

I

1. [ki:] *n*
 - 1) 1) ключ (*от замка*)
safe key - ключ от сейфа
skeleton /false/ key - отмычка
key of the front door - ключ от парадного входа
to fit a key to a lock - подобрать ключ к замку
to put the key in the lock - вставить ключ в замок
 - 2) ключ (*для завода часового механизма, настройки муз. инструмента и т. п.*)
key of a clock - ключ от настенных часов
 - 3) гаечный ключ
 - 4) *эл.* ключ, кнопка, рычажный переключатель
 - 2) 1) ключ (*к упражнениям, переводам, решению задач и т. п.*); подстрочник
key to the Latin book - подстрочник к латинской книге
key of the cipher - ключ к шифру
key to abbreviations - расшифровка сокращений
 - 2) определитель (*растений, животных и т. п.*)
 - 3) ключ (*к решению, объяснению чего-л.*); разъяснение, разгадка
key to a mystery - разгадка тайны
key to a political situation - ключ к пониманию политической ситуации
key to smb.'s success - разгадка чьего-л. успеха
key to a riddle - ответ на загадку
it gives the key to his intentions - это даёт нам возможность понять его намерения
 - 3) 1) ключ, ключевая позиция (*обеспечивающая доступ, вход, господство и т. п.*)
key to the Mediterranean - ключ к Средиземному морю
to hold the key of smth. - держать что-л. под контролем, иметь полную власть над чем-л.
Calais served as a key to France - Кале служило входными воротами во Францию
 - 2) верный путь (*к чему-л.*), ключ
key to the heart - ключ /верный путь/ к сердцу
 - 4) *тех.* клин; шпонка; чека, засов
key groove /way, bed, seat/ - шпоночная канавка
 - 5) 1) *стр.* клинчатый кирпич
 - 2) *архит.* замок, ключ свода или арки
 - 6) *бот.* крылатка (*разновидность односемянки*)
 - 7) *амер. разг.* студент привилегированного университета (*по нагрудному значку в виде ключа*)
 - 8) *вчт.* клавиша
break key - клавиша прерывания
editing key - клавиша редактирования
◇ golden /silver/ key - взятка; подкуп
House of Keys - нижняя палата (*на острове Мэн*)
keys of Saint Peter - ключи св. Петра (*эмблема папской власти*)
the power of the keys - а) папская власть; б) право отпущения грехов
to deliver one's keys - сдаваться, признавать себя побеждённым
to give smb. the key of the street - выселить кого-л. из квартиры, выбросить на улицу, оставить без крова
to get /to have/ the key of the street - быть выставленным за дверь, остаться на ночь без крова
2. [ki:] *a*
 1. главный, основной, ведущий
key industries - ведущие отрасли промышленности
key man - незаменимый /ведущий/ работник специалист
key personnel - ведущие специалисты
key actor - *амер.* ведущий актёр
key issues - основные /жизненно важные/ вопросы
workers in key trades - рабочие ведущих профессий
 2. ключевой
key position - ключевая позиция
key point - тактически важный пункт, опорный пункт
key terrain - тактически важная местность
 3. *кино, фото* основной
key light - основной /направленный/ свет, ключевой свет
key drawing - основная фаза движения (*в мультфильме*)
key tone of a photograph - основная тональность фотоснимка
 4. *спец.* дескрипторный
key system - дескрипторная система
key file - картотека дескрипторов, дескрипторная картотека
 5. определяющий, опознавательный
key line - ключ к произношению и различным знакам (*приводится в конце страницы*)
3. [ki:] *v*
 1. запирать на ключ

2. использовать условные обозначения, значки, символы
instructions keyed to accompanying drawings - пояснения к чертежам, легенда
3. *тех.* заклинить, закрепить шпонкой
4. *радио, тел.* работать ключом

