

**dagger (†)**  
Indicates a word or sense is obsolete

Indicates first recorded use,  
or range of first and last usage  
e.g. **ME** Middle English  
**IME-m18** late Middle English to mid 18<sup>th</sup> century

**Homonym number (e.g. 1, 2)**  
Indicates different words  
with the same spelling

**Major semantic divisions  
(e.g. I, II)**

**Sense number (e.g. 1, 2)**

**Illustrative quotation**

**Subsense (e.g. a, b)**

The screenshot shows the WordWeb Pro interface with the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary. The search term is 'mop'. The left sidebar lists related words, with 'mop' selected. The main pane shows the entry for 'mop' with several annotations:

- †mop noun<sup>1</sup>, ME.** (Annotated with a dagger symbol †)
- 1** A fool, a simpleton. *ME-115.*
- 2** A baby or toddler. Also, a rag doll. *IME-116.*
- Survives as 1st elem. of **moppet**, **mopsy**.
- ORIGIN:** Origin uncertain: perh. rel. to **mop** noun, verb.
- †mop noun<sup>2</sup>, IME-m18.** (Annotated with a dagger symbol †)
- A young fish, esp. a whiting or gurnard. Also **whiting mop**, **gurnard mop**.
- ORIGIN:** Origin unkn.
- mop** **mop** **Ⓜ** **noun<sup>3</sup>**. Also (earlier) **†map(p)**. *115.* (Annotated with a circled 'm' and a dagger symbol †)
- I**
- 1** An implement consisting of a long stick with a bundle of thick loose strings or a piece of foam rubber etc. fastened to one end so as to soak up liquid easily, used in cleaning floors (also **floor mop**); (in full **dish mop**), a smaller form of this for washing dishes. *115.*
- B.** *Reid* A lady who was cleaning the floor with a bucket and mop.
- 2** A thick mass of something, esp. of or of hair. *e19.*
- R.** *Crompton* *Thomas's blue eyes, beneath a mop of curls.*
- mops and brooms* slang half-drunk.
- Mrs Mop:* see *Mrs*.
- 3** Any of various small instruments resembling a mop, as (a) a circular pad of cloth used in polishing silver with rouge; (b) a surgical instrument with a sponge at the end of a handle, for applying medicated fluids or removing purulent matter. *m19.*
- II**
- 4 mop-up**, the action or an act of mopping something up. *e20.*
- 5** A rub, wipe, or clean with a mop. *120.*
- Comb.:**
- mop-board** US a skirting board;
- mophead**
- a** the head of a mop;
- b** (a person with) a thick head of hair;
- mopstick** the handle of a floor mop;
- mop-up:** see sense 4 above.
- ORIGIN:** Origin uncertain: perh. ult. connected with Latin *mappa* (see **map** noun<sup>1</sup>). In branch II from the verb.
- mop** **mop** **Ⓜ** **noun<sup>4</sup>, arch.** *115.* (Annotated with a circled 'm' and a dagger symbol †)
- A grimace, orig. esp. as made by a monkey. Chiefly in **mops** and **mows**.

Click music symbol to  
hear audio pronunciation

Click text pronunciation  
to see pop-up key

**Usage date abbreviations:**

<b>e</b> early	<b>IME</b> late Middle English
<b>l</b> late	<b>IOE</b> late Old English
<b>m</b> mid	<b>ME</b> Middle English
(e.g. <b>e18</b> early 18 <sup>th</sup> century)	<b>OE</b> Old English

Note: the screen shot shows WordWeb Pro for Mac when both WordWeb Pro and the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary apps are installed. If you do not have WordWeb Pro the WordWeb tab will not show.