

swear**1. [swɛə] n разг.**

1. 1) клятва; божба

2) присяга

3) принятие присяги

2. *редк.* ругательство; сквернословие**2. [swɛə] v (swore; sworn)**

1. клясться

to swear to do smth. - поклясться /торжественно обещать/ сделать что-л

he swore to say nothing /that he would say nothing/ - он поклялся /побожился/ ничего не говорить /что ничего не скажет/

to swear an oath - давать клятву, клясться [*см. тж.* 5]

he had sworn a solemn oath to return - он дал торжественную клятву /торжественно обещал/ вернуться

to swear friendship [eternal fidelity] - клясться в дружбе [в вечной верности]

to swear by smth., smb. - клясться чем-л., кем-л.

I swear by Jupiter [by Almighty God, by all that is holy] - клянусь Юпитером [всемогущим богом, всем святым]

he swore by all the gods - он призывал всех богов в свидетели

to swear on the Bible - (по)клясться на Библии

I swear he's right - клянусь, он прав

I would swear he was there - я готов побожиться, что он там был

2. (by) молиться на кого-л.; безгранично верить кому-л. или во что-л.

he swears by this doctor - он молится на этого врача

he swears by quinine for fever - он рекомендует принимать хинин от малярии

take these tablets if you feel run down, I swear by them - принимайте эти таблетки если почувствуете слабость, мне они всегда помогают

3. 1) (*обыкн.* to) заставлять поклясться

to swear smb. to secrecy - взять с кого-л. клятву хранить тайну

2) приводить к присяге

to swear a witness [a jury] - привести свидетеля [присяжных] к присяге

the judges were sworn into office - судей привели к присяге при вступлении в должность

4. 1) *юр.* показывать, давать показания под присягой

to swear to smth. - показывать что-л. под присягой

will you swear to it that you were not there? - вы можете показать под присягой, что вас там не было?

to swear an accusation /a charge/ against smb. - подтвердить обвинение кого-л. под присягой

the affidavit should be sworn to before a notary public - письменное показание должно быть дано под присягой у нотариуса

2) присягать, принимать присягу

to swear allegiance - присягнуть на верность /в верности/

5. ругаться; богохульствовать; сквернословить

to swear an oath - выругаться [*см. тж.* 1]

he swore under his breath - он тихо выругался

he swore a profane oath - он крепко выругался

to swear at smb. - (об)ругать кого-л.

to swear like a fishwife /like a lord, like a sailor, like a trooper, like blazes/ - \cong ругаться как извозчик; ругаться на чём свет стоит

◇ to swear black is white - уверять /утверждать/, что черное - это белое

to swear oneself blue in the face - \cong клясться или ругаться до хрипоты

it is enough to make smb. swear - это кого угодно выведет из себя

(not) enough to swear by - немного; \cong кот заплакал

these two colours swear at each other - эти два цвета не сочетаются

swear

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

swear [swear swears swore swearing sworn] BrE [swɛə(r)]^а NAmE [swer]^аverb (swore BrE [swɔː(r)]^а; NAmE [swɔːr]^а sworn BrE [swɔː(r)]^а; NAmE [swɔːrɪ]^а)**1. intransitive** to use rude or offensive language, usually because you are angry

• She fell over and swore loudly.

• I don't like to hear children swearing.

• ~ **at sb/sth** Why did you let him swear at you like that?**2. transitive, no passive** to make a serious promise to do sth**Syn:** †vow• ~ **sth** He swore revenge on the man who had killed his father.• ~ **(that)...** I swear (that) I'll never leave you. 'That' is usually left out, especially in speech.• ~ **to do sth** She made him swear not to tell anyone.**3. transitive** to promise that you are telling the truth• ~ **(that)...** She swore (that) she'd never seen him before.• I **could have sworn** (= I am sure) I heard the phone ring.• ~ **to sb/on sth (that)...** I swear to God I had nothing to do with it.**4. intransitive, transitive** to make a public or official promise, especially in court• ~ **(on sth)** Witnesses were required to swear on the Bible.• ~ **that...** Are you willing to stand up in court and swear that you don't recognize him?• ~ **to do sth** Remember, you have sworn to tell the truth.• ~ **sth** Barons had to swear an oath of allegiance to the king.

5. **transitive** ~ sb to secrecy/secretly to make sb promise to do sth to anyone

- Everyone was sworn to secrecy about what had happened.

see also ↑sworn

Idioms: ↑swear blind ▪ ↑swear like a trooper

Derived ↑swear by somebody ▪ ↑swear off something ▪ ↑swear somebody in ▪ ↑swear somebody into something ▪ ↑swear to something

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	swear
	BrE /sweə(r)/
	NAmE /sweɪr/
he / she / it	swears
	BrE /sweəz/
	NAmE /sweɪz/
past simple	swore
	BrE /swɔː(r)/
	NAmE /swɔːr/
past participle	sworn
	BrE /swɔːn/
	NAmE /swɔːrn/
-ing form	swearing
	BrE /ˈswɛərɪŋ/
	NAmE /ˈswɛrɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Old English **swerian** of Germanic origin; related to Dutch **zweren**, German **schwören**, also to ↑answer.

