

# imagine

[ɪ'mædʒɪn] **v**

- воображать, представлять себе**  
 they couldn't imagine how they would do it - они плохо представляли себе, как они это сделают  
 I had imagined you as a tall man - я представлял себе вас высоким  
 I can't imagine what he looks like - я не представляю себе, как он выглядит, я не могу себе его представить  
 try to imagine our position - представьте себе наше положение  
 as may (well) be imagined - как можно (легко) себе представить
- предполагать, думать, полагать**  
 she imagined that smb. was watching her - ей казалось, что за ней следят  
 I imagine it will rain - думаю, что пойдёт дождь  
 I know something about it, I imagine - по-моему, мне кое-что известно об этом  
 (just) imagine! - **разг.** вообразите!, подумайте!, подумать только!
- догадываться, понимать**  
 I cannot imagine what you mean - я не понимаю, что вы имеете в виду
- выдумывать, сочинять**  
 you are always imagining things - ты вечно что-то выдумываешь

# imagine

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**imagine** [imagine imagines imagined imagining] **BrE** [ɪ'mædʒɪn] **AmE**

[ɪ'mædʒɪn] **verb**

- transitive, intransitive** to form a picture in your mind of what sth might be like
  - ~ **sth** The house was just as she had imagined it.
  - I can't imagine life without the children now.
  - ~ **(that)...** Close your eyes and imagine (that) you are in a forest.
  - ~ **what, how, etc...** Can you imagine what it must be like to lose your job after 20 years?
  - ~ **doing sth** She imagined walking into the office and handing in her resignation.
  - Imagine earning that much money!
  - ~ **sb/sth doing sth** I can just imagine him saying that!
  - ~ **sb/sth to be/do sth** I had imagined her to be older than that.
  - ~ **(sb + adj./noun)** I can imagine him really angry.
  - (informal) 'He was furious.' ' **I can imagine .** '
- transitive** to believe sth that is not true
  - ~ **(that)...** He's always imagining (that) we're talking about him behind his back.
  - ~ **sth** There's nobody there. You're **imagining things** .
- intransitive, transitive** to think that sth is probably true

**Syn:** ↑suppose. **Syn:** ↑assume

• 'Can we still buy tickets for the concert?' 'I **imagine so** .'

• ~ **(that)...** I don't imagine (that) they'll refuse.

**Verb forms:**

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	imagine
	BrE /ɪ' mædʒɪn/
	NAme /ɪ' mædʒɪn/
he / she / it	imagines
	BrE /ɪ' mædʒɪnz/
	NAme /ɪ' mædʒɪnz/
past simple, past participle	imagined
	BrE /ɪ' mædʒɪnd/
	NAme /ɪ' mædʒɪnd/
-ing form	imagining
	BrE /ɪ' mædʒɪnɪŋ/
	NAme /ɪ' mædʒɪnɪŋ/

## Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French **imaginer**, from Latin **imaginare** 'form an image of, represent' and **imaginari** 'picture to oneself', both from **imago**, **imagin-** 'image' .

## Thesaurus:

**imagine** **verb**

- T, I**
  - Imagine you are walking through a forest.
  - picture** • • **pretend** • • **think** • • **see** • • **visualize** • |formal **conceptualize** • • **envision** • |especially BrE **envisage** •  
 imagine/picture/see/visualize/conceptualize/envision/envisage sb/sth **as sth**  
 imagine/picture/see/visualize/envision/envisage (sb) **doing sth**  
 imagine/pretend/think/envision/envisage **that...**  
 imagine/picture/think/see/visualize/envision/envisage **who/what/how...**

**Imagine, picture or visualize?** **Imagine** is the most general of these words and is used for any idea that you form of how sb/sth might look or feel. **Picture** and **visualize** are used particularly for imagining sth as a picture or series of pictures.

- T**
  - 'Will we still be allowed in?' 'I **imagine so** .'

suppose • • assume • • suspect • • presume • |especially spoken take it • |especially BrE, spoken expect • • I dare say •  
|especially AmE, spoken guess •

imagine/suppose/assume/suspect/presume/take it/expect/dare say/guess **that...**

**Let's/Let us** imagine/suppose/assume/presume/take it...

I imagine/suppose/assume/suspect/expect/presume/guess **so**.

