

ac·cuse W3

/ə'kju:z/

verb [transitive]

ACCUSE to say that you believe someone is guilty of a crime or of doing something bad:

accuse somebody of (doing) something

He was accused of murder.

Smith accused her of lying.

*The professor **stands accused of** (= has been accused of) stealing his student's ideas and publishing them.*

— **accuser** **noun** [countable]

THESAURUS

accuse to say that you believe that someone is guilty of a crime or of doing something bad: *Two women have been accused of kidnapping a newborn baby. | Are you accusing me of lying?*

allege /ə'ledʒ/ to accuse someone of doing something, although this has not been proved: *He alleged that the other man had attacked him first.*

charge if the police charge someone, they officially tell that person that they are believed to be guilty of a crime and that they must go to court: *She was charged with murder.*

indict (**AmE**) (**law**) to officially accuse someone of a crime so that they will be judged in court under the American legal system: *He was indicted on charges of fraud.*

Word origin

Date: 1400–1500

Language: Old French

Origin: *acuser*, from Latin *accusare* 'to call someone to explain their actions', from *ad-* 'to' + *causa* 'lawsuit, cause'

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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