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Main definitions of **bank** in English: [bank¹](#) [bank²](#)

bank¹



Video: a look at bank

NOUN

- The land alongside or sloping down to a river or lake.
'willows lined the bank of the stream'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- A long, high mass or mound of a particular substance.
'a grassy bank'
'a bank of snow'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- An elevation in the seabed or a riverbed; a mudbank or sandbank.
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - A transverse slope given to a road, railway, or sports track to enable vehicles or runners to maintain speed round a curve.
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
 - [mass noun]* The sideways tilt of an aircraft when turning in flight.
'a rather steep angle of bank'
[+ More example sentences](#)
- A set of similar things, especially electrical or electronic devices, grouped together in rows.
'the DJ had big banks of lights and speakers on either side of his console'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- A tier of oars.
'the early ships had only twenty-five oars in each bank'
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - The cushion of a pool table.
[as modifier] 'a bank shot'
[+ More example sentences](#)

VERB

[WITH OBJECT]

- Heap (a substance) into a mass or mound.
'the rain banked the soil up behind the gate'
'snow was banked in humps at the roadside'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- [no object]* Form into a mass or mound.
'purple clouds banked up over the hills'
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - Heap up (a fire) with tightly packed fuel so that it burns slowly.
'she banked up the fire'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
 - Edge or surround with a ridge or row of something.
'steps banked with pots of chrysanthemums'
[+ More example sentences](#)
- (with reference to an aircraft or vehicle) tilt or cause to tilt sideways in making a turn.
[no object] 'the plane banked as if to return to the airport'
[with object] 'I banked the aircraft steeply and turned'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- [with object]* Build (a road, railway, or sports track) higher at the outer edge of a bend to facilitate fast cornering.
'the track was banked to allow a train to take curves faster while maintaining passenger comfort'
[as adjective banked] 'a banked racetrack'
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - (often as noun **banking**) *British* (of a locomotive) provide additional power for (a train) in ascending an incline.
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - (of an angler) succeed in landing (a fish)
'it was the biggest rainbow trout that had ever been banked'
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - North American* (in pool) play (a ball) so that it rebounds off a surface such as a cushion.
'I banked the eight ball off two cushions'
[+ More example sentences](#)

Origin

Middle English from Old Norse bakki, of Germanic origin; related to [bench](#). The senses 'set of things in rows' and 'tier of oars' are from French banc, of the same ultimate origin.

Pronunciation

bank /bæŋk/

Main definitions of **bank** in English: [bank¹](#) [bank²](#)

bank²



NOUN

- A financial establishment that uses money deposited by customers for investment, pays it out when required, makes loans at interest, and exchanges currency.
[as modifier] 'a bank account'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- A stock of something available for use when required.
'a blood bank'
'Britain has a bank of highly exportable skills'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
 - A site or receptacle where something may be deposited for recycling.
'a paper bank'
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - (the bank) The store of money or tokens held by the banker in some gambling or board games.
'If everyone has played and there is money in the bank, the banker deals a new hand in the opposite direction from the hand that has just ended.'
'The bank can also change hands after any hand if the existing banker wishes to sell the bank to another player at a mutually agreed price.'
 - The person holding the bank in some gambling or board games; the banker.
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - US informal [mass noun]* A large amount of money.
'those entrepreneurs are raking in some serious bank'
'the estate makes bank off the sale of merchandise'
[+ More example sentences](#)

VERB

- [with object]* Deposit (money or valuables) in a bank.
'she may have banked a cheque in the wrong account'
[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)
- [no object]* Have an account at a particular bank.
'the family has banked with Coutts for generations'
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - informal* Win or earn (a sum of money)
'he banked £100,000 for a hole-in-one'
[+ More example sentences](#)
 - Store (something, especially blood, tissue, or sperm) for future use.
'the sperm is banked or held in storage for the following spring'
[+ More example sentences](#)

Phrases

the Bank of Mum and Dad

British informal

(especially in the context of property purchase) a person's parents regarded as a source of financial assistance or support.

'they face a lifetime of renting unless the Bank of Mum and Dad is willing to help out'

[+ More example sentences](#)

break the bank

1 (in gambling) win more money than is held by the bank.

'winning the pools was the equivalent of breaking the bank at Monte Carlo'

[+ More example sentences](#)

1.1 *informal [usually with negative]* Cost more than one can afford.

'at £30, the shirts won't break the bank'

[+ More example sentences](#)

Phrasal Verbs

bank on

Rely on confidently.

'the prime minister cannot bank on their support'

[+ More example sentences](#)

Origin

Late 15th century (originally denoting a money dealer's table); from French banque or Italian banca, from medieval Latin banca, bancus, of Germanic origin; related to [bank](#) and [bench](#).

Pronunciation

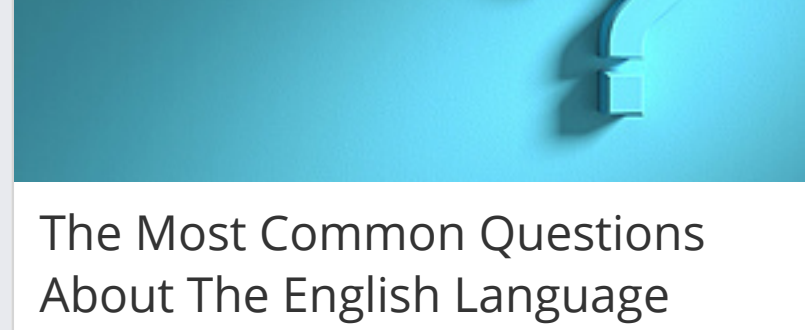
bank /bæŋk/

WORD OF THE DAY

jocular
ADJECTIVE



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What does the Australian term bonzer mean?

☐ a companion or friend

☐ a wild horse

☐ excellent

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Most popular in the world

1. adultery

2. dysmorphia

3. ramgoat

4. Ozymandias

5. Zelig-like

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