

I

1. [big] *a*

## 1. 1) большой, крупный

big book [hotel] - большая книга [гостиница]

big game - крупная дичь

big repair - капитальный ремонт

big gun - тяжёлое орудие

big stuff - *амер. разг.* тяжёлый снарядbig close-up - *кино* очень крупный план (*часть лица или деталь предмета*)

## 2) высокий

big man [tree] - высокий человек [-ое дерево]

## 3) широкий

big margins - большие /широкие/ поля (*книги, тетради*)

big shoulders - широкие плечи

in a big way - в широком масштабе

## 2. громкий, сильный

big noise - сильный шум

big voice [roar] - громкий голос [-ое рычание]

## 3. взрослый

big boy - взрослый мальчик

## 4. важный, значительный

big man - важный *или* известный человек

big event - важное событие

big news - важные новости, важное сообщение /известие/

big responsibility [difference] - большая ответственность [разница]

to look big - иметь важный вид

## 5. (with)

1) беременная (*тж.* big with child)

## 2) чреватый, полный

big with news - полный новостей

eyes big with tears - глаза, полные слёз

big with consequences - чреватый последствиями

big with fate - роковой

full of big talk - хвастливый; полный тщеславия; с самомнением

## 6. великодушный, благородный

big heart - большое сердце

big mind - широкий ум

big nature - широкая натура

7. *амер. сл.* знаменитый

Frank Sinatra is very big in Las Vegas - Фрэнк Синатра очень популярен в Лас-Вегасе

## 8. (big-) как компонент сложных слов больше-, широко-

big-boned - ширококостный

◇ the Big Five - «Большая пятёрка» (*Советский Союз, США, Великобритания, Франция и Китай в Совете Безопасности ООН*)

big eater - хороший едок

big joke - хорошая шутка

big money - большие деньги

big talk - хвастовство

big toe - большой палец (*ноги*)

to be big on smth. - быть поклонником /энтузиастом/ чего-л.

to be /to get, to grow/ too big for one's boots /shoes/ - важничать

2. [big] *adv разг.*

## 1. хвастливо, с важным видом

to talk big - хвастаться, бахвалиться

## 2. с размахом, крупно

to think big - иметь широкие замыслы; ≅ не мелочиться

## 3. успешно

to go over big - блестяще удался

II

[big] = *bigg*

II

[big] *v шотл.*

строить

big

**big** [big bigger biggest] *adjective, adverb, verb* BrE [bɪg] <sup>а</sup> NAmE [bɪg] <sup>а</sup>see also ↑bigs <sub>n.</sub>*adjective* (big-ger, big-gest)

## LARGE

### 1. large in size, degree, amount, etc

- a big man/house/increase
- This shirt isn't big enough.
- It's the world's biggest computer company.
- (informal) He had this **great big** grin on his face.
- They were earning big money.
- The news came as a big blow.

## OLDER

### 2. (informal) older

- my big brother
- You're a big girl now.

## IMPORTANT

### 3. only before noun (rather informal) important; serious

- a big decision
- Tonight is the biggest match of his career.
- You are making a big mistake.
- She took the stage for her **big moment**.
- (informal) Do you really think we can take on the **big boys** (= compete with the most powerful people) ?

## AMBITIOUS

### 4. (informal) (of a plan) needing a lot of effort, money or time to succeed

- They're full of big ideas.

## POPULAR

### 5. (informal) popular with the public; successful

- Orange is the big colour this year.
- ~ **in...** The band's very big in Japan.

## ENTHUSIASTIC

### 6. (informal) enthusiastic about sb/sth

- I'm a big fan of hers.

## DOING STH A LOT

### 7. doing sth often or to a large degree

- a big eater/drinker/spender

## GENEROUS

### 8. ~ of sb (usually ironic) kind or generous

- He gave me an extra five pounds for two hours' work. I thought 'That's big of you'.

**more at** sb's eyes are bigger than their stomach **at** ↑eye <sub>n.</sub>, have bigger/other fish to fry **at** ↑fish <sub>n.</sub>, make a (big) thing of/about sth **at** ↑thing, in a big/small way **at** ↑way <sub>n.</sub>

### Word Origin:

Middle English (in the sense 'strong, mighty'): of unknown origin.

### Thesaurus:

**big** adj.

1.

