

layman['leɪ|mən] *n* (*pl* -men [-{'leɪ}mən])

1. мирянин
2. непрофессионал, неспециалист

a book for laymen - книга для широкого круга читателей

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

layman**lay·man** [ˈleɪmən] *BrE* [ˈleɪmən] *AmE* [ˈleɪmən] *noun* (pl.**lay·men** *BrE* [ˈleɪmən] *AmE* [ˈleɪmən]) (also **lay·per·son**)

1. a person who does not have expert knowledge of a particular subject
 - a book written for professionals and laymen alike
 - to explain sth **in layman's terms** (= in simple language)
2. a person who is a member of a Church but is not a priest or member of the ↑clergy

see also ↑laywomanSee also: ↑laypersonMore About:**gender**Ways of talking about men and women

When you are writing or speaking English it is important to use language that includes both men and women equally. Some people may be very offended if you do not. [The human race](#)

Man and **mankind** have traditionally been used to mean 'all men and women'. Many people now prefer to use **humanity**, the human race, human beings or people. [Jobs](#)

The suffix -ess in names of occupations such as actress, hostess and waitress shows that the person doing the job is a woman. Many people now avoid these. Instead you can use actor or host, (although actress and hostess are still very common) or a neutral word, such as **server** for [waiter](#) and [waitress](#).

Neutral words like assistant, worker, person or officer are now often used instead of -man or -woman in the names of jobs. For example, you can use police officer instead of [policeman](#) or [policewoman](#), and spokesperson instead of [spokesman](#) or [spokeswoman](#). Neutral words are very common in newspapers, on television and radio and in official writing, in both *BrE* and *AmE*.

When talking about jobs that are traditionally done by the other sex, some people say: a male secretary/nurse/model (NOT man) or a woman/female doctor/barrister/driver. However this is now not usually used unless you need to emphasize which sex the person is, or it is still unusual for the job to be done by a man/woman: ▫ My daughter prefers to see a woman doctor. ▫ They have a male nanny for their kids. ▫ a female racing driver [Pronouns](#)

He used to be considered to cover both men and women: ▫ Everyone needs to feel he is loved. This is not now acceptable.

Instead, after everybody, everyone, anybody, anyone, somebody, someone, etc. one of the plural pronouns they, them, and their is often used: ▫ Does everybody know what they want? ▫ Somebody's left their coat here. ▫ I hope nobody's forgotten to bring their passport with them.

Some people prefer to use he or she, his or her, or him or her in speech and writing: ▫ Everyone knows what's best for him or herself. He/she or (s)he can also be used in writing: ▫ In doubt, ask your doctor. He/she can give you more information. (You may find that some writers just use 'she'.) These uses can seem awkward when they are used a lot. It is better to try to change the sentence, using a plural noun. Instead of saying: ▫ A baby cries when he or she is tired you can say ▫ Babies cry when they are tired.

layman

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

lay·man /'leɪmən/ *BrE* *AmE* *noun* (plural **laymen** /l-mən/) [countable]

1. someone who is not trained in a particular subject or type of work, especially when they are being compared with someone who is

OPP expert ⇔ **laywoman** :

- To [the layman](#) (=laymen in general) all these plants look pretty similar.

- If you don't understand what the doctor says, ask to have it explained [in layman's terms](#) (=in simple language).

2. someone who is not a priest but is a member of a church ⇔ **laywoman**

layman

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