Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

burgle

bur·gle [burgle burgles burgled burgling] BrE ['b3] [NAmE ['b3] r] (BrE) (NAmE burg·lar·ize BrE ['b3] ləra[†]z ; NAmE ['b3] r ləra[†]z) verb~ sb/sth to enter a building illegally, usually using force, and steal from it

- We were burgled while we were away (= our house was burgled).
- · The house next door was burgled.
 - Verb forms: verb forms

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present simple	
I / you / we /they	burgle
	BrE / 'ba:gl/
	NAmE / bs:rgl/
he / she /it	burgles
	BrE / 'ba:glz/
	NAmE / bainglz/
past simple, past participle	burgled
	BrE / 'bə:gid/
	NAmE /'bs:rgld/
-ing form	burgling
	BrE / 'bə:glıŋ/
	NAmE / bs:rglm/

Word Origin:

late 19th cent.: originally a humorous and colloquial back-formation from [†]burglar.

Collocations:

Crime

Committing a crime

commit a crime/a murder/a violent assault/a brutal killing/an armed robbery/fraud be involved in terrorism/a suspected arson attack/people smuggling/human trafficking engage /participate in criminal activity/illegal practices/acts of mindless vandalism steal sb's wallet/purse/(BrE) mobile phone/(NAmE) cell phone **rob** a bank/a person/a tourist break into/ (BrE) burgle/ (NAmE) burglarize a house/a home/an apartment hijack a plane/ship/bus smuggle drugs/weapons/arms/immigrants launder drug money (through sth) forge documents/certificates/passports take/accept/pay sb/offer (sb) a bribe run a phishing/an email/an Internet scam Fighting crime combat/fight crime/terrorism/corruption/drug trafficking prevent/stop credit-card fraud/child abuse/software piracy deter/stop criminals/burglars/thieves/shoplifters/vandals reduce/tackle/crack down on knife/gun/violent/street crime; (especially BrE) antisocial behaviour foil a bank raid/a terrorist plot help/support/protect the victims of crime Investigating crime report a crime/a theft/a rape/an attack/(especially BrE) an incident to the police witness the crime/attack/murder/incident investigate a murder/(especially NAME) a homicide/a burglary/a robbery/the alleged incident conduct/launch/pursue an investigation (into...); (especially BrE) a police/murder inquiry investigate/reopen a criminal/murder case examine /investigate/find fingerprints at the crime scene/the scene of crime collect/gather forensic evidence uncover new evidence/a fraud/a scam/a plot/a conspiracy/political corruption/a cache of weapons describe/identify a suspect/the culprit/the perpetrator/the assailant/the attacker question/interrogate a suspect/witness solve/crack the case more collocations at *ijustice*

Example Bank:

· We were burgled while we were away.

to go into a building and steal things SYN burglarize American English:

We've been burgled three times.

. . .

THESAURUS

• steal to illegally take something that belongs to someone else: The thieves stole over £10,000 worth of computer equipment. | Thousands of cars get stolen every year.

• take to steal something – used when it is clear from the situation that you mean that someone takes something dishonestly: The boys broke into her house and took all her money. [They didn't take much – just a few items of jewellery.

• burgle British English, burglarize American English [usually passive] to go into someone's home and steal things, especially when the owners are not there: Their house was burgled while they were away. | If you leave windows open, you are asking to be burgled.

• rob to steal money or other things from a bank, shop, or person: The gang were convicted of robbing a bank in Essex. | An elderly woman was robbed at gunpoint in her own home. | He's serving a sentence for robbing a grocery store.

• mug to attack someone in the street and steal something from them: People in this area are frightened of being mugged when they go out. | Someone tried to mug me outside the station.

• nick/pinch British English informal to steal something: Someone's nicked my wallet! | When I came back, my car had been pinched.

• **embezzle** to steal money from the organization you work for, especially money that you are responsible for: Government officials embezzled more than \$2.5 million from the department.

 shoplifting stealing things from a shop by taking them when you think no one is looking: Shoplifting costs stores millions of pounds every year.

• phishing the activity of dishonestly persuading people to give you their credit card details over the Internet, so that you can steal money from their bank account: Phishing is becoming very popular with computer criminals.

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burgle

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