

bang²

S3

verb

- 1** KNOCK/HIT SOMETHING[intransitive and transitive] HIT to hit something hard, making a loud noise:

bang on

Stop banging on the door!

bang your fist/hand on something

She banged her fist on the table.

The baby kept banging the table with his spoon.

- 2** KNOCK/HIT SOMETHING[transitive] HIT to put something down or against something with a lot of force, making a loud noise:

bang something down

She banged the phone down.

bang something on/against something

He banged a teapot on the table.

- 3** CLOSE SOMETHING[intransitive always + adverb/preposition, transitive] SHUT/CLOSE to close something violently, making a loud noise, or to be closed in this way

SYN slam

I ran out, banging the door behind me.

*The window **banged shut**.*

- 4** HIT SOMETHING[transitive] HIT/BUMP INTO to hit a part of your body, or something you are carrying, against something by accident

SYN bump:

bang something on something

I fell and banged my head on the pavement.

- 5** MAKE NOISE[intransitive] SOUND to make a loud noise or loud noises:

The gate keeps banging in the wind.

6 HAVE SEX[transitive] (not polite) SEX/HAVE SEX WITH to have sex with someone

→ **bang the drum for somebody/something** AT DRUM¹ (4) ,

→ **bang somebody's heads together** AT HEAD¹ (32) ,

→ **be (like) banging your head against a brick wall** AT HEAD¹ (31)

bang about/ around

phrasal verb

to move around a place, making a lot of noise:

We could hear them banging about upstairs.

bang on

phrasal verb

(BrE)

TALK TO SOMEBODY (informal) to talk continuously about something in a boring way

SYN go on:

bang on about

I wish he wouldn't keep banging on about politics.

bang something ↔ out

phrasal verb

(informal)

1 to play a tune or song loudly and badly on a piano

2 WRITE to write something in a hurry, especially using a KEYBOARD

bang somebody/ something ↔ up

phrasal verb

(informal)

1 (BrE) to put someone in prison

2 DAMAGE (AmE) to seriously damage something:

a banged-up old Buick

Word origin

Date: 1500–1600

Origin: Probably from a Scandinavian language

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