

The Britannica Dictionary





¹ **table**

/ˈteɪbəl/

noun

plural **tables**

[count]

1 a : a piece of furniture that has a flat top and one or more legs

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

— see also [COFFEE TABLE](#), [END TABLE](#)

b : a piece of furniture with a flat surface that is designed to be used for a particular purpose

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

— see also [CARD TABLE](#), [DRAWING TABLE](#), [NEGOTIATING TABLE](#), [OPERATING TABLE](#)

2 : a group of people who are sitting at a table

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

3 : a collection of information that is arranged in rows and columns

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

— see also [MULTIPLICATION TABLE](#), [PERIODIC TABLE](#), [TIMES TABLE](#)

at table *British*

: sitting at a table and eating a meal

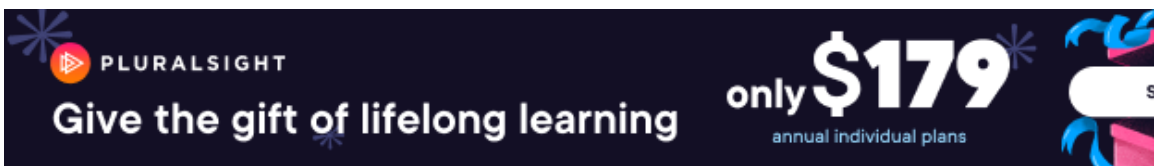
[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

lay/put (all/all of) your cards on the table

— see ¹[CARD](#)

on the table

: able to be considered or discussed



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1 *pool, billiards, etc.* : to hit all the remaining balls into pockets without missing

2 *informal* : to win all the remaining games, points, etc.

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

table of contents

— see [¹CONTENT](#)

turn the tables

: to change a situation completely so that you have an advantage over someone who previously had an advantage over you — often + *on*

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

under the table

1 — used to describe a situation in which a worker is being paid in a secret and illegal way in order to avoid paying taxes

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

2 *informal*

◇ To **drink someone under the table** means to drink more alcohol than someone else without becoming extremely drunk, unconscious, etc.

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

— see also [WATER TABLE](#)



² table

/ˈteɪbəl/

verb

tables; tabled; tabling

[+ object]

1 *US* : to decide not to discuss (something) until a later time

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

2 *British* : to formally present (something) for discussion

[\[+\] Example sentences](#)

