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initial

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18 ENTRIES FOUND:

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- initial letter

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ini-tial adjective \i-'ni-shəl\

: occurring at the beginning of something

Full Definition of INITIAL

- of or relating to the beginning; **INCIPIENT** <his *initial* reaction>
- placed at the beginning: **FIRST** <the *initial* word of the verse>

- ini-tial-ly** adverb
- ini-tial-ness** noun

See **initial** defined for English-language learners »

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Examples of INITIAL

- <you've resolved my *initial* complaint, but now I have a new question>

Origin of INITIAL

Anglo-French & Latin; Anglo-French *inicial*, from Latin *initialis*, from *initium* beginning, from *inire* to go into, from *in-* + *ire* to go — more at **ISSUE**

First Known Use: 1526

Related to INITIAL

Synonyms

earliest, foremost, headmost, inaugural, first, leadoff, maiden, original, pioneer, premier, virgin

Antonyms

final, last, latest, latter, terminal, terminating, ultimate

Related Words

ancient, early, primal, primary, prime, primeval, primitive,

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primordial; antecedent, preceding, previous

Near Antonyms

advanced, late; consequent, ensuing, following, subsequent, succeeding; penultimate

more

Rhymes with INITIAL

altricial, comital, judicial, official, simplical, solstitial, surficial

²initial *noun*

: a first letter of a name

initials : the first letters of each of a person's names

Full Definition of INITIAL

1 a : the first letter of a name

b plural : the first letter of each word in a full name <found that their *initials* were identical>

2 : a large letter beginning a text or a division or paragraph

3 : ANLAGE, PRECURSOR; *specifically* : a meristematic cell

See [initial](#) defined for English-language learners »

Examples of INITIAL

- President Franklin D. Roosevelt's middle *initial* stood for "Delano."
- She put her *initials* on each page of the contract.
- The *initials* F.D.R. stood for "Franklin Delano Roosevelt."

First Known Use of INITIAL

1627

Rhymes with INITIAL

official

³initial *transitive verb*

: to mark (something) with your initials

ini-tialed or **ini-tialled** | **ini-tial-ing** or **ini-tial-ling** 

Full Definition of INITIAL

1 : to affix an initial to

2 : to authenticate or give preliminary approval to by affixing the [initials](#) of an authorizing representative

Examples of INITIAL

- She *initialed* each page of the contract.

First Known Use of INITIAL

circa 1864

Learn More About INITIAL

 Thesaurus: [All synonyms and antonyms for "initial"](#)



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