II

1. [ki:] *n*

- 1) клавиша; клапан (*духового инструмента*)
the keys of a pianoforte - клавиши фортепиано
- 2) *pl* клавиатура (*рояля, пишущей машинки и т. п.*)
a set of keys - клавиатура
to pound /to strike/ the keys of a typewriter - стучать на пишущей машинке
2. *муз.* ключ, тональность
major [minor] key - мажорная [минорная] тональность
key of C major - тональность до мажор
3. 1) тон речи
plaintive [sad, tender] key - жалобный [печальный, нежный] тон
all in the same key - монотонно
to speak in a high [low] key - говорить громко /возбуждённо/ [тихо /сдержанно/]
complain in every key - жаловаться на все лады
- 2) стиль речи
romantic key - романтический стиль
- 3) тон, оттенок (*цвета, краски*)
picture painted in a low key - картина, написанная в тёмных тонах
landscape in a light key - ландшафт светлой тональности
4. «ключ», тональность (*фотоснимка, кинокадра*)

2. [ki:] *v*

1. настраивать музыкальный инструмент (*тж.* key up)
2. приспособлять (*к чему-л.*); приводить в соответствие (*с чем-л.*)
to key smth. to smth. - приводить что-л в соответствие с чем-л.
remarks keyed to the situation - замечания, приличествующие данной ситуации
to key one's speech to the level of the audience - строить своё выступление в соответствии с уровнем аудитории
3. (on) *спорт.* присматривать за соответствующим номером команды противника; «опекать» (*противника; футбол, хоккей*)

II

[ki:] *n амер.*

островок, *особ.* коралловый риф (*у побережья Флориды и Вест-Индии*)

IV

[ki:] *n сл.*

килограмм (*особ.* марихуаны или героина)

key

key [key keys keyed keying] *noun, verb, adjective* BrE [ki:]^u NAmE [ki:]^u

noun

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.



TOOL FOR LOCK

1. a specially shaped piece of metal used for locking a door, starting a car, etc
- to **insert/turn the key** in the lock
 - the car keys
 - a bunch of keys
 - the spare key to the front door
 - We'll have a duplicate key cut (= made) .
 - There's a special key for winding up this clock .

MOST IMPORTANT THING

2. *usually singular* a thing that makes you able to understand or achieve sth

Syn: †secret

- ~ **(to sth)** The key to success is preparation.
- ~ **(to doing sth)** The driver of the car probably holds the key to solving the crime.
- (*especially NAmE*) **The key is** , how long can the federal government control the inflation rate?

ON COMPUTER

3. any of the buttons that you press to operate a computer or †typewriter

- Press the return key to enter the information.

ON MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

4. any of the wooden or metal parts that you press to play a piano and some other musical instruments

MUSIC

5. a set of related notes, based on a particular note. Pieces of music are usually written mainly using a particular **key**
 - a sonata in the key of E flat major
 - This piece changes key many times.

compare ↑**scale** *n.* (7)

ANSWERS

6. a set of answers to exercises or problems
 - Check your answers in the key at the back of the book.

ON MAP

7. an explanation of the symbols used on a map or plan

see also ↑**low-key**, **see** under **lock** and **key** **at** ↑**lock** *n.*

Word Origin:

Old English *cæ*g, *cæ*ge, of unknown origin.

Thesaurus:

key *noun*

1. **C**, usually **sing.**

- The key to success is preparation.

answer • • **solution** •

the key/answer/solution **to** sth

look for/find/provide/offer the key/an answer/a solution

2. **C**

- Press the return key.

button • • **switch** • • **control** •

a key/button/switch **on** sth

a **control** key/button/switch

press/hit a key/button/switch

Example Bank:

- Can we try it in a lower key?
- F1 is the short-cut key for calling up help.
- First-time voters could hold the key to the election result.
- He fished a ring of keys out of his pocket.
- Hold down the Alt key while pressing the arrow keys.
- I slid the key into the lock and went in.
- I'd accidentally locked the keys in my car.
- I'll get another key cut so that you can have one.
- Language is the key to understanding those around you.
- Robbie didn't have a key for these doors.
- She hides a front door key in a flowerpot.
- She left a key with the neighbours/neighbors.
- She must have used a key to get in.
- The key changes from C major to A minor.
- The key tells you what all the symbols mean.
- The piece changes key in the middle.
- The sound of keys jangling caught her attention.
- There are two sharps in the key signature of D major.
- They heard a key turn in the back door lock.
- What key is it in?
- You can find the symbols in the key at the bottom of the page.
- You have to close it with the key.
- You need a key to open the garage.
- a large bunch of keys
- a set of car keys
- the key of G major
- the key to the front door
- the key to the signs and symbols
- the top row of keys
- His hands flew over the piano keys and beautiful sounds filled the theatre.
- The key is, how long can the federal government control the inflation rate?
- The sonata was written in the key of E flat major.

