

## **archive** (īr'kīv')

**n.**

1.  
often archives

A place or collection containing records, documents, or other materials of historical interest: old land deeds in the municipal archives.

2.  
Computers

a.  
A long-term storage area, often on magnetic tape, for backup copies of files or for files that are no longer in active use.

b.  
A file containing one or more files in compressed format for more efficient storage and transfer.

3.  
A repository for stored memories or information: the archive of the mind.

**tr.v.**

ar•chived, ar•chiv•ing, ar•chives

1.  
To place or store in an archive.

2.  
Computers To copy or compress (a file) into an archive.

[From French archives, from Latin archīva, from Greek arkheia, pl. of arkheion, town hall, from arkhē, government, from arkhein, to rule.]

Archive. (2016). In Editors of the American Heritage Dictionaries (Ed.), *The American Heritage (R) dictionary of the English language* (6th ed.). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin.