

bounce¹ S3

/baʊns/

verb

- 1** MOVE FROM A SURFACE **ball/object** [intransitive and transitive] HIT/BUMP INTO if a ball or other object bounces, or you bounce it, it immediately moves up or away from a surface after hitting it:

bounce off

The ball bounced off the post and into the goal.

bounce something on/against etc something

The kids were bouncing a ball against the wall.

- 2** MOVE UP AND DOWN **jump up and down** [intransitive] JUMP to move up and down, especially because you are hitting a surface that is made of rubber, has springs etc:

bounce on

Lyn was bouncing on the trampoline.

*Stop **bouncing up and down** on the sofa.*

- 3** CHEQUE **cheque** [intransitive and transitive] if a cheque bounces, or if a bank bounces a cheque, the bank will not pay any money because there is not enough money in the account of the person who wrote it

- 4** **walk** WALK [intransitive always + adverb/preposition] WALK to walk quickly and with a lot of energy:

Olivia came bouncing into the room.

- 5** WHEN YOU MOVE **something moves up and down** [intransitive] MOVE/CHANGE POSITION if something bounces, it moves quickly up and down as you move:

Her hair bounced when she walked.

- 6** LIGHT/SOUND **light/sound** [intransitive and transitive] REFLECT if light or sound bounces, it hits a surface and then moves quickly away from it:

bounce (something) off something

The radio signals are bounced off a satellite.

- 7** **email** (also **bounce back**) [intransitive and transitive] if an email that you send bounces or is bounced, it is returned to you and the other person does not

receive it because of a technical problem

8 bounce ideas off somebody

to talk about your ideas with someone in order to get their opinion:

When you work in a team you can bounce your ideas off each other.

9 force somebody to leave [transitive] (informal) to force someone to leave a place, job, or organization, especially because they have done something wrong:

bounce somebody from something

Taylor was bounced from the team for assaulting another player.

bounce something ↔ around

phrasal verb
(informal)

to discuss ideas with other people:

I wanted to have a meeting so that we could bounce a few ideas around.

bounce back

phrasal verb

1 RECOVER/GET BETTER to feel better quickly after being ill, or to become successful again after failing or having been defeated

SYN recover

The company's had a lot of problems in the past, but it's always managed to bounce back.

2 if an email that you send bounces back or is bounced back, it is returned to you and the other person does not receive it because of a technical problem

bounce somebody into something

phrasal verb
(BrE)

to force someone to decide to do something, especially without giving them time to consider it carefully:

bounce somebody into doing something

Party members feel that they were bounced into accepting the policy.

Word origin

Date: 1500–1600

Origin: *bounce* 'to hit' (13–19 centuries), probably from the sound

bounce²

noun

1 [countable] MOVE/CHANGE POSITION the action of moving up and down on a surface:

Try to catch the ball on the second bounce.

2 [uncountable] MOVE/CHANGE POSITION the ability to move up and down on a surface, or that surface's ability to make something move up and down:

The ball had completely lost its bounce.

a basketball court with good bounce

3 [singular, uncountable] ENERGETIC a lot of energy that someone has:

Exercise is great. I feel like there's a new bounce in my step.

4 [uncountable] hair that has bounce is in very good condition and goes back to its shape if you press it:

a brand-new styling spray that gives your hair body and bounce

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