

**squirm****1. [skwɜ:m] n**

- корча; извивание
- поёживание, ёрзание  
to give a squirm - передёрнуться

**2. [skwɜ:m] v**

- 1) корчиться; изгибаться, извиваться
- 2) увернуться, увильнуть  
to squirm out of an obligation - увильнуть от выполнения обязательства
2. двигаться извиваясь  
to squirm one's way through a crowd - протискиваться через толпу  
the snake squirms among the leaves - змея, извиваясь, ползёт среди листвы

**3. смущённо поёживаться; корчиться от стыда**

- to squirm under a reproach [a sarcasm] - сжаться, услышав упрёк [саркастическое замечание]  
to squirm with embarrassment - корчиться от чувства неловкости  
to make smb. squirm - мучить кого-л. (*вопросами, насмешками и т. п.*)  
they squirmed painfully in their chairs - они смущённо ёрзали на стульях  
these words made him squirm - его передёрнуло от этих слов  
I'll make him squirm yet! - ≅ он у меня ещё попляшет!

**squirm**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**squirm** [squirm squirms squirmed squirming] BrE [skwɜːm] <sup>u</sup> NAmE [skwɜːrɪŋ]<sup>u</sup> verb

- 1. intransitive**
- to move around a lot making small twisting movements, because you are nervous, uncomfortable, etc.

**Syn:** ↑wriggle

- (+ **adv./prep.**) The children were squirming restlessly in their seats.
- + **adj.** Someone grabbed him but he managed to squirm free.

- 2. intransitive**
- to feel great embarrassment or shame

- It made him squirm to think how badly he'd messed up the interview.

**Verb forms:**

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	squirm
	BrE /skwɜːm/
	NAmE /skwɜːrɪm/
he / she / it	squirms
	BrE /skwɜːmz/
	NAmE /skwɜːrɪmz/
past simple, past participle	squirmed
	BrE /skwɜːmd/
	NAmE /skwɜːrɪmd/
-ing form	squirming
	BrE /skwɜːmɪŋ/
	NAmE /skwɜːrɪmɪŋ/

**Word Origin:**

late 17th cent.: symbolic of writhing movement; probably associated with ↑worm.

**Example Bank:**

- He squirmed with embarrassment.
- I squirmed in my seat, not knowing what to do.
- I started to squirm out of his grasp.
- She squirmed away from his hands.
- The very mention of her singing made her squirm uncomfortably.
- He stammered out a reply, squirming on his stool.
- The children squirmed restlessly in their seats.
- The little boy squirmed with embarrassment.

**squirm**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**squirm** /skwɜːm\$ skwɜːrɪŋ BrE <sup>u</sup> AmE <sup>u</sup> verb [intransitive]

[Date: 1600-1700; Origin: Perhaps copying the action]

- 1. to twist your body from side to side because you are uncomfortable or nervous, or to get free from something which is holding you**

**SYN wriggle:**

- Christine squirmed uncomfortably in her chair.
- The boy tried to squirm free.

- 2. to feel very embarrassed or ashamed**

**squirm with**

- He made me squirm with embarrassment.

**—squirm noun [singular]**

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**THESAURUS**

- **move** to go to a different place, or change the position of your body: Sarah moved away from the window. | Every time I move I get a pain in my left shoulder.
- **sway** to move slowly from one side to the other: The branches swayed in the wind. | Donny swayed drunkenly as he walked back to his car.
- **rock** to move repeatedly from one side to another, with small gentle movements: He rocked backward and forward in his chair. | The boat rocked from side to side with the waves.
- **wobble** to move unsteadily from side to side: The bike wobbled a bit, but she soon got it under control.
- **fidget** to keep moving or playing with your fingers, hands, feet etc, because you are bored or nervous: Diana fidgeted nervously with her pencil.
- **squirm** to make very small movements from side to side with your body, especially because you feel uncomfortable: By the end of the hour, most of the children were squirming in their seats.
- **wriggle** to make small movements from side to side, especially in order to get into or out of something: The dog wriggled under the fence and escaped into the street. | She managed to wriggle into the dress, but it was much too tight.
- **twitch** if part of your body twitches, it makes small movements that you cannot control: A muscle on Yang's face twitched.
- **stir** *written* to make a movement – used especially when describing a situation in which no one moves, or someone wakes up: In the village a dog barked but no one stirred | The sleeping child stirred and opened her eyes.
- **budge** to move – used when you are trying hard to make something move, often without success: The piano wouldn't budge.

## squirm

Freakuency Pack

12500 **12352**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **6667**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **13k** SQUIRM 1763

squirm 468

squirms 197

squirmed 528

squirming 570

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

222 **48900**<sup>232</sup> *vvi*

115 **68930**<sup>120</sup> *vv0*

103 **73875**<sup>105</sup> *nn1*

5 **356836**<sup>6</sup> *np1*

5 **387636**<sup>5</sup> *nnu*