Derived †key somebody to something

verb

1. ~ sth (in) | ~ sth (into sth) to put information into a computer using a keyboard

Syn: †enter

• Key (in) your password.

2. to deliberately damage a car by scratching it with a key

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we /they	key
	BrE /ki:/
	NAme /ki:/
he / she /it	keys
	BrE /ki:z/
	NAme /ki:z/
past simple, past participle	keyed
	BrE /ki:d/
	NAme /ki:d/
-ing form	keying
	BrE /ki:ɪŋ/
	NAme /ki:ɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Old English cæg, cæge, of unknown origin.

adjective usually before noun

most important; essential

Syn: †critical, **Syn:** †vital

• the **key issue/factor/point**

• He was a **key figure** in the campaign.

• She played a **key role** in the dispute.

• 'Caution' is the **key word** in this situation.

• Good communication is key to our success.

• His contribution could be key.

Word Origin:

Old English cæg, cæge, of unknown origin.

Thesaurus:

key *adj.* usually before noun

• The key issue is taxation.

main • **major** • **essential** • **central** • **principal** • **prime** • **primary** • **chief** • **predominant** • |informal number one •

Opp: secondary

be key/essential/central to sth

the key/main/major/essential/central/principal/prime/primary/chief/predominant **purpose/source/factor**

the key/main/major/essential/central/principal/prime/primary/chief **aim/function/objective/task/consideration**

Synonyms:

main

major • **key** • **central** • **principal** • **chief** • **prime**

These words all describe sb/sth that is the largest or most important of its kind.

main • [only before noun] largest or most important: ▪ Be careful crossing the main road. ◇ The main thing is to remain calm.

major • [usually before noun] very large or important: ▪ He played a major role in setting up the system.

Major is most often used after a with a singular noun, or no article with a plural noun. When it is used with **the** or **my/your/his/her/our/their** it means 'the largest or most important': ▪ Our major concern here is combatting poverty. In this meaning it is only used to talk about ideas or worries that people have, not physical things, and it is also more formal than **main**: Be careful crossing the major road. ◇The major thing is to remain calm.

key • [usually before noun] most important; essential: ▪ He was a key figure in the campaign.

Key is used most frequently in business and political contexts. It can be used to talk about ideas, or the part that sb plays in a situation, but not physical things. It is slightly more informal than **major**, especially when used after a noun and linking verb ▪ Speed is key at this point.

central • (rather formal) most important: ▪ The central issue is that of widespread racism.

Central is used in a similar way to **key**, but is more formal. It is most frequently used in the phrase **sth is central to sth else**.

principal • [only before noun] (rather formal) most important: ▪ The principal reason for this omission is lack of time.

Principal is mostly used for statements of fact about which there can be no argument. To state an opinion, or to try to persuade sb of the facts as you see them, it is more usual to use **key** or **central**: ▪ The key/central issue here is...

chief • [only before noun] (rather formal) most important: ▪ Unemployment was the chief cause of poverty.

prime • [only before noun] (rather formal) most important; to be considered first: ▪ My prime concern is to protect my property.

a/the main/major/key/central/principal/chief/prime **aim/concern**

a/the main/major/principal **road/town/city**

the main/key thing is to...

to be of major/key/central/prime importance

Example Bank:

- Attitude is a key concept in social psychology.
- Our commitment to high quality standards is key to maintaining our reputation.
- Speed is key at this point.
- The key issue here is taxation.

key

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. key¹ S3 W2 /ki/ BrE^ˈ AmE^ˈ adjective [no comparative]

very important or necessary:

China's support is key to the success of the coalition.

key factor/points/questions etc

The President makes all the key decisions on foreign policy.

key role/player/figure etc (=one with a lot of influence on a result)

The show has been hit by the departure of key personnel.

