

ap·prove

S3 W2

/ə'pru:v/

verb

1 [transitive] AGREE to officially accept a plan, proposal etc:

The conference approved a proposal for a referendum.

2 [intransitive] APPROVE to think that someone or something is good, right, or suitable

OPP

approve of

Catherine's parents now approve of her marriage.

I don't approve of cosmetic surgery.

THESAURUS Sense 1

approve to officially accept a plan, proposal etc: *The Medical Research Council has approved the use of a new drug for breast cancer.*

pass to approve a law or proposal, especially by voting: *Many anti-smoking laws have been passed.*

ratify to make a written agreement official by signing it: *The treaty was ratified by the Senate in 1988.*

rubber-stamp to approve something without really thinking about it – used to show disapproval: *Parliament merely rubber-stamped the president's decisions.*

Word origin

Date: 1300–1400

Language: Old French

Origin: *aprover*, from Latin *approbare*, from *ad-* 'to' + *probare* 'to prove'

