

HOMONYMS LIST

homonym	meaning	example
arm	A part of the body (n). To equip with weapons (v).	My arm feels numb. The escaped convict is armed with a gun.
back	A part of the body (n). At the back (adj). In the opposite direction (adv). To support (v).	Put your back into it, we need to finish today. Let's sit at the back of the bus. We need to go back to the beginning. I'll back you up if she accuses you of cheating.
band	A group of musicians (n). Material that constricts (n).	The band were great, I really enjoy their music. Does anyone have a hairband I can borrow?
bark	The covering of a tree (n). A sound a dog makes (v).	Deer keep eating the bark on my apple trees. The neighbour's dog barks all day and night.
bat	A winged night mammal (n). An object to hit a ball with (n). Your turn to hit the ball in a game (v).	I love the new batman film. Pick up a bat and practice with a partner. The blues will be batting first.
beam	A big piece of wood used for support (n). A ray of light (n). To transmit or broadcast (v).	I need to paint the beams in the living room. The sun's beams are beautiful today. The rave will be beamed live online.
bear	A big furry mammal (n). Carry the weight of (v).	Be careful, there are grizzly bears in the woods. Next year the trees will be bearing fruit.
board	A long thin piece of material (n). To get on a bus, plane, or train (v). To ride a skateboard (v). To live at a school during term time (v). To receive meals in exchange for pay or work (v).	I'm going to buy a surfboard. The boarding gates close in 10 minutes. We are going boarding on Saturday. I'm boarding at a private school next year. Lodging and board is provided in exchange for 4 hours of work per day.
bolt	A metal pin (n). A streak of lightning (n). To fasten with a bolt (v). When an animal gets scared and runs (v).	I have a few spare bolts in the garage. A bolt of lightning hit my shed roof. Bolt the door on your way out. The horse bolted out of the field towards the motorway.

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book	An object you read (n). To reserve (v).	I'm reading a terrific book about aliens. We've booked a Michelin starred restaurant for valentine's day.
can	Ability/permission (modal). A metal container (n).	Can you work on Friday night? Who wants a can of coke?
case	An official situation, a legal action (n). A protective container (n). To surround (v).	The court case will commence in February. I need to buy a new phone case. The strawberries are cased in white chocolate.
change	Coins (n). To become different (v).	The beggar is asking for spare change. Mason has changed since he's been with Katy.
clip	A device for holding objects together (n). To cut (v). To fasten with clips (v).	Does anyone know where the paper clips are? I need to clip the hedge before spring arrives. The hairdresser clipped her client's hair up so she could apply the bleach.
cool	Low temperature (adj). Fashionable, stylish (adj). To become less hot (v).	It's very cool for May, roll on the summer. Jenna is so cool; she has 500,000 followers. Let's go to the lake, the dogs need to cool down.
court	A room where trials take place (n). The area where tennis/badminton is played (n). To date (v).	I'm due in court for a driving offence. The court needs resurfacing, it's impossible to play on it. My son has been courting Lizzy for 3 years, do I hear wedding bells?
current	Present time (adj). A flow of electricity (n).	My current boyfriend is a real sweetheart. By completing the circuit, the current will flow.
date	A specific day of the month (n). A romantic meeting (n). A relationship with the same person (v).	What date is St Patrick's day? I've got a date with the hot guy from the bar. We've been dating for almost a year.
down	Beneath (adv). Soft feathers (n).	Put your books down and listen to my instructions. My new duvet is made from eiderdown.
drop	A drip of liquid (n). To accidentally let something fall (v).	Let's open another bottle, there's only a drop left. Oh no! I've dropped my phone down the drain.

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duck	A waterbird (n). To lower the head or body quickly (v).	I think I'll order the crispy duck. Duck down Chris or you'll bang your head.
fair	Equal (adj). To have light skin and hair (adj). A fete/gala (n).	It was a fair fight. I'm fair but my twin brother is dark. I want to win a goldfish at the fair.
fall	Autumn in American English (n). Accidentally move from a higher to a lower level (v).	Fall is my favourite season. My stilettos are high, I hope I don't fall over.
file	A collection of papers/information (n). To order papers/documents (v).	Mr Richard's file is on my desk. We've hired a secretary to help file the documents.
flat	A level surface (adj). An apartment (n). No air in a tyre (n).	Park over there on the flat bit. We're downsizing to a flat now we're getting old. I got a flat tyre on the motorway yesterday; it was a scary experience.
fly	An insect (n). To glide through the air (v).	Has something died? There are so many flies in here. We're flying at 5:35 so we need to leave here by 2.
foot	The lower part of the leg (n). A unit of measurement (n).	My foot hurts, I fell down the stairs earlier. Can you move your car back a foot or so?
glasses	Lenses to help you see better (n). Glass containers to drink from (n).	I've lost my glasses; I can't see a thing without them. Let's use the posh glasses we got for our anniversary.
ground	The surface of the earth (n). To stop flying or children going out (v).	The ground is too hard to dig at the moment. Mum will ground me if I'm back after 10pm.
hail	Pellets of frozen rain (n, v). To praise/worship (v).	The hail stones were huge, one smashed my windscreen. All hail the king.
iron	A metal (n). To straighten clean clothes (v).	A maniac is running around outside with an iron bar. I need to iron my shirt for the school prom.

