

BEAUTY DEFINITION

beauty |'byoōtē|
noun (pl. beauties)

1 a combination of qualities, such as shape, color, or form, that pleases the aesthetic senses, especially the sight: I was struck by her beauty | an area of outstanding natural beauty. • a combination of qualities that pleases the intellect or moral sense. • [as modifier] denoting something intended to make a woman more attractive: beauty products | beauty treatment.

2 a beautiful or pleasing thing or person, in particular: • a beautiful woman. • an excellent specimen or example of something: the fish was a beauty, around 14 pounds. • (the beauties of) the pleasing or attractive features of something: the beauties of the Pennsylvania mountains. • [in sing.] the best feature or advantage of something: the beauty of keeping cats is that they don't tie you down.

PHRASES beauty is in the eye of the beholder proverb beauty cannot be judged objectively, for what one person finds beautiful or admirable may not appeal to another. beauty is only skin-deep proverb a pleasing appearance is not a guide to character.

ORIGIN Middle English: from Old French *beaute*, based on Latin *bellus* 'beautiful, fine.'

