Veal) [2] Swine (Old English Swin), orPig (Old English Picga) Pork (Old French Porc) [2] Sheep (Old English Scēap) Mutton (Old French Moton) [2] Hen (Old English Hen, Henn) / Chicken (Old English Ciccen) Poultry (Old French Pouletrie) [2] Deer (Old English Dēor) / Hart (Old English Heort) Venison (Old Norman Venesoun) [2] Snail (Old English Snægl) Escargot (Old Norman Escargot) Dove (Old English Dūfe) Pigeon (Old French Pijon) Other words Anglo-Saxon origin words Old French origin words Notes Thinking, Mindful Pensive [3] Kingly Royal [3] Brotherly Fraternal [3] Ask, Beseech Enquire [3] Lord Liege Bring, Bear Carry Amaze, Stun Astound Fair, Fair-haired Blond/Blonde Ghost Phantom Uphold, Undergird, Upstay Support Smell, Stench Odour Hue, Blee Colour Blossom Flower Help, Bestand, Bestead Aid, Abet, Assist Buy Purchase Eld Age Belief Faith Wonder Ponder Selfhood Identity Sake Reason, Cause Weep, Sob Cry Knowledge Science Lawyer (A.S. lagu < O.N. lag) Attorney Shirt Blouse Deem Consider, Judge Harbour Port Hosen, Britches Pants Sunder Sever Answer Reply, Response Follow Ensurue Athel Noble Atheling, Drighten Prince Fall, Harvest Autumn Stound Hour Burn Broil Leave Permission Note Use, Utility Seethe, Plaw Boil Hunt Chase Bookstaf, Bookstave Letter Wisdom Prudence / Sagacity Weird, Fremd Strange Behaviour Manner Uncouth Rude Owndom, Belongings Property Steven, Reard Voice Barrow Mountain Frith Peace Ruth Pity Arm, Wantsome Poor ArmtH Poverty Firen Crime Eam Uncl

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