

**stark**1. [stɑ:k] *a*

- 1) 1) окостенелый, окостеневший
- 2) окоченевший, застывший; окоченелый, охладелый
2. 1) голый, нагой
- 2) голый, пустой; ничем не украшенный  
a stark room - комната почти без мебели, пустоватая комната
- 3) пустынный, бесплодный
3. *эмоц.-усил.* полный, полнейший; совершенный, совершеннейший, абсолютный  
stark nonsense [madness] - чистейший вздор [-ее безумие]  
stark fool - круглый дурак

4. *поэт.*

- 1) сильный, неистовый
- 2) твёрдый, непреклонный, стойкий
- 3) жёсткий, строгий  
stark discipline - жёсткая дисциплина  
the stark realities of life - суровая правда жизни

2. [stɑ:k] *adv*

1. *эмоц.-усил.* совершенно, абсолютно, полностью  
stark blind - совсем слепой  
stark mad - вне себя, в бешенстве  
he was once stark poor - он когда-то жил в нищете
2. = starkly

**stark**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**stark** [stɑ:k stɑ:k stɑ:k] *adjective, adverb* BrE [stɑ:k] *AmE* [stɑ:r] *AmE**adjective* (**stark-er, stark-est**)

1. (often disapproving) looking severe and without any colour or decoration
  - I think white would be too stark for the bedroom.
  - The hills stood stark against the winter sky.
2. unpleasant; real, and impossible to avoid  
**Syn:** †bleak
  - The author paints a stark picture of life in a prison camp.
  - a stark choice
  - The remains of the building stand as a stark reminder of the fire.
  - He now faces the **stark reality** of life in prison.
  - The stark fact is that even with more time, we still couldn't raise enough money.
3. very different to sth in a way that is easy to see  
**Syn:** †clear
  - stark differences
  - Social divisions in the city are stark.
  - The good weather was **in stark contrast to** the storms of previous weeks.
4. *only before noun* complete and total  
**Syn:** †utter
  - The children watched in stark terror.

Word Origin:Old English stearc 'unyielding, severe', of Germanic origin; related to Dutch **sterk** and German **stark** 'strong'.Synonyms:**plain**

simple • stark • bare • unequivocal

These words all describe statements, often about sth unpleasant, that are very clear, not trying to hide anything, and not using more words than necessary.

**plain** • used for talking about a fact that other people may not like to hear; honest and direct in way that other people may not like: ▪ The plain fact is that nobody really knows.

**simple** • [only before noun] used for talking about a fact that other people may not like to hear; very obvious and not complicated by anything else: ▪ The simple truth is that we just can't afford it.

**plain or simple?**

When it is being used to emphasize facts that other people may not like to hear, **plain** is usually used in the expression **the plain fact/truth is that...** **Simple** can be used in this way too, but it can also be used in a wider variety of structures and collocations (such as **reason** and **matter**): ▪ The problem was due to the simple fact that... ◇The problem was due to the plain fact that... ◇for the plain reason that... ◇It's a plain matter of... Expressions with **simple** often suggest impatience with other people's behaviour.

**stark** • (rather formal) used for describing an unpleasant fact or difference that is very obvious: ▪ The stark truth is that there is not enough money left.

The **simple/plain truth** may be sth that some people do not want to hear, but it may be good for them to hear it anyway. The **stark truth** is sth particularly unpleasant and has no good side to it at all.

**bare** • [only before noun] the most basic or simple, with nothing extra: ▪ She gave me only the bare facts of the case.

**unequivocal** • (formal) expressing your opinion or intention very clearly and firmly: ▪ The reply was an unequivocal 'no'.

the plain/simple/stark/bare/unequivocal **truth**

a(n) plain/simple/stark/bare/unequivocal **fact/statement**

a(n) plain/simple/unequivocal **answer**

Example Bank:

- The corridors were stark and uncarpeted.
- The décor was rather stark for my taste.
- The government faced a stark choice between civil war and martial law.
- The stark truth is that there is not enough money left.

Derived Words ↑starkly ▪ ↑starkness

**adverb** ~ **naked**

completely naked

**see** (stark) raving mad/bonkers **at** ↑raving

Word Origin:

Old English stearc 'unyielding, severe', of Germanic origin; related to Dutch **sterk** and German **stark** 'strong'.

**stark**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **stark**<sup>1</sup> /stɑ:k\$ stɑ:rk **BrE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **AmE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **adjective**

[Language: Old English; Origin: stearc 'stiff, strong']

1. very plain in appearance, with little or no colour or decoration:

- In the cold dawn light, the castle looked stark and forbidding.
- the stark beauty of New Mexico

2. unpleasantly clear and impossible to avoid **SYN** harsh:

- The movie shows the stark realities of life in the ghetto.
- The extreme poverty of the local people is in stark contrast to the wealth of the tourists.
- We are faced with a stark choice.
- a stark reminder of life under Communist rule

—**starkly** **adverb**

—**starkness** **noun** [uncountable]

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**THESAURUS**

- **plain** without anything added, or without decoration: a plain shirt | The fireplace was plain apart from a small design at the top.
- **simple** not having a lot of decoration or unnecessary things, but attractive: She was wearing a simple black dress. | The accommodation is simple but clean.
- **austere** very plain and with very little decoration, or very little in it – used about a room or place that does not make you feel welcome: He dreaded having dinner in that austere dining room. | The building was grey and a little austere. | the austere beauty and grandeur of mountain scenery
- **spartan** plain and without anything that would make life easier or more comfortable – used especially about rooms, conditions, or ways of living: Her apartment is quite spartan. | They had a very spartan life.
- **stark** very plain in a surprising way, with very little colour or decoration – used about rooms and places: Sam sat looking at the stark white walls. | It is a landscape of stark beauty.
- **bare** empty, or not covered by any decorations: Her office seemed very bare now that her desk had gone. | He was tired of looking at the bare walls of his prison cell.

II. **stark**<sup>2</sup> **BrE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **AmE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **adverb**

1. **stark naked** not wearing any clothes at all:

- Ben was standing there stark naked.

2. **stark raving mad/bonkers** (also **stark staring mad** *British English*) completely crazy:

- He's gone stark raving mad.

**stark**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **4596**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **4415**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **4k** **STARK** <sup>5606</sup>

stark <sup>4776</sup>

starker <sup>110</sup>

starkest <sup>68</sup>

starkness <sup>71</sup>

starkly <sup>581</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2813 **9957**<sup>3098</sup> **jj**

531 **16153**<sup>1520</sup> **np1**

152 **59856**<sup>158</sup> **rg**