

rose-colored glasses

Contents

English

[Alternative forms](#)

[Etymology](#)

[Pronunciation](#)

[Noun](#)

[Derived terms](#)

[Translations](#)

[References](#)

English

Alternative forms

- [rose-coloured glasses](#) (*non-US*)
- [rose-tinted glasses](#), [rose-colored lenses](#)
- [rose-coloured spectacles](#), [rose-tinted spectacles](#) (*Britain*)

Etymology

Phrase appears as early as 1830 according to OED.^[1]

Pronunciation

- Audio (AU) ([file](#))

Noun

[rose-colored glasses](#) *pl* (*plural only*) (*American spelling*)

1. (*idiomatic*) An optimistic perception of something; a positive opinion; seeing something in a positive way, often thinking of it as better than it actually is.

- **2020** October 13, Beatrice Loayza, “Jack London gets an Italian makeover in the tragic and romantic *Martin Eden*”, in *AV Club*:

Such captivating beauty corresponds to our protagonist’s naive idealism, and the **rose-colored glasses** through which he views an upper-crust world of dandies and refined intellectuals.

2. Used other than figuratively or idiomatically: glasses that are tinted in a pink or rose shade.

Derived terms

- look through rose-colored glasses
- see through rose-colored glasses
- view through rose-colored glasses
- wear rose-colored glasses

Translations

overly optimistic perception of something

- Czech: růžové brýle *f pl*
- Danish: rose bril *ç*
- Estonian: roosad prillid *pl*
- Finnish: ruusunpunaiset silmälasit *pl*
- French: la vie en rose ^(fr) *f sg*
- German: rosarote Brille *f sg*
- Irish: spéaclaí bándearg *m, pl*
- Italian: gli occhi di un bambino *m, pl*, occhi di bambino *m, pl*
- Japanese: 色眼鏡 (いろめがね, iro megane) (*also “overly negative perception”*)
- Polish: różowe okulary *pl*
- Russian: розовые очки *n pl* (rózovyje očki)
- Scottish Gaelic: speuclairean bàn-dhearg *m, pl*, speuclairean pinc *m, pl*
- Serbo-Croatian: (please verify) svijetla strana medalje *f pl*
- Spanish: gafas violeta *f pl*, gafas rosadas *f pl*
- Welsh: sbectol-lliw rhosyn *f sg*

References

1. ^ "rose-coloured | rose-colored, adj.". OED Online. June 2017. Oxford University Press. <http://www.oed.com/view/Entry/167530> (accessed October 02, 2017).

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