

Access vs. Excess

The English language is full of words that have similar sounds and spellings, causing confusion to most of us. Among these puzzling terms are access and excess. Despite their similarity, these two terms have very distinct uses.

The word access may be used as a noun meaning “permission, liberty, or ability to enter, approach, or pass to and from a place or to approach or communicate with a person or thing” or “freedom or ability to obtain or make use of something.”

Medicaid patients could face restrictions to access to antipsychotic medications

[Columbia Missourian](#)

It's Whether rEU Has Access To London's Financial Services, Not Banks To rEU

[Forbes](#)

German parents sue Facebook because it won't grant them access to their dead daughter's account as they try to find out if her death five years ago was suicide or an accident

[Daily Mail](#)

Access may also be used as a noun referring to “a means of approaching or entering a place.”

Europeans' Visa-Free Access to U.S. Needs Review, Kelly Says

[Bloomberg](#)

Alaska lawmakers approve \$3.5 million project for public access, air system at their Anchorage offices

[Alaska Dispatch News](#)

New HofGarden taproom expands access to Scott's Addition rooftop venue

[wtvr.com](#)

As a verb, access means “to be able to use, enter, or get near something” or “to open or load a computer file, an Internet site, etc.”

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Australian Federal Police accessed metadata without warrant, broke law

[The Register](#)

NYPD officers accessed Black Lives Matter activists' texts, documents show

[The Guardian](#)

Black women face barriers accessing HIV prevention and treatment

[Real Change News](#)

Meanwhile, excess is mostly used as a noun referring to “an amount of something that is more than necessary, permitted, or desirable” or “lack of moderation in an activity, especially eating or drinking.”

Excess if any in name of Goraksha, will be dealt with firmly: Amit Shah

[Economic Times](#)

An Excess of Faith at Indian Banks

[Wall Street Journal](#)

China's credit excess is unlike anything the world has ever seen

[South China Morning Post](#)

Excess may also function as an adjective meaning “more than the usual, proper, or specified amount.”

3,000 excess staff of Annamalai university redeployed

[Times of India](#)

Ultimate Moneyball - How You Can Capture Excess Returns

[Forbes](#)

Jerry Davis: Excess morels can be hawked

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[Madison.com](https://www.Madison.com)

Can you use access and excess in a sentence now?

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