

lobby *noun* \ˈlə-bē\

plural -es

1 a : a corridor or hall connected with a larger room or series of rooms and used as a passageway or waiting room

<ignorant where the narrow *lobbies* led — Emily Brontë>

<this *lobby* of many doors at the head of the windowed staircase — Elizabeth Bowen>

<the small *lobby* of the post office — Willard Robertson>

: such as

(1) : one of the two corridors or anterooms of the British House of Commons to which members go to vote when the House divides on a motion

<time and again, on issues of foreign policy, Labor and Conservative MPs have gone into the same *lobby* — *New Republic*>

(2) : a large hall serving as a foyer or anteroom

<a hotel *lobby*>

<a theater *lobby*>

(3) : an anteroom of a capitol

b *archaic* : a small room or enclosure: such as (1) : a small apartment on board ship (2) : a small enclosed pen for cattle (3) : a watchman's enclosure in or outside a factory

2 a : the persons who frequent the *lobbies* of a legislative house to do business with the members; *specifically* : persons not members of a legislative body and not holding government office who attempt to influence legislators or other public officials through personal contact

b : a particular group of such persons representing a special interest

Origin of LOBBY

Medieval Latin *lobium*, *lobia*, *laubia* covered walk, gallery, portico, of Germanic origin; akin to Old High German *louba*, *louppea* protective roof, porch — more at [LODGE](#)

First Known Use: 1593 (sense 1a)

Related to LOBBY

Synonyms: hall, foyer

Related Words: entranceway, entry, entryway, hallway, vestibule; concourse, corridor, gallery, passageway; antechamber, anteroom, chamber, waiting room

Pronunciation Symbols

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¹ po·lit·i·cal *adjective* \pə-ˈli-ti-kəl, pō-\

- 1 a :** of or relating to government, a government, or the conduct of governmental affairs
- b :** of or relating to matters of government as distinguished from matters of law
- <*political* sovereignty>
- <*political* recognition of a new nation>
- compare [LEGAL 3a](#)
- c :** engaged in civil as distinguished from military functions
- <a *political* officer>
- see [POLITICAL AGENT](#)
- d :** of, relating to, or concerned with the making as distinguished from the administration of governmental [policy](#)
- 2 archaic :** [POLITIC 2](#)
- <whether it would be *political* to interfere — James Mill>
- 3 a :** of, relating to, or concerned with [politics](#)
- b :** of, relating to, or involved in party politics
- <*political* activity>
- <*political* party>
- compare [ADMINISTRATIVE](#), [NONPARTISAN](#)
- 4 :** organized in governmental terms — see [POLITICAL UNIT](#)

Origin of POLITICAL

Latin *politicus* political + English *-al*

First Known Use: 1529 (sense 1a)

Pronunciation Symbols

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