

Dictionary (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/ramp>)
 Thesaurus (<http://www.thesaurus.com/browse/ramp>)
 Translator (<http://translate.reference.com/translate?query=ramp>)

ramp

(<http://dictionary.reference.com/wordoftheday/list/>)

ramp¹ (<http://static.sfdict.com/staticrep/dictaudio/R00/R0050600.mp3>)

[ramp]

Examples Word Origin

noun

1. a sloping surface connecting two levels; incline.
2. a short concave slope or bend, as one connecting the higher and lower parts of a staircase railing at a landing.
3. any extensive sloping walk or passageway.
4. the act of ramping.
5. Also called **boarding ramp**. a movable staircase for entering or leaving a cabin door of an airplane.
6. Also called **parking ramp**. apron (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/apron>) (def 6).

verb (used without object)

7. (of animals) to stand or move with the forelegs or arms raised, as in animosity or excitement.

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8. (of a lion or other large quadruped represented on a coat of arms) to rise or stand on the hind legs.
9. to rear as if to spring.
10. to leap or dash with fury (often followed by *about*).
11. to act violently; rage; storm:
"ramping and raging in a great fury."

verb (used with object)

12. to provide with a ramp or ramps:
"Entrances will be ramped to accommodate those in wheelchairs."

Verb phrases

13. **ramp along**, *Nautical*. to sail on a tack with all sails filled.

Origin

French
 (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/French>)

Middle English
 Old French
 (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Middle%20English>)
 (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Old%20French>)

1350-1400

1350-1400; (v.) Middle English *rampen* < Old French *ramper* to creep, crawl, climb; (noun) < French *rampe*, derivative of *ramper*

Related forms

rampingly, adverb

unramped, adjective

ramp² (<http://static.sfdict.com/staticrep/dictaudio/R00/R0050700.mp3>)

[ramp]

noun, Usually, **ramps**

1. a wild onion, *Allium tricoccum*, of the amaryllis family, of eastern North America, having flat leaves and rounded clusters of whitish flowers; eaten raw or used as a flavoring in cooked foods.

Also called **wild leek**.

Origin

1530-40; back formation from *ramps* ramson, variant (with intrusive *p*) of *rams*, earlier *rammys*, orig. the singular of ramson (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/ramson>)

Dictionary.com Unabridged

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Examples from the web for ramp

Belle is attempting to leap over a double-wide *ramp* that leads to an underground parking garage.

The *ramp* is enclosed by cinder-block walls, about three feet high.

The students filed onstage, and a gaggle of movers lugged the piano up a metal *ramp*.

British Dictionary definitions for ramp

ramp

/ræmp/

noun

1. a sloping floor, path, etc, that joins two surfaces at different levels
2. a movable stairway by which passengers enter and leave an aircraft
3. the act of ramping
4. (**Brit, slang**) a swindle, esp one involving exorbitant prices
5. *another name for* sleeping policeman (/browse/sleeping policeman)

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Word Origin and History for ramp

n.

1778, "slope," from French *rampe*, back-formation from Old French verb *ramper* "to climb, scale, mount;" see ramp (/browse/ramp) (v.). Meaning "road on or off a major highway" is from 1952, American English.

"rude, boisterous girl or woman," mid-15c., perhaps from ramp (/browse/ramp) (v.). Cf. *romp* in Johnson's Dictionary (1755): "a rude, awkward, boisterous, untaught girl."

v.

c.1300, "to climb; to stand on the hind legs" (of animals), from Old French *ramper* "to climb, scale, mount" (12c., in Modern French "to creep, crawl"), perhaps from Frankish **rampon* "to contract oneself" (cf. Old High German *rimpfan* "to wrinkle," Old English *hrimpan* "to fold, wrinkle"), via notion of the bodily contraction involved in climbing [Klein], from Proto-Germanic **hrimp-* "to contract oneself." Related: *Ramped*; *ramping*.

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Related Abbreviations for ramp

RAMP

Rural Abandoned Mine Program

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