

bench¹

S2 W3

/bentʃ/

noun

- 1** SEAT **outdoor seat** [countable] a long seat for two or more people, especially outdoors:

We sat on a park bench.

- 2** COURT **in a law court the bench**

a)

the seat where a judge or MAGISTRATE sits in a court of law:

Would the prisoner please approach the bench?

b)

the position of being a judge or MAGISTRATE in a court of law:

He was appointed to the bench last year.

sit/serve on the bench (= work as a judge or MAGISTRATE)

- 3** SPORT **sports the bench**

the seat where members of a sports team sit when they are not playing in the game:

*Batts and Dorigo are **on the bench** tonight.*

*Simpson **came off the bench** to play in midfield.*

- 4** POLITICS **parliament benches** [plural] (BrE)

the seats in the British parliament where members of a particular party sit:

There was cheering from the Conservative benches.

→ BACKBENCH,
BACKBENCHES,
FRONT BENCH

- 5** TABLE **table** [countable] WORK/DO WORK a long heavy table used for working on with tools or equipment:

a carpenter's bench

Word origin

Language: Old English

Origin: *benc*

bench²

verb

[transitive]

(*AmE*) to not allow a sports player to play in a game, or to remove them from a game:

Anderson has been benched until his injury has healed.

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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