- a big house/company/increase

**large** • • **great** • • **tall** • • **spacious** • • **extensive** • • **huge** • • **massive** • • **vast** • • **enormous** • • **sizeable** • • **hefty** • • **bumper** •

**Opp:** little, **Opp:** small

a/an big/large/tall/spacious/huge/massive/vast/enormous **building**

a/an big/large/great/extensive/spacious/huge/massive/vast/enormous/sizeable **area**

a/an big/large/great/huge/massive/vast/enormous/sizeable/hefty **increase**

**Big, large or great?** Compare

- a big man/house/car/boy/dog/smile
- (a) large numbers/part/volume/population
- great interest/importance/difficulty/pleasure

**Large** is slightly more formal than **big** and is used more in writing. It is not usually used to describe people, except to avoid saying 'fat'. **Great** often suggests quality and not just size; it does not usually describe the physical size of objects or people.

2. (informal)

- You are making a big mistake.

**important** • • **great** • • **major** • • **significant** • • **serious** • • **momentous** •

**Opp:** little

a/an big/important/great/major/significant/serious/momentous **decision**  
 a/an big/important/great/major/significant/serious **difference**  
 a/an big/important/great/momentous **day**  
 a big/great/major/significant/serious **mistake**

Synonyms:

**big / large / great**

These adjectives are frequently used with the following nouns:

big ~	large ~	great ~
man	numbers	success
house	part	majority
car	area	interest
boy	room	importance
dog	company	difficulty
smile	eyes	problem
problem	family	pleasure
surprise	volume	beauty
question	population	artist
difference	problem	surprise

Large is more formal than big and should be used in writing unless it is in an informal style. It is not usually used to describe people, except to avoid saying 'fat'.

Great often suggests quality and not just size. Note also the phrases: ▪ a large amount of ◊ ▪ a large number of ◊ ▪ a large quantity of ◊ ▪ a great deal of ◊ ▪ in great detail ◊ ▪ a person of great age .

Example Bank:

- He was a short man with great big glasses.
- The whole story is just a big fat lie.
- This house is rather big for us. We need something smaller.
- This is a fairly big decision to make.
- We were hoping the show would be a really big success .
- a potentially big drawback
- Do you really think we can take on the big boys?
- He was a big man— tall and broad-shouldered
- It's a big decision to have to make.
- It's the world's biggest computer company.
- She took the stage for her big moment.
- There's been a big increase in prices.
- This house is too big for us now.
- This shirt isn't big enough.

Idioms: ↑big cheese ▪ ↑big deal! ▪ ↑big enchilada ▪ ↑big fish ▪ ↑big girl's blouse ▪ ↑big picture ▪ ↑big shot ▪ ↑big stick ▪ big three/four ▪ ↑give get a big hand ▪ ↑go over big ▪ ↑have a big mouth ▪ ↑make it big ▪ ↑me and my big mouth ▪ ↑no big deal ▪ too big for your boots

Derived Word ↑bigness

Derived ↑big somebody up

**adverb**

in an impressive way

- We need to think big.

**more at** hit (it) big **at** ↑hit v.

Word Origin:

Middle English (in the sense 'strong, mighty'): of unknown origin.

**verb** (-gg-)

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we /they	big
	BrE /bɪg/
	NAme /bɪg/
he / she /it	bigz
	BrE /bɪgz/
	NAme /bɪgz/
past simple, past participle	bigged
	BrE /bɪgd/
	NAme /bɪgd/
-ing form	bigging
	BrE /'bɪgɪŋ/
	NAme /'bɪgɪŋ/

**big**

I. **big**<sup>1</sup> **S1 W1** /bɪg/ **BrE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **AmE** <sup>ˈ</sup> **adjective** (comparative **bigger**, superlative **biggest**)

[Date: 1300-1400; Origin: Probably from a Scandinavian language]

1. **SIZE** of more than average size or amount:

- ˈ a big house
- ˈ I need a bigger desk.
- ˈ She had a big grin on her face.
- ˈ a big increase in crime
- ˈ Los Angeles is the biggest city in California.
- ˈ The garage isn't big enough for two cars.
- ˈ When they lose, they lose in a big way (=to a large degree).
- ˈ There was this great big (=extremely big) spider in the sink.

2. **IMPORTANT** important and serious:

- ˈ a big decision
- ˈ Buying your own house is a big commitment.
- ˈ The big game is on Friday.
- ˈ There's a big difference between understanding something and being able to explain it to others.
- ˈ Everyone was getting ready for the big day (=a day when an important event will happen).

3. **POPULAR/SUCCESSFUL** successful or popular, especially in business or entertainment:

- ˈ Julia Roberts became a big star.
- ˈ She's very big in Australia.
- ˈ After years as a small-time actor, he suddenly made it big (=became very successful) in Hollywood.

**the big boys** (=the most powerful people or companies) ⇒ **↑big cheese**, **↑big noise**, ⇒ **big shot** at **↑shot**<sup>1</sup>(14), ⇒ **↑big time**

4. **OLDER**

a) **big sister/brother** your older sister or brother

b) older or more like an adult – used especially by children or when you are talking to children:

- ˈ Come on, don't cry. You're a big girl now.

