

# Glossary

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## C

**cabin**, den  
**cabinet**, dwelling  
**cacodemon**, evil spirit  
**caddis**, woollen tape  
**cade**, barrel  
**caduceus**, Mercury's magic wand entwined by two serpents  
**caitiff**, wretch, miserable person  
**caliver**, light musket  
**callet**, whore  
**Cambyzes**, hero of a bombastic tragedy  
**can**, to know, be skilled in  
**canary**, lively dance, light sweet wine  
**cantle**, segment  
**canvass**, toss (as in a blanket)  
**capable**, able to receive, feel, or understand  
**cap-a-pie**, from head to foot  
**capitulate**, specify terms  
**captious**, capacious  
**carbonado**, meat scored across for cooking  
**carcanet**, necklace  
**card**, playing card, compass card; mix, debase  
**carl**, **carlot**, peasant  
**carnation**, flesh-colour  
**carrack**, galleon  
**carriage**, ability to bear  
**carve**, cut, shape, invite with look and gesture  
**case**, vagina  
**cast**, throw of dice, tinge, founding; to throw, vomit, reckon, add  
**casual**, accidental, subject to accident  
**catapasm**, poultice  
**catastrophe**, outcome, end, rear  
**caterpillar**, extortioner, parasite  
**cates**, food, delicacies

**catling**, catgut string  
**cautel**, trick, deceit  
**cautelous**, deceitful  
**censure**, judgement, blame; judge, estimate  
**centre**, centre of the earth or the universe  
**Cerberus**, three-headed dog of the underworld  
**cerecloth**, **cerements**, winding-sheet  
**Ceres**, goddess of agriculture  
**certain**, fixed  
**cess**, death; *out of all cess*, beyond all measure  
**challenge**, claim, accuse  
**chamber-lye**, urine  
**chamblet**, light fabric  
**champaign**, open country  
**changeling**, waverer  
**chape**, sheath  
**chapman**, merchant, customer  
**chaps**, jaws  
**character**, writing, hand-writing; to write  
**charactery**, writing  
**charneco**, Portuguese wine  
**Charon**, ferryman of the underworld  
**chaudron**, entrails  
**cheapen**, bargain, bid for  
**cheater**, officer appointed to look after property forfeited to the King  
**cherry-pit**, game of throwing cherry stones into a little hole  
**cheverel**, kid leather, pliant and easily stretched  
**child**, baby girl, youth of noble birth  
**childing**, fertile  
**chopine**, shoe with high platform-sole  
**cicatrice**, scar, impression  
**cinqpace**, lively dance  
**cipher**, zero, nought; to express, decipher  
**cittern**, wire-stringed instrument  
**civil**, of the city, well-ordered  
**clack-dish**, begging bowl  
**clapperclaw**, maul, thrash  
**clepe**, call  
**clerk**, scholar  
**clew**, ball of thread

**climate**, region, dwell  
**cling**, shrivel  
**cliquant**, glittering  
**clip**, embrace  
**closure**, bound, enclosure, conclusion  
**clown**, rustic, jester  
**clyster**, enema  
**cockney**, milksop, squeamish or affected woman  
**cod**, testicle  
**codpiece**, bag-shaped flap on breeches, covering the genitals, tied with laces, often embroidered and padded  
**coffin**, pastry case  
**cog**, cheat, flatter  
**coign**, corner-stone, corner  
**coil**, noisy disturbance, fuss, trouble  
**Colbrand**, legendary Danish giant  
**collection**, inference, understanding  
**collied**, darkened  
**collop**, slice, offspring  
**colour**, pretext, excuse  
**colours**, military ensigns  
**colt**, young fool; to make a fool of; to have sexual intercourse with  
**co-mart**, agreement, bargain  
**commodity**, commercial privileges, expediency, advantage, consignment  
**companion**, knave  
**comparative**, proportionate, full of comparisons; one who assumes equality  
**competitor**, associate, partner  
**complexion**, bodily habit or constitution, temperament, appearance, colour  
**complot**, conspiracy  
**composition**, consistency, agreement  
**con**, learn by heart  
**conceit**, idea, device, apprehension, understanding, opinion, judgement, fancy, imagination, fancy trifle; to think, estimate  
**conceited**, full of imagination, ingenious, having a certain opinion  
**conclusion**, experiment, riddle  
**condolement**, mourning  
**conference**, conversation, talk, discussion  
**confiner**, inhabitant  
**congree**, harmonize

**conscience**, knowledge, understanding, scruple  
**conscionable**, ruled by conscience  
**consign**, agree, yield up possession  
**consist**, insist  
**conspectuity**, sight  
**contain**, keep  
**continent**, container, sum; restrained, temperate  
**controller**, detractor  
**convenience**, fitness, advantage  
**convent**, convene, summon  
**conversation**, intercourse, behaviour  
**convert**, turn, change  
**convey**, lead away, carry  
**conveyance**, underhand dealing  
**convince**, overcome  
**convive**, feast together  
**convoy**, means of conveyance  
**cony**, rabbit  
**cony-catch**, cheat  
**copatain**, highcrowned  
**cope**, sky; have to do with, encounter, recompense  
**copped**, peaked  
**copy**, original; subject-matter, copyhold-tenure  
**coranto**, a dance  
**Corinthian**, reveller  
**corky**, withered  
**Cornelia**, mother of the Gracchi, model of Roman motherhood  
**cornett**, a brass instrument, capable of great brilliance  
**cornuto**, cuckold, deceived husband  
**corollary**, surplus  
**costard**, an apple; the head  
**cote**, cottage; pass by  
**cotquean**, 'old woman', man who interferes in housekeeping  
**couch**, hide, lie hidden, make crouch  
**counsel**, secret, secret purpose or thought  
**Counter**, debtors' prison  
**counterpoint**, quilt, counterpane  
**countervail**, equal, counter-balance  
**court-cupboard**, sideboard  
**cousin**, nephew, kinsman, relative

**cowl-staff**, pole on which a `cowl' (or basket) is carried  
**coy**, scorn, stroke  
**cozen**, cheat  
**cozier**, cobbler  
**crackhemp**, gallows-bird, one born (or deserving) to be hanged  
**crank**, twist; wind  
**crant**, wreath  
**crare**, small trading vessel  
**craze**, break  
**credent**, believing, credible  
**credit**, credibility, reputation, report  
**cresset**, fire-basket, torch  
**crow-keeper**, one employed to drive away crows  
**crusado**, Portuguese coin  
**cry**, pack of hounds; yelp in following scent  
**cubiculo**, bedroom  
**cullion**, testicle (term of abuse)  
**culverin**, large cannon  
**cunning**, knowledge, skill; ingenious  
**Cupid**, god of love, son of Venus and Mars (or Mercury), usually thought of as a boy armed with bow and arrows  
**curate**, parish priest  
**curiosity**, exactness, over-scrupulousness, delicacy  
**curious**, anxious, needing care, fastidious, difficult to please, delicate, beautifully made; delicately  
**curst**, shrewish, cross, cantankerous, malignant, fierce  
**curtal**, having the tail docked  
**curtle-axe**, cutlass  
**customer**, prostitute  
**cut**, docked or gelded horse; vulva  
**Cyclops**, one of a race of one-eyed giants, workmen for Vulcan the smith.  
**cyme**, medicinal plant  
**Cynthia**, goddess of the moon  
**cypress**, fine lawn fabric  
**Cytherea**, Venus, goddess of love