

**bank**<sup>1</sup>

S1 W1

/bæŋk/

**noun** [countable]

**1** MONEY **place for money**

**a)** **clouds/mist**

a business that keeps and lends money and provides other financial services:

**in the bank**

*We have very little money in the bank.*

*Barclays Bank*

*a **bank loan***

**b)**

a local office of a bank:

*I have to **go to the bank** at lunch time.*

→ CLEARING BANK,  
MERCHANT BANK

**2** RIVER/LAKE **river/lake** land along the side of a river or lake:

**bank of**

*the banks of the River Dee*

*the river bank*

**3** **blood/sperm/organ bank**

a place where human blood etc is stored until someone needs it

**4** a large mass of clouds, mist etc:

*a **fog bank***

**bank of**

*banks of mist*

**5** PILE **raised area** a large sloping mass of earth, sand, snow etc:

*She was sitting on a grassy bank.*

## bank of

*steep banks of snow*

*banks of flowers*

- 6 **machines** LINE a large number of machines, television screens etc arranged close together in a row:

## bank of

*banks of TV monitors*

- 7 **game** GAME a supply of money used to GAMBLE, that people can win

→ **break the bank** AT BREAK<sup>1</sup> (24)

- 8 **be makin' bank** (*AmE*) (spoken informal)

to earn a lot of money for the work that you do:

*Check out Omar's new car. The brother must be makin' bank.*

- 9 **road** ROAD a slope made at a bend in a road or RACETRACK to make it safer for cars to go around

→ BOTTLE BANK,

FOOD BANK,

MEMORY BANK

## COLLOCATIONSense 1 verbs

go to the bank *I went to the bank and took out \$80.*

borrow from a bank *You may be able to borrow some money from the bank.*

a bank lends something *The bank lent me £10,000 to help me start the business.*

## bank + NOUN

a bank account *How much do you have in your bank account at the moment?*

your bank balance (= the actual amount that you have in your bank account) *I'm just going to check my bank balance online.*

a bank card *You can withdraw money using your bank card.*

bank charges *Will I have to pay bank charges on this account?*

a bank clerk (= a junior worker in a bank) *He began his career as a bank clerk.*

a bank loan *What's the interest rate on your bank loan?*

a bank note (= a piece of paper money) *a \$10 bank note*

a bank statement (= a written statement of how much you have in a bank account) *I get a written bank statement once a month.*

a bank manager *Could I make an appointment with the bank manager, please?*

a bank robber/ robbery *The bank robbers were never caught.*

## **types of bank**

a high street bank (= one of the ordinary banks that most people use) *There's a lot of competition between the major high street banks.*

a commercial bank (= an ordinary bank, or one that deals with large businesses) *the role of UK commercial banks in the debt crisis*

an investment/ merchant bank (= one that buys and sells stocks and shares etc) *Goldman Sachs, the US investment bank*

a savings bank (= a bank that accepts your savings and provides mortgages)

a clearing bank (= one of the banks in Britain that uses a clearing house when dealing with other banks) *large commercial customers of the clearing banks*

a central bank (= the main financial authority in a country) *The Bundesbank is the central bank of Germany.*

the World Bank (= an international organization providing

financial help to developing countries) *The road building was funded by the World Bank.*

### Word origin

Sense 1,3,7:

**Date:** 1400–1500

**Language:** French

**Origin:** *banque*, from Old Italian *banca* 'long seat, bank'

Sense 2,4,6,8:

**Date:** 1100–1200

**Origin:** Probably from a Scandinavian language.

Sense 5:

**Date:** 1200–1300

**Language:** Old French

**Origin:** *banc* 'long seat'

## bank<sup>2</sup>

verb

**1** MONEY | **money**

**a)** [transitive]

to put or keep money in a bank:

*Did you bank that check?*

**b)** [intransitive always + adverb/preposition]

to keep your money in a particular bank:

**bank with**

*Who do you bank with?*

**bank at**

*I've always banked at First Interstate.*

**2** TURN | **plane** [intransitive] if a plane banks, it slopes to one side when turning:

*The plane banked, and circled back toward us.*

**3** PILE/ROWS **pile/rows** (also **bank up**) [transitive] **(BrE)** LINE to arrange something into a pile or into rows:

*Snow was banked up on either side of the road.*

**4** CLOUD/MIST **cloud/mist** (also **bank up**) [transitive] to form a mass of cloud, mist etc:

*Banked clouds promised rain.*

**5** FIRE **fire** (also **bank up**) [transitive] BURN to cover a fire with wood or coal to keep it going for a long time:

*Josie banked up the fire to last till morning.*

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## **bank on** somebody/ something

phrasal verb

DEPEND ON/RELY ON to depend on something happening or someone doing something

**SYN** count on:

**bank on (somebody) doing something**

*I was banking on being able to get some coffee on the train.*

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*Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*

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