



THE SLASH

The slash (/) is often called the forward slash to distinguish it from the backslash (\) used in Web addresses. It is also sometimes called the diagonal or the oblique.

25a Quote lines of poetry

When quoting more than one line of poetry, the slash (or diagonal) is used to show where each line of poetry ends. Be sure to place a space on each side of the slash.

- I cannot help but compare my visit to the lines of a favorite poem by Jackson H. Day called “Wesley Theological Seminary: No Thoroughfare”: “**O you who see this sign, pray it may go / And all it represents; and later, lo / This path can be the broadest thoroughfare**” (II.4-6).

25b Show a choice

A slash can also be used between two words to show that either choice is available or acceptable.

- the in/out door, the up/down button

