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adjective jump to other results See humid in the Oxford Advanced American DictionarySee humid in the Oxford Learner's Dictionary of Academic English Nearby words humectant noun humerus noun humid adjective humidex noun humidifier noun hat-trick noun From the Topic Sports C2 Oxford Learner's Dictionaries Word of the Day Also found in: Thesaurus, Medical, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia. (hyoʊˈmɪd)adj. Containing or characterized by a high amount of water or water vapor: humid air; a humid evening.[Middle English, from Latin hūmidus, from hūmēre, to be moist.]American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright © 2016 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. (ˈhjuːmɪd)adjmoist; damp: a humid day. [C16: from Latin hūmidus, from hūmēre to be wet; see humectant, humour]Collins English Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition 2014 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014 (ˈhyu mɪd; often ˈyu-) adj. containing a high amount of water or water vapor: humid air. [1375-1425; late Middle English < Latin (h)ūmidus=(h)ūm(ē)re to be moist] Random House Kernerman Webster's College Dictionary, © 2010 K Dictionaries Ltd. Copyright 2005, 1997, 1991 by Random House, Inc. All rights reserved. Adj.1.humid - containing or characterized by a great deal of water vapor; "humid air"; "humid weather"wet - covered or soaked with a liquid such as water; "a wet bathing suit"; "wet sidewalks"; "wet weather"Based on WordNet 3.0, Farlex clipart collection. © 2003-2012 Princeton University, Farlex Inc.adjective damp, sticky, moist, wet, steamy, sultry, dank, clammy, muggy Visitors can expect hot and humid conditions, dry, sunny, arid, torridCollins Thesaurus of the English Language - Complete and Unabridged 2nd Edition. 2002 © HarperCollins Publishers 1995, 2002adjectiveDamp and warm:muggy, soggy, sticky, sultry. The American Heritage® Roget's Thesaurus. Copyright © 2013, 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Collins Spanish Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged 8th Edition 2005 © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1971, 1988 © HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2005 [ˈhjuːmɪd] adj → humidehumid weather → un temps humide et chaudCollins English/French Electronic Resource. © HarperCollins Publishers 2005 adj → feucht; it's (hot and) humid today → es ist schwül heuteCollins German Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged 7th Edition 2005. © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1980 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1997, 1999, 2004, 2005, 2007Collins Italian Dictionary 1st Edition © HarperCollins Publishers 1995 (ˈhjuːmɪd) adjectivehuˈmɪdɪti nounKernerman English Multilingual Dictionary © 2006-2013 K Dictionaries Ltd. → رطوبت vlhky fugtig schwül uppōç hūmedo kostea humide vlažan umido 湿気のある ㅁㅁㅁ vochtig fuktig wilgotny hūmido, úmido влажный fuktig ㅁㅁㅁ nemli ㅁㅁㅁ 潮湿的Multilingual Translator © HarperCollins Publishers 2009a. hūmedo-a, que contiene humedad. English-Spanish Medical Dictionary © Farlex 2012English-Spanish/ Spanish-English Medical Dictionary Copyright © 2006 by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved. Want to thank TFD for its existence? Tell a friend about us, add a link to this page, or visit the webmaster's page for free fun content. Link to this page: "Ah, d n it," thought Tom, "I should have said HUMID light~how the deuce did I come to forget that word~it would have rounded the sentence beautifully."But there was no rustle, no movement; nothing but the humid oppressive silence.By the time that Tess was dressed Clare was downstairs and out in the humid air.There is scarcely any rain throughout this time, yet the face of the country is kept fresh and verdant by nightly dews, and occasionally by humid fogs in the mornings.He examined many things minutely~strange tools and weapons, books, paper, clothing~ what little had withstood the ravages of time in the humid atmosphere of the jungle coast.In the society in which Prince Andrew lived he had never seen anyone who together with awkward and clumsy gestures possessed such calmness and self-assurance; he had never seen so resolute yet gentle an expression as that in those half-closed, rather humid eyes, or so firm a smile that expressed nothing; nor had he heard such a refined, smooth, soft voice; above all he had never seen such delicate whiteness of face or hands- hands which were broad, but very plump, soft, and white.Confining our view to South America, we should certainly be tempted to believe that trees flourished only under a very humid climate; for the limit of the forest-land follows, in a most remarkable manner, that of the damp winds.The ceaseless care was growing less now, and the family breathed more freely, and the mother's sigh of pain no longer came from the stifling