

## legitimate

1. [lɪˈdʒɪtɪmət] *n*
  1. законнорождённый ребёнок
  2. законный правитель
  3. защитник прав законного правителя
  4. *театр. проф.* = the legitimate drama [*см.* II 4]
2. [lɪˈdʒɪtɪmət] *a*
  1. законнорождённый  
legitimate child - законнорождённый ребёнок  
he is of legitimate birth - он законнорождённый
  2. 1) законный, правильный  
legitimate claim - законное требование  
legitimate portion - *юр.* обязательная доля наследства  
for legitimate purposes - для законных целей
  - 2) законный (о правителе); осуществляемый по закону о наследовании (о власти и т. п.)
  3. законный, допустимый; оправданный, обоснованный  
legitimate reason - уважительная причина  
to have a legitimate complaint - иметь полное основание жаловаться
  4. *театр.* драматический  
legitimate drama, legitimate theatre - драматический театр (*в отличие от мюзикла, ревю и т. п.*); настоящий театр
3. [lɪˈdʒɪtɪmət] *v*
  1. 1) *юр.* узаконивать, легитимировать
  - 2) признавать законным
  2. усыновлять (*внебрачного ребёнка*)

## legitimate

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

le-git-im-ate [legitimate legitimates legitimated legitimating] *BrE* [lɪˈdʒɪtɪmət]

*NAmE* [lɪˈdʒɪtɪmət] *adjective*

1. for which there is a fair and acceptable reason  
**Syn:** ↑valid **Syn:** ↑justifiable
  - a legitimate grievance
  - It seemed a **perfectly legitimate** question.
  - Politicians are legitimate targets for satire.
2. allowed and acceptable according to the law  
**Syn:** ↑legal
  - the legitimate government of the country
  - Is his business strictly legitimate?**Opp:** ↑illegitimate
3. (*of a child*) born when its parents are legally married to each other  
**Opp:** ↑illegitimate

Derived Words ↑legitimacy ▪ ↑legitimately

### Word Origin:

late Middle English (in the sense ‘born of parents lawfully married to each other’): from medieval Latin *legitimus* ‘made legal’, from the verb *legitimare*, from Latin *legitimus* ‘lawful’, from *lex*, *leg-* ‘law’.

### Example Bank:

- Parents' concerns about the disease are quite legitimate.
- People have a legitimate expectation that their politicians should be honest.
- The court ruled that celebrities' children were not a legitimate target for press intrusion.
- The legitimate government was reinstated after the uprising.

## legitimate

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

1. **le-git-i-mate** <sup>1</sup> /ləˈdʒɪtəmət, lɪˈdʒɪtəmət/ *BrE* <sup>2</sup> *AmE* <sup>3</sup> *adjective*

[**Date:** 1400-1500; **Language:** Medieval Latin; **Origin:** past participle of *legitimare* ‘to legitimize’, from Latin *legitimus* ‘legitimate’, from *lex* ‘law’]

1. fair or reasonable:
    - That’s a perfectly legitimate question.
    - Most scientists believe it is legitimate to use animals in medical research.
  2. acceptable or allowed by law:
    - Their business operations are perfectly legitimate.
  3. a legitimate child is born to parents who are legally married to each other **OPP illegitimate**
- legitimately** *adverb*:
- a legitimately elected government
  - He complained quite legitimately about his treatment.
- legitimacy** *noun* [uncountable]:

Opponents have questioned the legitimacy of the ruling.

II. **le** **git** **imate** <sup>2</sup> /lə'dʒɪtəmeɪt, lɪ'dʒɪtəmeɪt/ *BrE* \* *AmE* \* *verb* [transitive]  
the usual American form of **↑legitimize**

## legitimate

Frequency Pack

12500 **4163**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **2453**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **4k** LEGITIMATE 12271

legitimate 10002

legitimately 875

illegitimate 1106

illegitimately 41

legitimation 247

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

7088 **4047**<sup>9934</sup> *jj*

25 **156374**<sup>25</sup> *vv0*

22 **163957**<sup>23</sup> *vvi*

19 **176700**<sup>20</sup> *nnu*