

legal1. ['li:g(ə)] *n* **обыкн. pl фин.**

ценные бумаги, которые по закону могут быть приобретены доверительными учреждениями

2. ['li:g(ə)] *a*

1. 1) юридический, правовой

legal person - юридическое лицо

legal profession - профессия юриста

legal practitioner /gentleman/ - юрист

legal adviser /expert/ - юрисконсульт; юридический советник

legal document - правовой документ

legal obligation - правовое обязательство

legal history - история права

legal ethics - профессиональная этика юриста

legal language - юридический язык; юридическая терминология

to take legal advice - обращаться за советом к юристу

2) судебный

legal action - судебный иск

legal costs - судебные издержки

legal decision - решение суда

legal procedure - судопроизводство

to institute /to take/ legal proceedings against smb. - начать судебный процесс против кого-л.

2. законный; дозволенный законом; легальный

of legal force - имеющий законную силу

legal owner - законный владелец

legal claim - законное право требования

legal standing - законное положение

3. *рел.* основанный на Моисеевом законе

◇ legal beagle, legal eagle - *амер. сл.* юрист-пройдоха

legal

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

legal *AW BrE* ['li:qɪ] *NAmE* ['li:qɪ] **adjective**

1. **only before noun** connected with the law

- the **legal profession/system**
- to take/seek **legal advice**
- a legal adviser
- legal costs
- They are currently facing a long legal battle in the US courts.

2. **allowed or required by law**

- The driver was more than three times over the **legal limit** (= the amount of alcohol you are allowed to have in your body when you are driving).
- Should euthanasia be made legal?

Opp: †illegal

Derived Word †legally

Word Origin:

late Middle English (in the sense 'to do with Mosaic law'): from French, or from Latin **legalis**, from **lex**, **leg-** 'law'. Compare with †loyal.

Culture:**the legal system**

In Britain, for historical reasons, the system of law used in Scotland is different from that in England and Wales, with the law in Northern Ireland similar to that in England. When making decisions Scottish courts look for an appropriate general principle and apply it to a particular situation. English law relies on **case law**, a collection of previous decisions, called **precedents**. English courts look at precedents for the **case** being tried and make a similar judgement. A basic principle of law in Britain is that anyone accused is **innocent until proven guilty**, so it is the job of the **prosecution** to **prove beyond reasonable doubt** that the **defendant** (= the person accused) has broken the law as stated in the **charge**. If this cannot be proved the person must be **acquitted** (= allowed to go free, with no blame attached).

British law is divided into **civil law** which concerns disagreements between individuals about matters such as business contracts, and **criminal law** which deals with offences that involve harm to a person resulting from somebody **breaking the law**. In civil cases, the **plaintiff** (= the person who claims to have been wronged) **brings an action** against the **defendant** in the hope of winning **damages** (= a financial payment) or an **injunction** (= a court order preventing the defendant from doing something).

Criminal cases are brought against criminals by the state, in England and Wales by the †**Director of Public Prosecutions** and in Scotland through **procurators fiscal**.

In England and Wales most towns have a **Magistrates' Court** where minor cases are judged and more serious cases are passed to higher courts by three magistrates called **Justices of the Peace**, specially trained members of the public. The more serious cases are heard in a †**Crown Court** by a **judge** and a **jury**. Minor civil cases, such as divorce and **bankruptcy**, are heard in the †**county courts** and more serious ones in the †**High Court of Justice**. **Appeals** against decisions from the Crown Court or the High Court go to the †**Court of Appeal** and a few cases, where a question of law is in doubt, are passed to the †**House of Lords**.

In Scotland, criminal cases are heard in **District Courts** by members of the public called **lay justices**. More serious cases go to regional **sheriff courts** and are heard by the **sheriff** and a **jury**. **Appeals** go to the **High Court of Justiciary** in Edinburgh. Civil cases begin in the sheriff court and may go on appeal to the **Court of Session**.

In the US, the **judicial** system is one of the three branches of the **federal government**, but the legal system operates at many levels with state, county and city courts as well as **federal** courts. The right to **trial by jury** is provided by the **Constitution**. Each type of court has its own **jurisdiction**, that is it deals with certain kinds of cases. Both civil and criminal cases are first heard in **trial courts** and there is a right to **appeal** against the court's decision in a **court of appeals**. Many states have **family courts** where people get divorced and **small claims courts** which deal with small amounts of money. States also have trial courts, which hear a wider range of cases, and courts of appeal called **superior courts** or **district courts**. Most states have a **supreme court** where the most serious **appeals** are held. States have their own **criminal code**, but some crimes are **federal offences**, i.e. against federal law, and crimes may fall under **federal jurisdiction** if more than one state is involved. Most courts have only one **judge**, but some higher courts have several. In the US Supreme Court, the nine judges are called **justices**. The people on either side of a case are represented by **lawyers**, also called **attorneys-at-law**. In a criminal trial the defendant is represented by a **defense attorney**, or if he or she is too poor to pay a lawyer, the court will appoint a **public defender**. The **prosecution** is led by an **assistant district attorney** or, in federal cases, by a **federal attorney**.

Thesaurus:

legal [legal legally the legal system] adj.

• Do you know your legal rights?

statutory • **legitimate** • **valid** • **constitutional** • [formal lawful •

Opp: illegal

(a) legal/statutory/legitimate/valid/constitutional/lawful **claim/means**

a legal/statutory/legitimate/lawful **owner**

Legal or lawful? Both words mean 'allowed by law': by **legal/lawful means**. **Legal** also means 'connected with the law': **the US legal system**.

Example Bank:

- It is perfectly legal to charge extra for these services.
- Should the use of this drug be made legal?
- Do you know a good legal adviser?
- He has already paid out thousands of pounds in legal fees.
- He's planning to go into the legal profession.
- The driver was more than three times over the legal limit.
- They are facing a long legal battle in the US courts.
- We were advised to take legal advice.

legal

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

le gal **S2 W1 AC** /'liːgəl/ **BrE** **AmE** **adjective**

[**Word Family**: **noun**: ↑legality ≠ ↑illegality, ↑legalization, ↑legalese, ↑illegal; **adjective**: ↑legal ≠ ↑illegal, ↑legalistic; **verb**: ↑legalize; **adverb**: ↑legally ≠ ↑illegally]

[**Date**: 1400-1500; **Language**: French; **Origin**: Latin legalis, from lex 'law']

1. if something is legal, you are allowed to do it or have to do it by law **OPP illegal** :

- What the company has done is perfectly legal.
- plans to make the carrying of identity cards a legal requirement
- He had twice the legal limit of alcohol in his bloodstream.
- a pressure group that is campaigning to make cannabis legal

2. [only before noun] concerned with or relating to the law:

- free legal advice
- a costly legal dispute
- the Scottish legal system

the legal profession (=lawyers)

3. **legal action/proceedings** the use of the legal system to settle an argument, put right an unfair situation etc:

- She threatened to take legal action against the hospital.

⇒ **↑legally**

legal

Freakuency Pack

12500 **745**^{MCW}

15000 **613**^{COCA}

RANGE: **2k** **LEGAL** ⁷⁷⁶⁵⁷

legal ⁴⁶⁸²⁷

illegal ¹⁸¹²³

illegality ²¹³

illegally ³⁰⁶²

legality ⁷¹²

legally ⁵⁷⁵⁴

legalise ⁰

legalising ⁰

legalised ⁰

legalisation 0
legalize 463
legalizing 427
legalized 822
legalization 720
illegals 534

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

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⁸**293967**⁸ *nnu*
⁵**383542**⁵ *nn1*