bedroom, where, during a hot and humid August, Aurelia had lain, suffering with every breath she drew.The morning drum had just been beaten; everyone shook off the drowsiness of night, and to dispel the humid morning air, came to take a drop at the inn.She saw the humid eyes of the king, his pale brow, his convulsed lips, and cried, with an accent that cannot be described, ~When, still a little fellow, he had dragged himself tortuously and by jerks beneath the shadows of its vaults, he seemed, with his human face and his bestial limbs, the natural reptile of that humid and sombre pavement, upon which the shadow of the Romanesque capitals cast so many strange forms.She flung wild glances, like those of an entrapped animal, up and down the big whitewashed room that panted with heat and that was thickly humid with the steam that sizzled from the damp cloth under the irons of the many ironers. "Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged" 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012humidness nounhumidly adverbsubhumid adjectiveunhumid adjectiveOrigin of humid11375-1425; late Middle English, from Latin (h)ūmidus, equivalent to (h)ūm(ē)re "to be moist" + -idus -id 4Origin of humid1C16: from Latin hūmidus, from hūmēre to be wet; see humectant, humourExamples have not been reviewed.Dry air from the north-west mixed with hot and humid air from the south to form especially large rain clouds, South Korea's meteorological administration says.The hot and humid conditions inside have taken their toll on the building, which opened in 1948 and houses a tropical rainforest.Its humid climate provides a natural and more cost-effective source of water for cooling data centres, making it attractive to developers.It will also start to feel quite humid with some very warm and muggy nights - which could make it uncomfortable for sleeping. The tourists led 19-7 at the break, but wilted in the extremely hot and humid conditions in a match that took two hours to complete.What does humid mean?Humid is used to describe air that is full of water vapor.Humid is most commonly applied to weather or the general climate of a place, especially when the temperature is hot.The noun form of humid is humidity.Example: Summertime in Florida is almost unbearably humid.humicoloushumidexBrowse#aabbccddeeffgghhijjjklmmnnooppqrrssttuuvvwwxyzzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC humidHumidity is the concentration of water vapor present in the air. Water vapor, the gaseous state of water, is generally invisible to the human eye. Humidity indicates the likelihood for precipitation, dew, or fog to be present. Humidity depends on the temperature and pressure of the system of interest. The same amount of water vapor results in higher relative humidity in cool air than warm air. A related parameter is the dew point. The amount of water vapor needed to achieve saturation increases as the temperature increases. As the temperature of a parcel of air decreases it will eventually reach the saturation point without adding or losing water mass. The amount of water vapor contained within a parcel of air can vary significantly. For example, a parcel of air near saturation may contain 28 g of water per cubic metre of air at 30 °C (86 °F), but only 8 g of water per cubic metre of air at 8 °C (46 °F). Three primary measurements of humidity are widely employed: absolute, relative, and specific. Absolute humidity is expressed as either mass of water vapor per volume of moist air (in grams per cubic metre) or as mass of water vapor per mass of dry air (usually in grams per kilogram). Relative humidity, often expressed as a percentage, indicates a present state of absolute humidity relative to a maximum humidity given the same temperature. Specific humidity is the ratio of water vapor mass to total moist air parcel mass. Humidity plays an important role for surface life. For animal life dependent on perspiration (sweating) to regulate internal body temperature, high humidity impairs heat exchange efficiency by reducing the rate of moisture evaporation from skin surfaces. This effect can be calculated using a heat index table, also known as a humidex. The notion of air "holding" water vapor or being "saturated" by it is often mentioned in connection with the concept of relative humidity. This, however, is misleading—the amount of water vapor that enters (or can enter) a given space at a given temperature is almost independent of the amount of air (nitrogen, oxygen, etc.) that is present. Indeed, a vacuum has approximately the same equilibrium capacity to hold water vapor as the same volume filled with air; both are given by the equilibrium vapor pressure of water at the given temperature. There is a very small difference described under "Enhancement factor" below, which can be neglected in many calculations unless great accuracy is required. English edit Etymology edit Borrowed from Old French humide, from Latin humidus ("moist"). Via Proto-Indo-European \*weg- ("wet") related to English weaky. Pronunciation edit IPA(key): /ˈhjuːmɪd/ Rhymes: -uːmɪd Adjective edit humid (comparative humider or more humid, superlative humidest or most humid) Containing perceptible moisture (usually describing air or atmosphere); damp; moist; somewhat wet or watery. Synonyms: damp, moist; see also Thesaurus:wet humid earth 1667, John Milton, "(please specify the page number)", in Paradise Lost. [...] London: [...] [Samuel Simmons], and are to be sold by Peter Parker [...]; [a]nd by Robert Boulter [...]; [a]nd Matthias Walker, [...]