### Synonyms:

#### imagine

think • see • envisage • envision

These words all mean to form an idea in your mind of what sb/sth might be like.

**imagine** • to form an idea in your mind of what sb/sth might be like: ▫ The house was just as she had imagined it.

**think** • to imagine sth that might happen or might have happened: ▫ We couldn't think where you'd gone. ◇ ▫ Just think ▫ — this time tomorrow we'll be lying on a beach.

**see** • to consider sth as a future possibility; to imagine sb as sth: ▫ I can't see her changing her mind. ◇ ▫ His colleagues see him as a future director.

**envisage** • (*especially BrE*) to imagine what will happen in the future: ▫ I don't envisage working with him again.

The usual word for this in American English is **envision** (see below).

**envision** • to imagine what a situation will be like in the future, especially a situation that you intend to work towards: ▫ They envision an equal society, free from poverty and disease.

**Envision** is used especially in business and political contexts. In North American English it is also used as another form of the word **envisage**: ▫ I don't envision working with him again.

to imagine/see/envisage/envision sb/sth **as** sth

to imagine/see/envisage/envision (sb) **doing sth**

to imagine/think/see/envisage/envision **who/what/how...**

to imagine/think/envisage/envision **that...**

### Example Bank:

- He hardly dared to imagine what else was going to be divulged.
- He loved to imagine himself as the hero.
- He was always keen to avenge insults, real or imagined.
- I always imagined him following in his father's footsteps.
- I can well imagine the atmosphere at home at this moment.
- I can't actually imagine her falling for that trick.
- I can't even begin to imagine the horrors that they have been through.
- I could almost imagine you were jealous.
- I could clearly imagine the scene in the office.
- I could hardly imagine living in such a remote and desolate spot.
- I couldn't fully imagine what it could be.
- I had fondly imagined that riding a mule would be easy.
- I started to imagine what he might say.
- It is difficult to imagine Blackpool without its famous Tower.
- It is difficult to imagine a world without money.
- Let us imagine what really might have happened.
- She could just imagine her mother's look of horror.
- She had so vividly imagined it time and time again.
- She knew she was simply imagining things.
- The artist is free to imagine anything she pleases.
- The sight was disturbing as you can quite imagine.
- There's more at stake here than you can possibly imagine.
- When I think about this story I can almost imagine the look on his face.
- You don't seriously imagine I'll agree to that?
- the best guitarist you could possibly imagine
- 'He was furious.' 'I can imagine!'
- 'Will we still be allowed in?' 'I imagine so.'
- Can you imagine what it might be like to lose your job after 20 years?
- He's always imagining that we're talking about him behind his back.
- I can't imagine life without the children now.
- I don't imagine he'll get here now, do you?
- I had imagined her to be older than me.
- I'd like to imagine that she's safe and happy somewhere.
- If I'm late home my mother always imagines the worst.
- She had imagined that she'd get a warm welcome.
- She imagined walking onto the stage to huge applause.
- You shouldn't imagine that he's anything but a ruthless man.

## imagine

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**imagine** S1 W2 /ɪ'mædʒən, ɪ'mædʒɪn/ BrE <sup>s</sup> AmE <sup>s</sup> verb [transitive]

[Word Family: adjective: ↑imaginable ≠ ↑unimaginable, ↑imaginary, ↑imaginative ≠ ↑unimaginative, ↑imagined; noun:

↑imagination, ↑imaginings; adverb: ↑unimaginably, ↑imaginatively; verb: ↑imagine]

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: French; Origin: imaginer, from Latin imaginari, from imago; ⇒ ↑image]

1. to form a picture or idea in your mind about what something could be like

**imagine (that)**

- Imagine that you have just won a million pounds.
- Imagine life without hot water.

**imagine what/how/why etc**

- Can you imagine what it's like when it's really hot out here in Delhi?

**imagine somebody doing something**

- She could imagine dark-robed figures moving silently along the stone corridors.

**(just) imagine doing something**

- Imagine doing a horrible job like that!
- Just imagine going all that way for nothing!

**imagine somebody/something as something**

- He didn't quite dare to imagine himself as a real artist.

**imagine somebody in/with/without etc something**

- Somehow, I can't imagine him without a beard.