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jam	A fruity preserve (n). To become stuck (v).	I love jam sandwiches. I'm stuck in a traffic jam; a lorry has jack-knifed.
kind	Nice, polite, generous (adj). A type (n).	Melanie is so kind, she paid for my shopping. What kind of dog do you have?
letter	A character of the alphabet (n). A written or typed communication (n).	There are 26 letters in the alphabet. Tom is writing his letter to Santa.
match	A stick used to make fire (n). A game/contest (n). To compliment (v).	Children shouldn't play with matches. The match has been postponed until next week. We need purple walls to match the carpet.
nail	A metal fastener (n). A hard covering on fingers and toes (n). Fasten objects using nails (v). To catch a criminal (v).	I need to buy some nails to hang up the photos. I'm getting my nails done later. Can you nail the birdbox to the fence? PC Phillips has nailed the case. Johnson did it!
palm	A type of tree (n). The inner surface of your hand (n).	Let's go somewhere exotic with palm trees. I've got a palm reading this weekend.
park	A play area for kids (n). To make your vehicle stationary (v).	The kids need some fresh air, I'll take them to the park. I'll park on Eastville, it's free for 2 hours.
point	The sharp end of an object (n). Extend your finger towards (v).	The point of the dart needs to hit the target. Can you point out the boy who stole your pens?
punch	A bowl of cocktail (n). To hit somebody with your fist (v).	I've made a Hawaiian punch for the barbeque. Lenny was punched in the face twice last night.
remote	A place far from civilization (adj). A control (n).	I'd love to live on a remote island. Pass me the remote, football is starting.
right	Correct (adj). The opposite of left (adj). A legal entitlement (n).	Mum is always right; you should listen to her. Turn right at the end of the street. You have no right to stop me seeing my son.

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ring	A band worn around your fingers (n). A circular shaped object (n). Put a circle around something (v). Call someone on the phone (v).	I saw Mark buying an engagement ring. Can I take my rubber ring to the pool? Ring all the adjectives on the page. Can you ring grandma and wish her a happy birthday?
rock	A type of music (adj). A solid object found in the ground (n). Move from side to side (v).	We're off to a rock concert tonight. Rocks are falling off the cliffs. Be careful! If you rock the baby, she'll fall asleep.
rose	A flower (n). Past simple of `rise` (v).	I got a dozen red roses for my birthday. The crowd rose to their feet and applauded the team.
ruler	A leader who governs others (n). A stick of measurement (n).	He was the ruler of the country for 40 years. Take your rulers and cut your ribbon into 10cm lengths.
saw	A tool for cutting wood or metal (n). The past simple of `see` (v).	I need a bigger saw to cut the beams. We saw a ghost last night.
scale	The hard plates on the skin of a fish (n). A tool for weighing (n). Climb up or over something (v).	Remove the scales before you fry the fish. Use the scales to weigh the flour, don't just guess. The crook scaled the wall to escape from the police.
sign	An indication (n). A board giving detail (n). To write one's name (v).	It's thundering, I think it's a sign we shouldn't go into the forest. The sign says they are closed today. Sign your name in the box at the bottom.
ship	A large boat (n). To transport goods/people on a ship (v).	Our cruise ship is massive, it has 3 pools. The cost to ship the car is £950.
sink	The basin with a tap in the bathroom (n). To go below the surface (v).	Your toothbrush is in the cup by the sink. You wear a lifejacket to stop you sinking.
spring	A season (n). To move suddenly (v).	Spring is just around the corner. The cheetah sprang up and chased the hare.

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tie	Cord used for fastening (n). A draw in sport (n). To fasten using string/cord (v).	I have a black-tie ball tonight. The scores are tied with 3 minutes to go. Tie your shoelaces or you'll trip over.
trip	A day out/holiday for pleasure (n). To stumble/fall (v).	Give Cleo £10 for the school trip please. I tripped over my skirt and fractured my shoulder.
trunk	The main body of a tree (n). The long nose of an elephant (n). The back storage area of a car (n).	That tree trunk is huge, it must be 100 years old. The baby elephant got his trunk caught in a tree. You can put all your luggage in the trunk.
watch	A thing you wear to tell the time (n). To look at with concentration (v).	My watch is 5 minutes slow. Watch closely and you'll see the tadpoles moving.
wave	Movement in the ocean (n). To gesture hello or goodbye using your hands (v).	The waves are huge today, I don't think I'll surf. My little brother loves waving at trains.
well	In good health (adj). In a satisfactory way (adv). To express emotion (exclamation). An underground source of water (n). Liquid rising and spilling (v).	I don't feel well today. The whole class scored well on the test. Well, he has shown his true colours! The well is dry, we've had no rain for months. Her eyes welled up with tears after getting her results.