

pierce
[pɪəs] *v*

1. пронзать, протыкать, прокалывать
to pierce to death - заколоть насмерть
to pierce smb. to the heart - поразить кого-л. в самое сердце
to have one's ears pierced - проколоть уши
the arrow pierced his shoulder - стрела пронзила ему плечо
a thorn pierced his finger - он проколол себе палец шипом
2. буравить, сверлить; пробивать (*отверстие*)
to pierce a hole - пробить дыру
to pierce a cask - почать бочку
a wall pierced with loopholes - стена (с пробитыми в ней) амбразурами
3. проникать, пробираться
to pierce into /through/ the enemy's lines - а) проникнуть за линию фронта б) вклиниться в позиции противника
the jungle which we have pierced by means of the river - джунгли, в которые мы проникли по реке
4. постигать; проникать (*в тайны и т. п.*)
to pierce the mysteries of nature - постигать тайны природы
he pierced it with a glance of intuition - он сразу интуитивно понял это
he failed to pierce the cause - он не смог постичь /понять/ причины
5. пробиваться, прокладывать путь, проходить сквозь (*что-л.*)
to pierce the walls of the city - пробиться через стены города
a tunnel pierces the mountain - через гору проходит /пробит, проложен/ тоннель
6. пронизывать (*особ. о холоде, боли и т. п.; тж. pierce through*)
he was pierced through and through - его пробрало насквозь
the cold wind pierced our clothes - холодный ветер насквозь пронизывал нас
the sun's rays pierced his eyes - лучи солнца били ему прямо в глаза
his music pierces the soul - его музыка трогает до глубины души
her heart was pierced with grief - её сердце разрывалось от горя
7. резко раздаваться, пронзительно звучать (*в воздухе, тишине и т. п.*)
to pierce the air with one's cries - пронзительно кричать
a pistol shot pierced the night - тишину ночи разорвал выстрел

pierce

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

pierce [pierce pierces pierced piercing] *BrE* [pɪəs] * *NAmE* [pɪrs] * *verb*

1. **transitive, intransitive** to make a small hole in sth, or to go through sth, with a sharp object
 - ~ **sth** The arrow pierced his shoulder.
 - He pierced another hole in his belt with his knife.
 - to **have your ears/nose, etc. pierced** (= to have a small hole made in your ears/nose, etc. so that you can wear jewellery there)
 - ~ **sb** (*figurative*) She was pierced to the heart with guilt.
 - ~ **through sth** The knife pierced through his coat.
2. **transitive, intransitive ~ (through) sth** (*literary*) (*of light, sound, etc.*) to be suddenly seen or heard
 - Sirens pierced the silence of the night.
 - Shafts of sunlight pierced the heavy mist.
3. **transitive, intransitive ~ (through) sth** to force a way through a barrier

Syn: ↑penetrate

- They failed to pierce the Liverpool defence.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	pierce
	<i>BrE</i> /pɪəs/
	<i>NAmE</i> /pɪrs/
he / she / it	pierces
	<i>BrE</i> /pɪəsɪz/
	<i>NAmE</i> /pɪrsɪz/
past simple, past participle	pierced
	<i>BrE</i> /pɪəst/
	<i>NAmE</i> /pɪrst/
-ing form	piercing
	<i>BrE</i> /pɪəsɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /pɪrsɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French **percer**, based on Latin **pertus-** 'bored through', from the verb **pertundere**, from **per** 'through' + **tundere** 'thrust'.

Example Bank:

- The knife pierced through her clothes.
- The narrowed blue eyes seemed to pierce right through her.

pierce /pɪəs \$ pɪrs/ BrE " AmE " verb

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: percer, probably from Latin pertundere 'to make a hole through']

1. **[transitive]** to make a small hole in or through something, using an object with a sharp point:

- " Steam the corn until it can easily be pierced with a fork.
- " Rose underwent emergency surgery after a bullet pierced her lung.

pierce a hole in/through something

- " Pierce small holes in the base of the pot with a hot needle.

2. **have your ears/nose etc pierced** to have a small hole made in your ears, nose etc so that you can wear jewellery through the hole:

- " I had my belly-button pierced.
- " pierced ears

3. **[intransitive, transitive always + adverb/preposition]** *literary* if sound or light pierces something, you suddenly hear or see it:

- " The darkness was pierced by the beam from the lighthouse.
- " A sudden scream pierced the silence.

pierce through

- " The men's lanterns pierced through the dense mist.

4. **pierce sb's heart** to make someone feel a strong emotion such as pain, sadness, or love:

- " Her memories sometimes pierced her heart.

5. **[transitive]** to force a way through something:

- " Leicester rarely threatened to pierce the Manchester United defence.

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THESAURUS

■ to make a hole in something

- **make a hole in something** to cause a hole to appear in something: Make a hole in the bottom of the can using a hammer and nail.
- **pierce** to make a small hole in or through something, using a pointed object: The dog's teeth had pierced her skin. | Shelley wanted to have her ears pierced (=for earrings).
- **prick** to make a very small hole in the surface of something, using a pointed object: Prick the potatoes before baking them. | My finger was bleeding where the needle had pricked it.
- **punch** to make a hole through paper or flat material using a metal tool or other sharp object: I bought one of those things for punching holes in paper. | You have to get your ticket punched before you get on the train.
- **puncture** to make a small hole in something, especially something where skin or a wall surrounds a softer or hollow inside part: The bullet had punctured his lung.
- **perforate** *formal* to make a hole or holes in something: Fragments of the bullet had perforated his intestines.
- **drill** to make a hole using a special tool, often one which turns round and round very quickly: The dentist started drilling a hole in my tooth. | They won a contract to drill for oil in the area.
- **bore** to make a deep round hole through a rock, into the ground etc: They had to bore through solid rock. | The men were boring a hole for the tunnel.

pierce

Freakuency Pack

12500 **5365**^{MCW}

15000 **4211**^{COCA}

RANGE: **5k** PIERCE ⁷⁵¹⁰

pierce ³⁶⁹¹

pierces ²⁵¹

pierced ¹⁸⁹⁵

piercing ¹⁶⁷³

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

1337 **10061**³⁰⁵³ *np1*

371 **36945**³⁸⁶ *vvi*

217 **49253**²²⁹ *vv0*

23 **163461**²³ *nn1*