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collapse

/kəˈlæps/

verb

verb: **collapse**; 3rd person present: **collapses**; past tense: **collapsed**; past participle: **collapsed**; gerund or present participle: **collapsing**

1. (of a structure) fall down or in; give way.

"the roof collapsed on top of me"

Similar: cave in fall in subside fall down sag

- cause (something) to fall in or give way.
- (of a lung or blood vessel) become flat and empty with the walls fallen
- cause (a lung or blood vessel) to collapse.

2. (of a person) fall down and become unconscious, typically through illness or injury.

"he collapsed from loss of blood"

Similar: faint pass out black out lose consciousness

- sit or lie down as a result of tiredness or amusement.

3. (of an institution or undertaking) fail suddenly and completely.

"in the face of such resolve his opposition finally collapsed"

Similar: break down fail fall through fold found

- (of a price or currency) drop suddenly in value.
- 4. fold or be folded to fit into a small space.
- "some coats collapse down to fit into a bag"
- compress a displayed part of (a spreadsheet or other electronic

noun

noun: **collapse**; plural noun: **collapses**

an instance of a structure falling down or in.

"the collapse of a railroad bridge"

Similar: cave-in giving way subsidence crumbling

- a sudden failure of an institution or undertaking.
- "the collapse of the Ottoman Empire"

Similar: breakdown failure disintegration foundering

- a physical or mental breakdown.

"he suffered a collapse from overwork"

Similar: breakdown attack seizure prostration

Origin

110

ENGLISH
collapsed

MEDICAL LATIN

col-

lapsus

MEDICAL LATIN

collabi

MEDICAL LATIN

collapsus

collapse

early 17th century

early 17th century (as *collapsed*): from medical Latin *collapsus*, past

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Use over time for: collapse

110

1800

1850

1900

1950

2019

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