Example Bank:

- He heard her swear under her breath.
- He made her swear on the Bible that she wouldn't leave him.
- He swears up and down that he trusts me.
- He swore loudly at her and left.
- He swore solemnly that he would never hit her again.
- I swear by Almighty God to tell the truth.
- I swear to you, I don't know anything.
- I would be prepared to swear on oath that they didn't see me.
- Lincoln was sworn into office on March 4, 1861.
- We were all sworn to secrecy about the plan.
- Are you willing to stand up in court and swear that you don't recognize him?
- He swore blind that you knew all about it.
- I don't like to hear children swearing.
- I swear (that) I'll never leave you.
- I swear to God I had nothing to do with it.
- I think I put the keys back in the drawer, but I couldn't swear to it.
- She fell over and swore really loudly.

swear

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

swear S2 /sweə \$ swer/ BrE ^ɪ AmE ^ɪ verb (past tense **swore** /swɔː \$ swɔːt, past participle **sworn** /swɔːn \$ swɔːrn)

[Word Family: verb: ↑swear; noun: ↑swearing; adjective: ↑sworn]

[Language: Old English; Origin: swerian]

1. **OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE** [intransitive] to use rude and offensive language:

• Don't swear in front of the children.

swear at

• He turned round and swore at me.

2. **PROMISE** [transitive] to promise that you will do something

swear (that)

• Victor swore he would get his revenge.

swear to do something

• Mona swore never to return home.

• Do you swear on your honour (=promise very strongly) that you will never tell anyone?

3. **STATE THE TRUTH** [intransitive and transitive] informal to say very strongly that what you are saying is true:

• I never touched your purse, I swear!

swear (that)

• He says he was there all the time, but I swear I never saw him.

swear blind British English (=say very strongly)

• She swore blind that she had never seen him before.

• I never touched her, I swear to God.

• I think it was about ten o'clock when we left, but I couldn't swear to it (=I am not certain).

4. **somebody could have sworn (that) ...** used to say that someone was sure about something but now they think they were wrong:

• I could have sworn I had my keys.

5. **PUBLIC PROMISE** [intransitive and transitive] to make a public official promise, especially in a court of law

swear on

Witnesses have to swear on the Bible.

Remember that you have sworn an oath and so must tell the truth.

Presidents must swear allegiance to the US constitution.

6. **swear somebody to secrecy/silence** to make someone promise not to tell anyone what you have told them

—**swearing** *noun* [uncountable]:

He was cautioned for swearing.

lots of shouting and swearing

• • •

THESAURUS

- **promise** to tell someone that you will definitely do something, or that something will happen: He promised to give the book back. | The organisers have promised that this year's event will take place.
- **swear** to make a very serious and sincere promise, for example in a law court: He had sworn to tell the truth. | I would never do that, I swear.
- **give somebody your word** *especially spoken* to promise sincerely that you will do something or that something is true – often used when you are trying to persuade someone that they can trust you: I give you my word that your money is safe with me. | I'll let you go out tonight if you give me your word that you'll be home by 11.
- **vow** to make a very serious promise, often to yourself: She vowed that she would never drink alcohol again. | They vowed to carry on their campaign for justice.
- **assure** to promise someone that something will happen or that something is true, in order to try to make them feel less worried: Police have assured the public that they are doing everything they can to find the killer.
- **guarantee** to promise that you will make sure that something will definitely happen, so that there is no question of it not happening: I guarantee that you will have the documents by tomorrow. | How can you guarantee that this won't happen again?
- **pledge** to promise publicly or officially that you will do something, for example to give help or money: The government has pledged to increase overseas aid to \$4 billion over the next five years.
- **undertake** *formal* to make an official or legal promise to do something: The government undertook to keep price increases to a minimum. | The two sides undertook to respect each other's territory.
- **commit to something** *formal* to make a firm and definite promise to do something important, which will affect you for a long time and which could result in serious effects if you fail: Bobby felt unready to commit to a romantic relationship. | A group of 11 companies has committed to developing a new passenger plane.

swear by something *phrasal verb informal*

to have great confidence in how good or effective something is:

He swears by vitamin C pills.

swear somebody ↔ **in** *phrasal verb [usually passive]*

if someone with a new public job or position is sworn in, they make an official promise to do their duty well:

The new governor will be sworn in next week.

The jury have not yet been sworn in.

swear

Frequency Pack

12500 **3262**^{MCW}

15000 **2630**^{COCA}

RANGE: **2k** **SWEAR** 10750

swear 4449

sworn 2711

swore 1953

swears 761

swearing 876

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2365 **9960**³⁰⁹⁸ *vv0*

1105 **18115**¹²⁷⁴ *vvi*

69 **86934**⁷⁷ *nn1*