

**con·scious** (kɒn'shəs)❖ *adj.*

Characterized by or having an awareness of one's environment and one's own existence, sensations, and thoughts.

See Synonyms at [aware](#).

Mentally perceptive or alert; awake: The patient remained fully conscious after the local anesthetic was administered.

Capable of thought, will, or perception: the development of conscious life on the planet.

Subjectively known or felt: conscious remorse.

Intentionally conceived or done; deliberate:  
a conscious insult;  
made a conscious effort to speak more clearly.

Inwardly attentive or sensitive to something: As he spoke, he became increasingly conscious of his high-pitched voice.

Showing awareness of or preoccupation with something. Often used in combination:  
a cost-conscious approach to health care;  
a value-conscious shopper.

❖ *n.*

In psychoanalysis, the component of waking awareness perceptible by a person at any given instant; consciousness.

From Latin *cōnsciūs*: *com-*, com- + *scīre*, to know; see [skei-](#) in Indo-European roots.

**con'sciously** *adv.*