

ac·knowl·edge

S3 W3 AC

/ək'noʊlɪdʒ \$ -'nɑ:-/

verb [transitive]

- 1 **admit** to admit or accept that something is true or that a situation exists:

The family acknowledge the need for change.

acknowledge that

He acknowledges that when he's tired he gets bad-tempered.

Claire acknowledged that she was guilty.

The government must acknowledge what is happening and do something about it.

'Maybe you are right,' she acknowledged.

*This is a fact that most smokers **readily acknowledge**.*

- 2 **recognize something's importance** [usually passive] THINK/HAVE THE OPINION THAT if people acknowledge something, they recognize how good or important it is:

acknowledge something as something

The film festival is acknowledged as an event of international importance.

be widely/generally acknowledged to be something

The mill produces what is widely acknowledged to be the finest wool in the world.

- 3 **accept somebody's authority** ACCEPT to accept that someone or something has authority over people:

Both defendants refused to acknowledge the authority of the court.

acknowledge somebody as something

Many of the poor acknowledged him as their spiritual leader.

- 4 **thank** THANK to publicly announce that you are grateful for the help that someone has given you:

We wish to acknowledge the support of the university.

- 5 **show you notice somebody** IGNORE to show someone that you have noticed them or heard what they have said:

Tom acknowledged her presence by a brief glance.

- 6 **say you have received something** ANSWER/REPLY to let someone know that you have received something from them:

*I would be grateful if you would **acknowledge receipt** of this letter.*

Word origin

Date: 1400–1500

Origin: *ac-* (as in *accord*) + *knowledge*

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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