⇒ ↑low-key

• • •

COLLOCATIONS

nouns

- a key factor (=a very important factor) A key factor in starting any business is its location.
- a key element/feature/component (=a very important part) Advertising is a key element in the success of a product.
- a key role Sanders played a key role in the team's winning season.
- a key area What are the key areas of economic policy?
- a key issue/question/point The environment became a key issue during the election.
- a key figure (=a key person) She was a key figure in the election campaign.
- a key player He won't leave key players out of the team.
- a key witness (=someone who can give important information about a crime) She will be a key witness in the murder trial.
- a key decision Women made most of the key decisions about how money was spent in the household.
- a key word (=an important or useful word) Once you know the key words, you can make your own sentence.

II. key² S2 W2 BrE^ˈ AmE^ˈ noun [countable]

[Language: Old English; Origin: cæg]



1. LOCK a small specially shaped piece of metal that you put into a lock and turn in order to lock or unlock a door, start a car etc

house/car keys

I lost my house keys.

A bunch of keys hung from his belt.

key to

I can lend you a spare key to the store until you get one cut (=made).

▶ Do not say 'the key of' something. Say **the key to** something. ⇒ ↑master key

2. IMPORTANT PART the key the part of a plan, action etc that will make it possible for it to succeed

the key to

Working well as a team is the key to success.

a discovery that may hold the key to our understanding of the universe

3. COMPUTER the buttons that you press on a computer ↑keyboard to operate the computer:

Press the 'Escape' key to exit.

hot key/shortcut key (=a special key on a computer, that does specific things)

4. MUSIC

a) [usually plural] the wooden or metal parts that you press on a piano and some wind instruments in order to play them:
piano keys

b) a scale of notes that begins with one particular note, or the quality of sound this scale has:
a tune in the key of A minor

5. MAP/DRAWING a list of the signs, colours etc used on a map or technical drawing etc that explains what they mean

6. TEST the printed answers to a test or set of questions in a book

7. ISLAND [usually plural] a small flat island, especially one that is part of a group near the coast:

the Florida Keys

COLLOCATIONS

ADJECTIVES/NOUN + key

- **a spare key** (=an extra key) Never hide your spare key under the doormat.
- **door key** I'll get a new door key cut for you.
- **car keys** She left her car keys on the hall table.
- **house keys** I've lost my house keys.
- **the front/back door key** She felt in her pocket for the front door key.
- **the ignition key** (=the key that starts a car or engine) Sam turned the ignition key and drove slowly away.

phrases

- **a bunch/set of keys** (=a group of keys kept together) He took out a huge bunch of keys and unlocked the door.
- **the key to a door/house/cupboard** (=the key that opens a door/house/cupboard) Has anyone seen the key to the garage door?

verbs

- **put a key in a lock/the door** I put the key in the lock, but it wouldn't turn.
- **insert a key** *formal* (=put it in a lock) She inserted the key into the lock.
- **turn a key** He climbed into his car and turned the key.
- **cut a key** (=make one) Could you get a key cut for me?
- **jangle your keys** (=move them so they make a ringing sound) He walked off down the corridor, jangling his keys.
- **a key unlocks/opens something** The largest key unlocks the front door.
- **a key turns** We heard the key turn in the lock.

III. key³ BrE² AmE² verb [transitive]

1. **American English informal** if you key a win for your team, you help it win a game because you play very well:
▪ Abdul keyed the game with three touchdowns.

2. **British English** to prepare a surface so that a covering such as paint will stick to it

key something ↔ in phrasal verb

to put information into a computer or other machine, using buttons or a keyboard:

▪ Key in your password and press 'Return'.

key something to something phrasal verb American English

1. to make or change a system so that it works well with something else:

▪ The daycare hours are keyed to the needs of working parents.

2. if the level, price, or value of something is keyed to something else, it is related to it and they rise and fall at the same time:

▪ Pensions are keyed to the rate of inflation.

⇒ †keyed up

key

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1244**^{MCW}

15000 **709**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k** **KEY** 67918

key 57969

keys 9217

keyed 582

keying 150

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

23989 **1065**³⁸¹¹⁸ *jj*

12608 **2372**¹⁸⁰⁰⁸ *nn1*

484 **19747**¹¹¹⁶ *np1*

404 **35078**⁴²³ *vvi*

284 **43102**²⁹³ *vv0*

10 **247186**¹¹ *nnu*