

[mə'mɑ:] = *mamma*¹**mama**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

mama [mama **mamas**] (also **mamma**) *BrE* ['mæmə] ^α *NAmE* ['mæmə] ^α **noun****1.** *BrE* ['mæmə] ^α ; [mə'mɑ] ^α ; *NAmE* ['mæmə] ^α (NAmE or BrE, old-fashioned) **mother****see also** ↑ **mummy****2.** in some places in Africa, a mother or older woman (often used as a title that shows respect)

- Leave this work to us, mama.
- Miriam Makeba became known as Mama Africa.
- Mama Ngina Kenyatta

Word Origin:

mid 16th cent.: imitative of a child's first syllables ma, ma.

mama

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. ma **ma**¹ *BrE* ^α *AmE* ^α , **mamma** /'mɑmɑ/ (also **momma**) **noun** [countable] *American English**English*

[Date: 1500-1600; Origin: From the sounds made by a baby]

a mother – used by or to children **SYN** **mummy**:

I want my mama!

...

THESAURUS

- **mother** a female parent: My mother and father are both teachers.
- **mum** *British English informal*, **mom** *American English informal* used when talking to your father, or about someone's father: My mum and dad won't mind if you want to stay the night. | Mom, where's my sweater?
- **mummy** *British English*, **mommy** *American English* a name for mother, which is used especially by young children or when you are talking to young children: Where's Mummy, Abbie?
- **ma** *American English old-fashioned* used when talking to your mother, or about someone's mother: Ma stirred the soup on the stove.
- **mama** *old-fashioned* used when talking to your mother, or about someone's mother: Mama seldom disagreed with Papa.
- **stepmother** (also **stepmum** *British English informal*, **stepmom** *American English informal*) a woman who is married to your father, who is not your mother but often acts as your parent: the wicked stepmother in fairy stories

II. ma **ma**² /mə'mɑ/ *BrE* ^α *AmE* ^α **noun** [countable] *British English old-fashioned*

mother

mama

Freakuency Pack

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mamas 152

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

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