

**offence**[ə'fens] *n*

1. 1) нарушение (*чего-л.*); проступок  
offence against good manners /decency/ - отступление от хороших манер, нарушение приличий  
offence against the law - нарушение закона
- 2) *юр.* правонарушение; преступление  
criminal offence - уголовное преступление  
first offence - первое преступление, впервые совершённое преступление  
to commit an offence - совершить преступление
- 3) *воен.* дисциплинарный проступок  
military offence - воинское преступление
2. обида, оскорбление  
just cause of offence - справедливый повод для обиды  
without offence - не в обиду будь сказано, без намерения оскорбить  
to cause /to give/ offence to smb. - наносить обиду кому-л., обижать кого-л.  
to take offence at smb., smth. - обижаться на кого-л., что-л.  
she didn't mean any offence - она не хотела никого обидеть  
no offence taken! - не было ничего обидного /плохого/  
no offence meant /intended/ - не хотел (вас) обидеть  
no offence intended and none taken, I hope - никто не хотел здесь никого обидеть, и, надеюсь, никто не обиделся
3. наступающая, атакующая сторона (*о команде, армии и т. п.*)
4. *редк.* неверие, сомнение

**offence**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**of·fence** [offence offences] (especially US **of·fense**) *BrE* [ə'fens] <sup>o</sup> *NAmE*[ə'fens] <sup>o</sup> **noun**

1. **countable** ~ (against sb/sth) an illegal act

**Syn:** ↑crime

- a **criminal/serious/minor/sexual, etc. offence**
- a **first offence** (= the first time that sb has been found guilty of a crime)
- a **capital offence** (= one for which sb may be punished by death)
- He was not aware that he had **committed an offence** .
- an **offence against society/humanity/the state**
- New legislation makes it an offence to carry guns.

2. **uncountable** the act of upsetting or insulting sb

- I'm sure he **meant no offence** when he said that.
- The photo may **cause offence** to some people.
- No one will **take offence** (= feel upset or insulted) if you leave early.
- Don't be so quick to **take offence** .

**Idiom:** ↑no offence**See also:** ↑offense**Word Origin:**late Middle English: from Old French **offens** 'misdeed', from Latin **offensus** 'annoyance', reinforced by French **offense**, from Latin **offensa** 'a striking against, a hurt, or displeasure'; based on Latin **offendere** 'strike against'.**Thesaurus:****offence** (*BrE*) (*AmE* offense) **noun** C

- New legislation makes it an offence to carry a gun.

**crime** • • **sin** • • **outrage** • • **atrocities** • |*BrE*, **formal misdemeanour** • |*AmE*, **law misdemeanor** • • **felony** • |**formal wrong** •  
a/an offence/crime/sin/outrage/atrocities **against** sb/sth

**commit** a/an offence/crime/sin/outrage/atrocities/misdemeanour/felony**forgive** a/an offence/crime/sin/outrage/misdemeanour/wrong

**Offence or crime?** In everyday language **crime** is used more often than **offence** for more serious illegal acts, such as murder or rape. **Offence** is used more frequently for illegal activities such as driving too fast, carrying a gun or using drugs. However, in legal contexts, **offence** is the preferred technical term for all illegal acts.

**Example Bank:**

- I didn't mean to give offence to anyone.
- Motorists may be fined on the spot for driving offences such as speeding.
- No offence intended, but are you sure your calculations are right?
- The offence is punishable by up to three months' imprisonment.
- offences against public decency
- Don't be so quick to take offence.
- He was given a warning since it was a first offence.
- I'm sure he meant no offence when he said that.
- It is a criminal offence to inflict cruelty on any wild animal.
- No one will take offence if you leave early.

- She was not aware that she had committed an offence.
- The photo on the cover of the book may cause offence to some people.
- The rebels could face charges of treason, a capital offence.

## offence

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**offence** **S3 W2 BrE** <sup>AmE</sup> *British English*, **offense** *American English* /ə'fens/ *noun*

[**Word Family**: **noun**: OFFENSE/OFFENCE, ↑offender, ↑offensive ↑offensiveness; **adjective**: ↑offensive ≠ ↑inoffensive ↑offended, ↑offending; **verb**: ↑offend; **adverb**: ↑offensively]

1. **[countable]** an illegal action or a crime:

His solicitor said he committed the offence because he was heavily in debt.

**offence against**

sexual offences against children

2. **[uncountable]** when you offend or upset someone by something you do or say

**cause/give offence**

The problem was how to say 'no' to her without causing offence.

Don't be upset by what he said; he meant no offence (=did not intend to offend anyone).

3. **no offence spoken** used to tell someone that you hope that what you are going to say or do will not offend them:

No offence, but this cheese tastes like rubber.

4. **take offence (at something)** to feel offended because of something someone says or does:

I think he took offence at my lack of enthusiasm.

5. **[uncountable] formal** the act of attacking:

the weapon of offence used during the attack

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## COLLOCATIONS

### ■ verbs

- **commit an offence** (=do something that is against the law) He had committed the offence of dangerous driving.
- **charge somebody with an offence** In that year, 367 people were charged with terrorist offences.
- **convict somebody of an offence** (=say officially that they are guilty) The number of women convicted of serious offences is fairly small.
- **admit an offence** He had admitted sex offences against children.

### ■ phrases

- **it is an offence to do something** It is an offence to carry a weapon in a public place.
- **an offence punishable by/with something** Possession of the drug is an offence punishable by up to one year's imprisonment.
- **make something an offence/make it an offence to do something** The Act made it an offence to sell cigarettes to children under 16.

### ■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + offence

- **a criminal offence** It is a criminal offence to sell alcohol to someone under the age of 18.
- **a serious offence** serious offences such as murder or armed robbery
- **a minor offence** The police cautioned him for a minor offence.
- **a first offence** Because it was a first offence, she was not sent to prison.
- **a lesser offence** (=one that is not as serious as another offence) For rioting you can receive ten years in prison, while for the lesser offence of violent disorder you can receive five years in prison.
- **a federal offence** *American English* (=a very serious offence against the law of the US, rather than against a state's law) The turtles are rare, and it is a federal offence to take them to another state.
- **a driving/parking/traffic offence** Speeding is the most common traffic offence.
- **a sex/drug/terrorist etc offence** Thirty-three people were charged with drug offences.
- **a punishable offence** (=one that you can be punished for) Lying in court is a punishable offence.
- **a capital offence** (=one for which death is the punishment) Drug smuggling was made a capital offence in 1987.
- **an arrestable/indictable offence** (=one that you can be arrested for or must go to court for) Indictable offences are tried by a jury in a Crown Court.

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## THESAURUS

### ■ illegal actions

- **crime** *noun* [uncountable and countable] an illegal action or activity, or these actions in general: The police need the public's help to solve crimes. | Crime is on the increase. | It was a horrific crime.
- **offence** *British English*, **offense** *American English* *noun* [countable] a crime, especially one that has a particular description and name in law: It is an offence to drive while using a mobile phone. | a minor offence (=one that is not serious) | a serious offence | a parking offence
- **misdemeanor** *noun* [countable] *American English law* a crime that is not very serious: They pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor and were fined.
- **felony** *noun* [uncountable and countable] *especially American English law* a serious crime: Fewer than 25 percent of the people arrested on felony charges are convicted. | He committed a series of violent felonies.

## offence

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1585**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **1581**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **2k** OFFENCE 25593

offence 225

offences 121

offense 10411

offenses 2543

offensive 11627

offensively 495

inoffensive 125

inoffensively 6

offensiveness 33

unoffensive 0

inoffensiveness 7

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

137 **49772**<sup>225</sup> *nn1*

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