**it's difficult/easy/possible/impossible etc to imagine something**

- After such a dry summer, it's difficult to imagine what rain looks like.

2. to have a false or wrong idea about something:

- Perhaps she'd never really been there at all – perhaps she'd just imagined it.
- imagined dangers

**imagine (that)**

- She had imagined that the doctor would be male.
- I was surprised when I saw the farm. I had imagined it would be much bigger.

**imagine something/somebody to be something**

- There's nobody here. You're just imagining things.

3. [not in progressive] to think that something is true or may happen, but without being sure or having proof:

- 'A very complicated subject, I imagine,' said Edwin.

**imagine (that)**

- You are obviously tired and I imagine that nothing would make you admit it.

4. **you can/can't imagine something** *British English spoken* used to emphasize how good, bad etc something is

**You can/can't imagine how/what/why etc**

- You can imagine how angry I was!
- You can't imagine what a terrible week we had.

...

**COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 1)**

■ **phrases**

- **be easy to imagine** It's easy to imagine how the change in the law caused a lot of confusion.
- **be hard/difficult to imagine** It's hard to imagine the suffering she must have gone through.
- **can easily imagine** I can easily imagine how frightening the accident must have been.
- **can well imagine** (=can easily imagine) I can well imagine how delighted you were with the news.
- **can hardly/scarcely imagine** (=find it difficult to imagine) He could scarcely imagine what living in such poor conditions must have been like.
- **can't/couldn't imagine** He couldn't imagine life without his wife.
- **what somebody had imagined** (=what someone thought something would be like, before they saw it or experienced it)  
The office was not what he had imagined.
- **be bigger/smaller/worse etc than you had imagined** The job interview proved to be much worse than I had imagined it would be.
- **let us imagine ...** (=used to encourage someone else to think about a possibility) Let us imagine that you are an employer who wants to recruit some new staff.
- **somebody is imagining things** (=someone has a false or wrong idea about something) She's imagining things if she thinks she has a chance of winning the prize.

■ **adverbs**

- **naively imagine** (=to imagine something without realizing how complicated the situation is) She had naively imagined that marriage would solve all her problems.
- **fondly imagine** (=to believe something that is untrue) He had fondly imagined that she was in love with him.

...

**THESAURUS**

- **imagine** to form a picture or idea in your mind about what something might be like: When I think of Honolulu, I imagine long white beaches and palm trees. | I can't really imagine being a millionaire.
- **visualize** to form a picture of someone or something in your mind, especially something that is definitely going to happen or exist in the future: Anna visualized meeting Greg again at the airport. | The finished house may be hard to visualize.
- **picture** to form a clear picture of something or someone in your mind: I can still picture my father, even though he died a long time ago. | The town was just how she had pictured it from his description.
- **envisage** /ɪn'vɪzɪdʒ/ *especially British English*, **envision** to imagine something as possible or likely to happen in the future: How do you envisage your career developing over the next ten years? | They had envisioned the creation of a single armed force, small but efficient.
- **conceive of something** *formal* to imagine a situation, especially one that is difficult to imagine: For many people, music is so important that they cannot conceive of life without it.

- **fantasize** to imagine something exciting that you would like to happen, but that is very unlikely to happen: I used to fantasize about becoming a film star.
- **daydream** to imagine pleasant things, so that you forget where you are and what you should be doing: Mark began to daydream, and didn't even hear the teacher's question.
- **hallucinate** to imagine that you are seeing things that are not really there, especially because you are ill or have taken drugs: The drug that can cause some people to hallucinate. | When I saw the walls moving, I thought I must be hallucinating.

## imagine

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1180**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **698**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k** **IMAGINE** 67501

imagine 31873

imagining 2708

imaginings 269

imagines 1349

imagined 11278

unimagined 106

imagination 10524

imaginations 889

imaginative 2330

imaginatively 285

imaginary 3194

imaginable 1205

unimaginable 1097

unimaginably 169

imaginably 10

unimaginative 197

unimaginatively 18

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

15280 **2064**<sup>20920</sup> *vvi*

8425 **3721**<sup>10915</sup> *vv0*

20 **171805**<sup>21</sup> *jj*

10 **258134**<sup>10</sup> *nn1*

7 **317647**<sup>7</sup> *nnu*