aback Apresyan (En-Ru)

[ə'bæk] *adv apx., мор.* назад

⊘ to hold oneself /to stand/ aback from - держаться на расстоянии от, держаться в стороне от, избегать taken aback - a) поражённый, ошеломлённый, захваченный врасплох; I was quite taken aback at their bad manners - я был неприятно поражён их невоспитанностью; б) мор. обстенённый (о парусах)

### aback

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

aback BrE [ə'bæk] \* NAmE [ə'bæk] \* adverb see also \* take somebody aback | Idiom: \* taken aback

### Word Origin:

[aback] Old English on bæc, from a- 'to, towards' and back. The term came to be treated as a single word in nautical use.

#### Synonyms:

## surprise

startle • amaze • stun • astonish • take sb aback • astound

These words all mean to make sb feel surprised.

**surprise** • to give sb the feeling that you get when sth happens that you do not expect or do not understand, or sth that you do expect does not happen; to make sb feel surprised: • The outcome didn't surprise me at all.

startle • to surprise sb suddenly in a way that slightly shocks or frightens them: ■ Sorry, I didn't mean to startle you. ♦ The explosion startled the horse.

amaze • to surprise sb very much: • Just the huge size of the place amazed her.

**stun** • (rather informal) (often in newspapers) to surprise or shock sb so much that they cannot think clearly or speak **astonish** • to surprise sb very much: • The news astonished everyone.

### amaze or astonish?

These two words have the same meaning and in most cases you can use either. If you are talking about sth that both surprises you and makes you feel ashamed, use **astonish**: • He was astonished by his own stupidity.

take sb aback • [usually passive] (especially of sth negative) to surprise or shock sb: • We were rather taken aback by her hostile reaction.

astound • to surprise or shock sb very much: • His arrogance astounded her.

It surprises sb/startles sb/amazes sb/stuns sb/astonishes sb/takes sb aback/astounds sb

to surprise/startle/amaze/stun/astonish/astound sb that...

to surprise/amaze sb what/how...

to surprise/startle/amaze/stun/astonish/astound sb to know/find/learn/see/hear...

to be surprised/startled/stunned into (doing) sth

# aback

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

a back /ə'bæk/ BrE AmE adverb

[Date: 1100-1200, Language: Old English; Origin: on bæc 'backward']

be taken aback (by something) to be very surprised or shocked by something:

For a moment, I was completely taken aback by her request.

aback Freakuency Pack

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