

# Automatism

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**Automatism** may refer to:

- Automatic behavior, spontaneous verbal or motor behavior; an act performed unconsciously. Defendants have been found not guilty due to an automatism defense (e.g., homicide while sleepwalking).
  - Automatism (law), a defense to liability. **See also** Automatism (case law).
  - Automatism (toxicology), when an individual repeatedly takes a medication because the individual forgets previous doses, potentially leading to a drug overdose.
  - Automatic writing, the process, or product, of writing material that does not come from the conscious thoughts of the writer.
  - Surrealist automatism, an art technique.
  - Automatism (medicine), repetitive unconscious gestures such as lip smacking, chewing, or swallowing in certain types of epilepsy.
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