. —OCLC; republished as Paradise Lost in Ten Books [...]. London: Basil Montagu Pickering [...], 1873. —OCLC; Evening cloud, or humid bow. 1816 June – 1817 April/May (date written), [Mary Shelley], chapter VIII, in Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus. [...]. London: [...], [Macdonald and Son] for Lackington, Hughes, Harding, Mavor, & Jones, published 1 January 1818. —OCLC, pages 132–133.Soft tears again bedewed my cheeks, and I even raised my humid eyes with thankfulness towards the blessed sun which bestowed such joy upon me. Derived terms edit Translations edit Further reading edit "humid", in Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary, Springfield, Mass.: G. & C. Merriam, 1913. —OCLC. William Dwight Whitney, Benjamin Eijl Smith, editors (1911), "humid", in The Century Co., —OCLC. "humid", in OneLook Dictionary Search. Whether you're in a muggy region or a place with a "dry" heat, it can be tough to cool down during the summer. smarik / Getty Images When discussing the weather, humidity is a constant topic of conversation and consternation, especially during those muggy summer months. When people say, "At least it's a dry heat," that's just another way of saying, "Phew! At least it's not humid!" But what is humidity and why does it make our shirts so sticky and our lives so miserable? Humidity refers to the amount of water vapor present in the air. Water vapor is the gas form of water and it's a crucial component of our atmosphere. Meteorologists define humidity in two primary ways: Absolute humidity measures the actual amount of water vapor in the air, regardless of the air temperature. It's the literal grams of water vapor per cubic meter of air.Relative humidity, on the other hand, is a percentage comparing the current amount of water vapor in the air to the maximum amount the air can hold at a given temperature. That's why the air can feel different depending on the weather conditions. On a hot day, high relative humidity can make it feel significantly warmer than it actually is, while on a cool day, low absolute humidity can make the air feel crisper and drier. Understanding how to measure humidity is crucial for both meteorologists and everyday people. Humidity is a key factor in weather forecasts, indoor comfort and even health. There are various ways to measure humidity, each providing different insights into the amount of moisture in the air. Water vapor plays a vital role in the Earth's weather and climate systems. When liquid water evaporates, it becomes water vapor and enters the atmosphere. This process is essential to kickstart the water cycle, a continuous movement of water on, above and below the surface of the Earth. Evaporation occurs when heat from the sun causes water from oceans, rivers, lakes and other sources to turn into water vapor. Condensation happens when water vapor cools down and changes back into liquid water, forming clouds.Precipitation occurs when these water droplets in clouds become heavy enough to fall back to Earth as rain, snow, sleet or hail. Water vapor also acts as a greenhouse gas, trapping heat in the atmosphere and playing a significant role in regulating the Earth's temperature. Without water vapor, the planet would be much colder and less hospitable. Humidity is a natural part of our atmosphere and originates from various sources. The primary source of atmospheric humidity is the evaporation of water from large bodies of water, such as oceans, seas, lakes and rivers. The sun's heat causes this water to evaporate and become water vapor, which then enters the air. However, many everyday activities also contribute to indoor humidity levels. Cooking, cleaning, showering and even breathing add moisture to the air. For instance, when you cook, the steam from boiling water adds water vapor to the surrounding air. Similarly, when you dry wet clothes indoors, the water evaporates and increases the humidity level inside your home. Warm air holds more water vapor than cold air, which is why humidity tends to be higher in warmer air and lower in colder air. This is why the air can feel so much more oppressive and heavy in the summer when the temperature is high and the air is jam packed with moisture. In warm climates, the air is often more humid because heat causes water to evaporate more quickly. This