

pretend

[prɪ'tend] *v*

- 1) 1) притворяться, делать вид; симулировать
 to pretend that one is asleep, to pretend to be asleep - притвориться спящим
 he pretends to be very busy - он делает вид, что очень занят
 to pretend to oneself - убеждать себя
- 2) играть, делать понарошку (в детских играх и т. п.)
 we're only pretending - мы только играем, мы понарошку
 let's pretend to be robbers - давайте играть в разбойников
- 3) прикидываться; разыгрывать из себя
 he pretended he was a doctor - он прикинулся врачом
 it's no use pretending you're still young - нечего строить из себя молодого
 stop pretending, please! - прошу тебя / вас /, прекрати(те) ломать комедию!
2. использовать в качестве предлога или отговорки
 to pretend ignorance - отговариваться незнанием
 to pretend illness as a reason for one's absence - выставлять болезнь как причину отсутствия
 pretending that he had much to do, he left early - сославшись на дела, он ушёл рано
3. (to) претендовать
 to pretend to a right [to a title, to the throne] - претендовать на право [на титул, на престол]
 to pretend to great learning - претендовать на учёность
4. (to) быть поклонником, ухажёром, претендентом
 he pretends to her hand - он претендует на её руку
5. решиться, осмелиться

pretend

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

pre-tend [pretend pretends pretended pretending] *verb, adjective BrE* [prɪ'tend]

NAme [prɪ'tend]

verb

1. **intransitive, transitive** to behave in a particular way, in order to make other people believe sth that is not true
 - I'm tired of having to pretend all the time.
 - Of course I was wrong; it would be hypocritical to **pretend otherwise** .
 - ~ **(to sb) (that...)** He pretended to his family that everything was fine.
 - We pretended (that) nothing had happened.
 - She pretended (that) she was his niece.
 - ~ **to do sth** I pretended to be asleep.
 - He pretended not to notice.
 - She didn't love him, though she **pretended to** .
 - ~ **sth (formal)** She pretended an interest she did not feel.
2. **intransitive, transitive (especially of children)** to imagine that sth is true as part of a game
 - They didn't have any real money so they had to pretend.
 - ~ **(that)...** Let's pretend (that) we're astronauts.
3. **intransitive, transitive** (usually used in negative sentences and questions) to claim to be, do or have sth, especially when this is not true
 - ~ **to sth** I can't pretend to any great musical talent.
 - ~ **(that)...** I don't pretend (that) I know much about the subject, but...
 - ~ **to be/do/have sth** The book doesn't pretend to be a great work of literature.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	pretend
	BrE /prɪ'tend/
	NAme /prɪ'tend/
he / she / it	pretends
	BrE /prɪ'tendz/
	NAme /prɪ'tendz/
past simple, past participle	pretended
	BrE /prɪ'tendɪd/
	NAme /prɪ'tendɪd/
-ing form	pretending
	BrE /prɪ'tendɪŋ/
	NAme /prɪ'tendɪŋ/

Word Origin:

late Middle English: from Latin **praetendere** 'stretch forth, claim', from **prae** 'before' + **tendere** 'stretch'. The adjective dates from the early 20th cent.

Thesaurus:

pretend *verb*

1. I, T

- He pretended to be asleep.
- act** • **bluff** • **fake** • **put sth on** • |formal **feign** • **adopt** • **assume** • **pretend to do sth**

fake/feign **illness/injury**

pretend/feign/assume **interest/indifference**

2. T, I

- The children pretended they were on a desert island.

imagine •

pretend/imagine **that...**

Just pretend/imagine.

Example Bank:

- Couldn't you at least pretend to enjoy it?
- He pretended to his boss that he'd written the article.
- I can't go on pretending any longer.
- It would be foolish to pretend that there are no risks involved
- It's useless to pretend that we might still win.
- Let's pretend it never happened.
- Maria knew he was only pretending.
- They decided to just pretend it never happened.
- You know what this is all about, Natasha. Why pretend otherwise?
- I'm tired of having to pretend all the time.
- Let's pretend (that) we're astronauts.
- Of course it was wrong; it would be hypocritical to pretend otherwise.
- They didn't have any real money so they had to pretend.
- Why hurt her by pretending an interest he did not feel?

adjective usually before noun (informal) (often used by children)

not real, imaginary

- pretend cakes

Word Origin:

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pretend

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **pre**'tend¹ **S2 W3** /prɪ'tend/ *BrE* " *AmE* " *verb*

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Latin; Origin: praetendere 'to stretch out in front, make an excuse', from tendere 'to stretch']

1. [**intransitive and transitive**] to behave as if something is true when in fact you know it is not, in order to deceive people or for fun

pretend (that)

" We can't go on pretending that everything is OK.

" Let's pretend we're on the moon.

pretend to do something

" She pretended not to notice.

" He's not asleep – he's just pretending.

" To pretend ignorance of the situation would be irresponsible.

" I can't marry her and to pretend otherwise would be wrong.

2. [**transitive usually in negatives**] to claim that something is true, when it is not

pretend (that)

" I can't pretend I understand these technical terms (=I admit I do not understand them).

pretend to do/be something

" The book doesn't pretend to be for beginners.

• • •

THESAURUS

▪ **pretend** /prɪ'tend/ to deliberately behave as though something is true when it is not, either for fun or to deceive someone: Mark closed his eyes and pretended to be asleep. | She shouted but he pretended that he hadn't heard her.

▪ **act** to behave in a particular way – often used when saying that someone is pretending that something is true, when it is not: Paul acted as if nothing was wrong. | She always acts like she's pleased to see me, but I'm sure she's not. | He enjoyed acting the fool (=pretending to be stupid) and couldn't care less about his studies. | The boy acted all innocent and said that he knew nothing about the money. | I tried to act the good housewife when I got married.

▪ **make out something** *informal* to pretend that something is true, in order to avoid doing something or to deceive someone: I didn't want to go, so I made out I was busy. | She always makes out that she doesn't have any money.

▪ **be putting it on** *informal* to be pretending to be ill, hurt etc, especially in order to avoid doing something, or to make other people feel sympathy for you: She's not really upset, she's just putting it on.

▪ **feign interest/surprise/ignorance/illness etc** *formal* to pretend that you are interested, surprised etc: 'Oh really!' he said, trying to feign interest. | Sometimes it's best just to feign ignorance (=pretend that you do not know).

▪ **keep up appearances** to pretend that your life is happy and successful, especially when you have suffered some kind of trouble or loss: Although we were poor, our family always tried to keep up appearances. | She did her best to keep up appearances after her husband left her.

■ to pretend to be someone or something

▪ **impersonate** to copy the way that a famous person speaks and behaves, in order to entertain people, or to pretend to have an

official job, in order to trick people: He's brilliant at impersonating the President. | It's illegal to impersonate a police officer.

▪ **pose as somebody** to pretend to be someone else, especially someone in an official position, so that it is easier for you to do something bad or illegal: He posed as a doctor to gain access to the hospital. | There have been cases of thieves posing as telephone engineers.

▪ **masquerade as somebody/something** *disapproving* to pretend to be someone or something else – used especially when saying that someone or something is not who they claim to be: Their advertisements are always full of people in white coats masquerading as scientists. | It's not real news – it's government propaganda masquerading as news.

II. pretend² BrE¹ AmE¹ adjective

imaginary or not real – used especially by children:

▪ We sang songs around a pretend campfire.

pretend

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RANGE: **2k** PRETEND¹³⁹⁸⁷

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COCA 500k Unlemmatized

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