

hesitate

[ˈhezɪteɪt] *v*

1. 1) колебаться, сомневаться

I hesitated about taking the position - я раздумывал, согласиться ли мне на эту должность
 we hesitated concerning the course to be taken - мы не знали, какой путь избрать
 he didn't hesitate for an instant - он не колебался ни минуты
 go on!, don't hesitate! - продолжайте!, не мешкайте!

2) не решаться

to hesitate to do /in doing/ smth. - не решаться сделать что-л
 I hesitate to affirm - (я) боюсь утверждать
 to hesitate about accepting a gift - не решаться принять подарок
 he hesitated over the price - его смущала цена
 I hesitate rather to choose my opinion - я боюсь высказать определённое мнение

2. стесняться

do not hesitate to ask me - спрашивайте меня, не стесняйтесь

3. запинаться, заикаться

to hesitate in one's speech - заикаться
 he hesitated for a word - он запнулся, подыскивая нужное слово

◇ he who hesitates is lost - *посл.* стоит заколебаться - и ты пропал; ≅ промедление смерти подобно

hesitate

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

hesi-tate [hesitate hesitates hesitated hesitating] *BrE* [ˈhezɪteɪt] ^u *NAmE*

[ˈhezɪteɪt] ^e *verb*

1. **intransitive, transitive** to be slow to speak or act because you feel uncertain or nervous

- She hesitated before replying.
- He seemed to hesitate a second.
- ~ **about/over sth** I didn't hesitate for a moment about taking the job.
- She stood there, hesitating over whether or not to tell him the truth.
- **+ speech** 'I'm not sure,' she hesitated.

2. **intransitive** ~ **to do sth** to be worried about doing sth, especially because you are not sure that it is right or appropriate

- Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.
- If you'd like me to send you the book, then please don't hesitate to ask.

Idiom: ↑ **he who hesitates**

Derived Word ↑ **hesitation**

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	hesitate
	<i>BrE</i> / ˈhezɪteɪt/
	<i>NAmE</i> / ˈhezɪteɪt/
he / she / it	hesitates
	<i>BrE</i> / ˈhezɪteɪtɪz/
	<i>NAmE</i> / ˈhezɪteɪtɪz/
past simple, past participle	hesitated
	<i>BrE</i> / ˈhezɪteɪtɪd/
	<i>NAmE</i> / ˈhezɪteɪtɪd/
-ing form	hesitating
	<i>BrE</i> / ˈhezɪteɪtɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> / ˈhezɪteɪtɪŋ/

Word Origin:

early 17th cent.: from Latin **haesitat-** ‘**stuck fast, left undecided**’, from the verb **haesitare**, from **haerere** ‘**stick, stay**’.

Thesaurus:

hesitate *verb*

1. |

- She hesitated before replying.
- pause** • |especially written **break off** • |especially *BrE*, disapproving **dither** •
 hesitate/dither **over** sth
 hesitate/pause/break off **(for) a moment**
 hesitate/pause **briefly/momentarily /a little**

2. |

- Please don't hesitate to ask for help.
- hold back** • • **think twice** • • **shy away from sth** • • **shrink from sth** •
make sb hesitate/hold back/think twice
 hesitate/hold back **a little/(for) a moment**
Hesitate or hold back? You **hesitate** when you are unsure what to do; you **hold back** when what you want to do may not be what sb else wants.

Example Bank:

- He stood hesitating over whether to join the fight.
- He was hesitating between a glass of wine and an orange juice.

- I barely hesitated before saying yes.
- I didn't hesitate about working with Craig.
- Something about his smile made her hesitate.
- I didn't hesitate for a moment about taking the job.
- If you'd like me to send you the book, then please don't hesitate to ask.

hesitate

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

hesitate **W3** /'hezətet, 'hezɪtət/ *BrE* " *AmE* " *verb*

[Date: 1600-1700; Language: Latin; Origin: past participle of haesitare 'to stick firmly, hesitate', from haerere 'to stick']

1. **[intransitive]** to pause before saying or doing something because you are nervous or not sure:

" Kay hesitated for a moment and then said 'yes'.

hesitate about/over

" He was still hesitating over whether to leave or not.

2. **don't hesitate to do something** used to tell someone that it is correct or right for them to do something and they do not have to worry about offending anyone:

" Don't hesitate to contact me if you need any more information.

—hesitatingly *adverb*

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THESAURUS

- **pause** to stop speaking or stop doing something for a very short time before starting again. **Pause** is used especially in written descriptions. In everyday spoken English, people usually just say **stop**: She paused at the bottom of the stairs and looked up at the clock. | He paused, waiting for Larry to say something.
- **hesitate** to stop for a moment and wait before doing something, because you feel unsure or nervous about it: She hesitated for a moment before replying.
- **have/take a break** to stop working for a short time in order to rest, eat etc: We're all getting tired. Let's take a break for ten minutes.
- **adjourn** *formal* if a meeting or court adjourns or is adjourned, it stops for a short time: If there are no more questions, the committee will adjourn until tomorrow morning. | The trial was adjourned because one of the defendants was ill.
- **take five** *especially American English informal* to stop for a short time in order to rest: Let's take five and get some coffee.
- **break off** to suddenly stop speaking, especially because you see, hear, or think of something: He broke off his conversation when he saw Mary running towards him. | She broke off and looked embarrassed, then said, 'I'll explain later.'

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Freakuency Pack

12500 **3362**^{MCW}

15000 **2712**^{COCA}

RANGE: **3k** HESITATE 10228

hesitate 2312

hesitating 423

unhesitating 31

hesitatingly 29

unhesitatingly 88

hesitates 1250

hesitated 3827

hesitation 2159

hesitations 109

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

1643 **14664**¹⁷⁵⁸ *vvi*

526 **30047**⁵⁵⁴ *vv0*