

# cling

[kɪŋ] *v* (*clung*)

1. (*обыкн.* to)

1) прилипать; цепляться; держаться

- mud clings to the boots - грязь прилипает к ботинкам
- wet clothes cling to the body - мокрая одежда липнет к телу
- the child clung to its mother's hand - ребёнок цеплялся за руку матери
- the odour clung to the room for hours - запах держался в комнате ещё несколько часов
- the ship clung to the coast - судно держалось берега
- heavy clouds clung to the mountains - тяжёлые тучи нависли над горами
- to cling to the saddle - *спорт.* сливаться с седлом /с лошастью/

2) оставаться верным (*друзьям, дому, воспоминаниям и т. п.*)

- the society to which she clung - общество, с которым она не хотела порывать
- she clung to the hope that her son was not dead - она никак не могла оставить надежду, что её сын жив
- to cling tenaciously to one's arguments - упорно придерживаться своей аргументации

2. облегать (*о платье*)

- ◇ to cling like grim death - отчаянно цепляться, хвататься; вцепиться мёртвой хваткой

# cling

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**cling** [cling clings clung clinging] *BrE* [kɪŋ] <sup>m</sup> *NAmE* [kɪŋ] <sup>m</sup> **verb** (**clung**,

**clung** *BrE* [kɪŋ] <sup>m</sup> ; *NAmE* [kɪŋ] <sup>m</sup> )

1. **intransitive** to hold on tightly to sb/sth

- ~ **to sb/sth** survivors clinging to a raft
- Leaves still clung to the branches.
- ~ **on to sb/sth** She clung on to her baby.
- ~ **on** Cling on tight!
- ~ **together** They clung together, shivering with cold.

2. **intransitive** to stick to sth

- a dress that clings (= fits closely and shows the shape of your body)
- ~ **to sth** The wet shirt clung to his chest.
- The smell of smoke still clung to her clothes.
- Her hair clung to her hot damp skin.

3. **intransitive** ~ (**to sb**) (*usually disapproving*) to stay close to sb, especially because you need them emotionally

- After her mother's death, Sara clung to her aunt more than ever.

Derived ↑cling on to something ▫ ↑cling to something

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	cling
	<i>BrE</i> /kɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kɪŋ/
he / she / it	clings
	<i>BrE</i> /kɪŋz/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kɪŋz/
past simple, past participle	clung
	<i>BrE</i> /kɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kɪŋ/
-ing form	clinging
	<i>BrE</i> /'kɪŋɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /'kɪŋɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Old English clingan 'stick together', of Germanic origin; related to Middle Dutch *klingen* 'adhere', Middle High German *klingen* 'climb', also to ↑clench.

Synonyms:

**hold**

hold on • cling • clutch • grip • grasp • clasp • hang on

These words all mean to have sb/sth in your hands or arms.

**hold** • to have sb/sth in your hand or arms: ▫ She was holding a large box. ◇ ▫ I held the baby gently in my arms.

**hold on (to sb/sth)** • to continue to hold sb/sth; to put your hand on sb/sth and not take your hand away: ▫ Hold on and don't let go until I say so.

**cling** • to hold on to sb/sth tightly, especially with your whole body: ▫ Survivors ▫ clung to ▫ pieces of floating debris.

**clutch** • to hold sb/sth tightly, especially in your hand; to take hold of sth suddenly: ▫ She stood there, the flowers still clutched in her hand. ◇ ▫ He felt himself slipping and ▫ clutched at ▫ a branch.

**grip** • to hold on to sth very tightly with your hand: ▫ Grip the rope as tightly as you can.

**grasp** • to take hold of sth firmly: ▫ He grasped my hand and shook it warmly.

The object of **grasp** is often sb's **hand** or **wrist**.

**clasp** • (*formal*) to hold sb/sth tightly in your hand or in your arms: ▫ They clasped hands ▫ (= held each other's hands) ▫. ◇ ▫ She clasped the children in her arms.

The object of **clasp** is often your **hands**, sb else's **hand** or another person.

**hang on (to sth)** • to hold on to sth very tightly, especially in order to support yourself or stop yourself from falling: ▪ Hang on tight. We're off!  
 to hold/clutch/grip/clasp sth **in your hand/hands**  
 to hold/catch/clasp sb/sth **in your arms**  
 to hold/clutch/grip/grasp/clasp/hang **on to** sth  
 to hold/cling/hang **on**  
 to hold/clutch/clasp sb/sth **to** you  
 to hold/hold on to/cling to/clutch/grip/grasp/clasp/hang on to sb/sth **tightly**  
 to hold/hold on to/cling to/clutch/grip/grasp/clasp sb/sth **firmly**  
 to hold/hold on to/clutch/grip/clasp/hang on to sb/sth **tight**

Example Bank:

- He lay there, barely clinging to consciousness.
- He still clings stubbornly to his socialist ideas.
- I clung closely to my mother's arm.
- She clung fiercely to him.
- She clung onto my arm.
- She was desperately clinging on to life.
- The children clung together in fear.
- The ground mist clung closely to the bushes.
- houses clinging precariously to sheer cliffs
- She clung tightly to her baby.
- Survivors clung to pieces of floating debris.

**cling**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**cling** /kɪŋ/ *BrE* " *AmE* " *verb* (past tense and past participle **clung** /kɪŋ/) [intransitive]

[Language: Old English; Origin: clingan]

1. [always + adverb/preposition] to hold someone or something tightly, especially because you do not feel safe

**cling to/on/at etc**

- " He wailed and clung to his mother.
- " Passengers clung desperately on to the lifeboats.

2. [always + adverb/preposition] to stick to someone or something, or seem to surround them

**cling to/around etc**

- " His wet shirt clung to his body.
- " The smell of cigarette smoke clung to her clothes.

3. to stay close to someone all the time because you are too dependent on them or do not feel safe – used to show disapproval:

- " Some children tend to cling on their first day at school.

**cling on** *phrasal verb*

to continue trying to stay in power, in business etc:

- " Other businesses cling on and hope.

**cling to something** (also **cling on to something**) *phrasal verb*

1. to continue to believe or do something, even though it may not be true or useful any longer

**cling to the hope/belief/idea etc (that)**

- " He clung to the hope that she would be cured.

2. to stay in a position of power or stay ahead, when this is difficult, or to try to do this:

- " an attempt to cling to power

**cling**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3893**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **3566**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **4k CLING** <sup>6181</sup>

cling <sup>1458</sup>

clinging <sup>2136</sup>

clings <sup>577</sup>

clung <sup>2010</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

<sup>792</sup> **23366**<sup>848</sup> *vv0*

<sup>585</sup> **28412**<sup>610</sup> *vvi*