leads to a higher concentration of water vapor in the atmosphere. In cooler climates, the air holds less water vapor, resulting in lower humidity levels. That's why certain places feel dry and others feel humid, even at the same temperature. Relative humidity measures of how much water vapor is in the air compared to the maximum amount that could be present at a given temperature. For instance, if the relative humidity is 60 percent, the air is holding 60 percent of the water vapor it's capable of holding at that temperature. When the air temperature rises, it can hold more water vapor, and thus the relative humidity can change even if the absolute humidity remains constant. The dew point is the temperature at which air becomes saturated with water vapor and cannot hold any more, leading to condensation. If the dew point rises, it means there's more moisture in the air. The dew point is always equal to or lower than the current air temperature. When the dew point is close to the air temperature, the relative humidity is high, leading to a muggy and uncomfortable feeling. Very dry air typically has low absolute and relative humidity. This can occur in places with cold air, as cold air cannot hold much water vapor. On the other hand, moist air has high humidity levels, often found in warm, humid climates where the air can hold a large amount of water vapor. Cool air also generally holds less water vapor than warm air. This is why relative humidity can be low even in places that are relatively humid during warmer seasons. When air cools, its capacity to hold water vapor decreases, often leading to condensation if the air is saturated. Evaporative cooling is a process that takes advantage of this principle. When water evaporates, it absorbs heat from the surrounding air, cooling it down. This is why sweating helps cool the body. Evaporative coolers, or swamp coolers, use this principle to cool indoor air by blowing warm air over water-saturated pads. Humidity can cause a lot of headaches, both literally and figuratively. Even if it's a necessary element of the water cycle, it can be a real pain. Here are just a few of its potential effects. Health Effects of Humidity High humidity levels can significantly affect how we feel and function. When the air is humid, it feels warmer than it actually is because our sweat doesn't evaporate as quickly, impairing the body's natural cooling mechanism. This can lead to several health issues. Dehydration: High humidity slows down the body's ability to cool itself, which can lead to dehydration if you don't drink enough fluids.Fatigue and muscle cramps: The body has to work harder to cool itself, which can lead to fatigue and muscle cramps.Heat stroke and heat exhaustion: In extreme cases, high humidity can cause severe conditions such as heat stroke and heat exhaustion. These conditions occur when the body overheats and cannot regulate its temperature. Humidity can also impact daily life, especially in our homes. High humidity levels can make air-conditioned homes feel less comfortable because the air conditioner has to work harder to remove the excess moisture from the air. This can lead to increased energy costs and wear and tear on the AC system. Signs of high indoor humidity include a persistent feeling of stickiness on the skin, discomfort and reduced air circulation. High humidity can also cause problems such as mold and mildew growth, which can damage your home and affect your health. Ideal indoor humidity levels usually range between 30 percent and 50 percent. When the relative humidity level is too high, the air feels muggy and can lead to discomfort and health issues like mold growth. When it's too low, the air feels dry, which can cause skin irritation and respiratory problems. Managing indoor humidity levels involves using devices like humidifiers to add moisture to the air in dry conditions and dehumidifiers to remove excess moisture in humid conditions. Air conditioners also play a role in managing humidity by cooling the air and reducing its moisture content. Managing humidity levels is essential for maintaining comfort and health. Here are some strategies to control humidity. Good ventilation: Ensuring proper ventilation in your home can significantly reduce humidity levels. Opening windows and using exhaust fans can help improve air circulation and reduce moisture.Dehumidifiers: Using a dehumidifier can be an effective way to control indoor humidity. Dehumidifiers work by removing excess moisture from the air, which can help make your home more comfortable and prevent problems like mold and mildew. Of course, if your home is too dry, you may want to use a humidifier instead. See, sometimes humidity isn't bad! By understanding and managing humidity, we can create more comfortable living environments and reduce the negative impacts of high humidity on our health and homes.

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