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delineate



delineate

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de·lin·eate *transitive verb* \di-'li-nē-,āt, dē-\

de·lin·eate·ed | de·lin·eate·ing

Definition of DELINEATE

- 1 **a** : to [indicate](#) or represent by drawn or painted lines
- b** : to mark the outline of <lights *delineating* the narrow streets>
- 2 : to describe, [portray](#), or set forth with accuracy or in [detail](#) <*delineate* a character in the story> <*delineate* the steps to be taken by the government>

— **de·lin·eate·or** *noun*

Examples of DELINEATE

- The report clearly *delineates* the steps that must be taken.
- The characters in the story were carefully *delineated*.
- He plants his skates millimeters outside the blue-tinted 44-square-foot arena that *delineates* the crease and refuses to budge ... —Michael Farber, *Sports Illustrated*, 21 May 2007

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Origin of DELINEATE

Latin *delineatus*, past participle of *delineare*, from *de-* + *linea* line

First Known Use: 1559

Related to DELINEATE

Synonyms

define, outline, silhouette, sketch, trace

Related Words

line; bound, fringe, margin, skirt; edge, hem, rim, trim; frame; circle, compass, encircle, girdle, girth, loop, ring,

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