5. **LARGE DEGREE** [only before noun] **informal**

a) doing something to a large degree

**a big eater/drinker/spender etc**

- ˈ Des is a big gambler, you know.

**be a big fan/admirer of somebody/something**

b) done to a large degree or with great energy

**give somebody a big hug/kiss**

- ˈ Mama gave me a big hug.

**give somebody a big hand** (=clap loudly)

6. **BAD** [only before noun] **informal** used to emphasize how bad something is:

- ˈ AIDS remains a big problem in many parts of the world.
- ˈ Buying that house was a big mistake.
- ˈ I never said that, you big liar!

7. **have big ideas/plans** to have impressive plans for the future:

- ˈ I've got big plans for this place.

8. **be big on something** **spoken**

a) to like something very much:

- ˈ I'm not big on kids.

b) to have a lot of a quality or feature:

- ˈ The new BMW is big on safety features.

9. **what's the big idea?** **spoken** used when someone has done something annoying, especially when you want them to explain why they did it:

- ˈ Hey, what's the big idea? Who said you could use my computer?

10. **GENEROUS it is big of somebody to do something** **spoken**

a) used to say that someone is very kind or generous to do something

b) used when you really think that someone is not kind or helpful at all:

- ˈ £5! That was big of her!

11. **big mouth** **spoken** someone who has a big mouth cannot be trusted to keep things secret:

- ˈ I'm sorry. I shouldn't have opened my big mouth.

**me and my big mouth** (=said when you wish you had not told someone a secret) ⇒ **↑bigmouth**

12. **LETTERS** **informal** big letters are **↑capitals**, for example G, R, A etc

13. **WORDS** **informal** big words are long or unusual and are difficult to read or understand

14. **be/get too big for your boots** **informal** to be too proud of yourself

15. **use/wield the big stick** **informal** to threaten to use your power to get what you want

16. **a big girl's blouse** **British English informal** someone, especially a man, who is not brave

17. **big up (to/for) somebody** **spoken informal** used when you want to praise someone:

- ˈ Big up to Kelly Holmes! She ran a superb race.

⇒ **think big** at **↑think**<sup>1</sup>(39)

## THESAURUS

- **big**: a big city | a big guy | a big mistake | Lack of funding is the biggest problem. | Getting a car has made a big difference to my life.
- **large** a slightly more formal word than **big**, used to describe objects and amounts: a large bowl | Large areas of the forest have been destroyed. | The museum attracts a large number of visitors.
- **major** [only before noun] big and important: Pollution is a major problem. | There has been a major change in government policy.
- **considerable/substantial** quite big – used especially about amounts: They have spent a considerable amount of money on the project. | A substantial amount of heat is lost through the windows. | He had a considerable influence on young musicians.

### ■ very big

- **huge/massive/enormous** extremely big: The table was enormous. | a huge explosion | Their house is huge. | There is a huge amount of work to be done. | There has been a massive increase in oil prices. | The company is massive, operating in 150 countries. | A massive fire destroyed more than thirty homes. | He's been under an enormous amount of stress recently. | The changes will have an enormous impact.
- **great** [only before noun] very big – used especially to describe the level or number of something: He achieved great success in America. | The college offers a great number of courses. | a great advantage
- **vast** extremely big – used about areas, distances, numbers, or amounts: vast areas of rainforest | A vast number of tourists visit the island every year.
- **gigantic** extremely big and much bigger than other things of the same type: Gigantic waves crashed onto the beach.
- **colossal** extremely big – used about amounts or objects: James ran up a colossal phone bill. | a colossal statue of Napoleon
- **tremendous** having an extremely big effect: There have been some tremendous changes. | My new job will be a tremendous challenge. | The children were making a tremendous amount of noise.

II. **big**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* <sup>1</sup> *AmE* <sup>1</sup> *verb* (past tense and past participle **bigged**, present participle **bigging**)

**big somebody/something** ↔ **up** *phrasal verb* *British English spoken informal*

1. to say that someone or something is very good, especially in public:

He's always on TV bigging up his new band.

2. **big it up** to spend a lot of money and enjoy yourself in a social situation, in a way that other people will notice

## big

Freakuency Pack

12500 **269**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **173**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k** **BIG** 240048

big 187617

bigger 20924

bigness 145

biggest 31346

biggish 16

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

73017 **189**<sup>187340</sup> *jj*

220 **49351**<sup>228</sup> *rr*

37 **125294**<sup>38</sup> *nn1*

6 **347286**<sup>6</sup> *nnu*

5 **376441**<sup>5</sup> *cc*