puritan Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed. pur-itan [puritan puritans] noun, adjective BrE ['pjvərɪtən] NAmE ['pjʊrɪtən]

- 1. (usually disapproving) a person who has very strict moral attitudes and who thinks that pleasure is bad
- 2. Puritan a member of a Protestant group of Christians in England in the 16th and 17th centuries who wanted to worship God in a simple way

Word Origin:

late 16th cent.: from late Latin puritas 'purity' + 1-an.

Puritans believed in strict moral behaviour and were associated with the Parliamentary party during the Commonwealth of Oliver Cromwell. Because of this they were treated badly after the Restoration of King †Charles II, and many left Britain to settle in the US, where their simple way of life and religious discipline became an important influence on American culture.

adjective

- 1. Puritan connected with the Puritans and their beliefs
- 2. = †puritanical

Word Origin:

late 16th cent.: from late Latin puritas 'purity' + 1-an.

puritan

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

Freakuency Pack

puri tan /'pjʊərətən, 'pjʊərɪtən \$ 'pjʊr-/ BrE * noun [countable] AmE *

[Date: 1500-1600; Language: Late Latin; Origin: puritas 'purity', from Latin purus; ⇒ ↑pure]

- 1. someone with strict moral views who thinks that pleasure is unnecessary and wrong
- 2. Puritan a member of a Protestant religious group in the 16th and 17th centuries, who wanted to make religion simpler —puritan adjective:

the Puritan work ethic

puritan ₁₂₅₀₀9908MCW

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