

# obey

[ə(v)'beɪ] *v*

- 1) слушаться, повиноваться, подчиняться  
to obey orders - выполнять приказания  
to obey one's superiors - подчиняться старшим; слушаться старших  
listen and obey! - слушайте и повинуйтесь!
- 2) подчиняться; послушно выполнять (*обыкн. о неодушевл. предметах*)  
the car obeyed the slightest touch of the wheel - автомобиль послушно реагировал на малейшее прикосновение к рулю
2. руководствоваться (*чем-л.*), следовать; подчиняться (*чему-л.*)  
to obey the law - подчиняться закону  
to obey the rule - следовать правилу  
to obey common sense - руководствоваться здравым смыслом  
to obey an impulse - действовать под влиянием минутного порыва  
obey your conscience - делайте так, как вам подсказывает совесть
3. *мат.* удовлетворять условию *или* уравнению

# obey

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**obey** [obey obeys obeyed obeying] *BrE* [ə'beɪ] <sup>u</sup> *NAme* [ə'beɪ] <sup>u</sup> *verb*  
*transitive, intransitive* ~ (sb/sth)

- to do what you are told or expected to do
- to **obey a command/an order/rules/the law**
  - He had always obeyed his parents without question.
  - (*figurative*) I tried to run but my legs just wouldn't obey me.
  - 'Sit down!' Meekly, she obeyed.

**Opp:** ↑disobey

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we /they	obey
	<i>BrE</i> /ə'beɪ/
	<i>NAme</i> /ə'beɪ/
he / she /it	obeys
	<i>BrE</i> /ə'beɪz/
	<i>NAme</i> /ə'beɪz/
past simple, past participle	obeyed
	<i>BrE</i> /ə'beɪd/
	<i>NAme</i> /ə'beɪd/
-ing form	obeying
	<i>BrE</i> /ə'beɪɪŋ/
	<i>NAme</i> /ə'beɪɪŋ/

## Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French *obeir*, from Latin *oboedire*, from *ob-* 'in the direction of' + *audire* 'hear' .

## Thesaurus:

**obey** *verb* T, I

- He refuses to obey rules.

**follow** • • **respect** • • **carry sth out** • • **act on/upon sth** • • **comply** • |*formal* **abide by sth** • • **adhere to sth** • • **observe** •

**Opp:** disobey, **Opp:** break

obey/follow/respect/comply with/abide by/adhere to/observe **conventions/rules/regulations/law**

obey/follow/respect/comply with/abide by sb's **will/wishes**

obey/follow/carry out/act on **instructions/orders**

## Example Bank:

- He refuses to obey the rules.
- People have a moral duty to obey the law.
- Rules are rules and they must be obeyed.
- She was used to having her orders instantly obeyed.
- She's being punished for failure to obey a court order.

# obey

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**obey** /əʊ'beɪ, ə- \$ əʊ-, ə-/ *BrE* <sup>u</sup> *AmE* <sup>u</sup> *verb* [intransitive and transitive]

[**Word Family:** *verb*: ↑obey ≠ ↑disobey; *noun*: ↑obedience ≠ ↑disobedience; *adverb*: ↑obediently ≠ **DISOBEDIENTLY**; *adjective*: ↑obedient ≠ ↑disobedient]

[**Date:** 1200-1300; **Language:** Old French; **Origin:** obeir, from Latin oboedire, from audire 'to hear']

to do what someone in authority tells you to do, or what a law or rule says you must do **OPP** disobey:

- " The little boy made no effort to obey.
- " 'Sit!' he said, and the dog obeyed him instantly.

**obey an order/command**

- " Soldiers are expected to obey orders without questioning them.

**obey the law/rules**

Failure to obey the law can lead to a large fine.

► Do not say 'obey to someone/something'. Say **obey someone/something**: *He refused to obey their orders (NOT obey to their orders).*

## REGISTER

**Obey** is used especially when talking about doing what laws or people in authority tell you to do. In everyday situations, people usually say **do what somebody says**:

▪ My husband never does what I say.

• • •

## COLLOCATIONS

### nouns

- **obey the law/rules** She's the sort of person who always obeys the rules.
- **obey an order/command/instruction** The first duty of a soldier is to obey orders.
- **an obligation to obey** (=to have a duty to do something) Citizens have an obligation to obey the law.

### verbs

- **must obey/have to obey** She felt she had to obey her father, even though she thought he was wrong.
- **refuse to obey** Many people felt the law was unfair, and refused to obey it.

### adverbs

- **blindly obey** (=to obey without asking any questions) He looked terrified, but blindly obeyed.
- **obey instantly/immediately** He expected his orders to be obeyed instantly.

• • •

## THESAURUS

- **obey** to do what someone in authority tells you to do, or what a law or rule says you must do: You must obey a senior officer at all times. | If everyone obeys the rules of the road, safety is much improved.
- **do what somebody says** *especially spoken* to do what someone has advised or ordered you to do. In informal and everyday situations, people usually say **do what somebody says** rather than **obey**: I did what you said but the car still hasn't started. | My husband never does what I say.
- **do what you are told/do as you are told** to do what your parent or teacher says you must do – used especially about children: At school, we expect the pupils to do what they are told. | Do as you're told and sit down.
- **follow sb's orders/instructions/advice** to do what someone says you should do, or advises you to do: You must follow your doctor's orders. | I followed the manufacturer's instructions. | I hope she'll follow my advice.
- **abide by something** *formal* to accept and obey a rule, law, agreement etc: Players have to abide by the rules of the game.
- **respect** *formal* to obey the law or customs of a place, even when you do not agree with them, because this is a necessary part of living in a society: Smokers should respect the law, and only smoke in the privacy of their own homes.

## obey

Freakuency Pack

12500 **4958**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **3377**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **5k** **OBEY** 6855

obey 2499

obeys 256

obeying 443

obeyed 899

obedience 1587

obediently 421

obedient 750

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

1390 **14880**<sup>1715</sup> *vvi*

605 **24514**<sup>784</sup> *vv0*