

nail

1. [neɪl] *n*

- 1. 1) ноготь
to do one's nails - делать маникюр
- 2) коготь
- 2. 1) гвоздь; нагель
Swiss edge nail - костыльковый /рантовой/ гвоздь (*альпинизм*)
to drive a nail home - забить гвоздь по самую шляпку [*ср. тж.* ◇]
- 2) *тех.* шпилька
- 3. *уст.* нейл, мера длины (2 1/4 дюйма)
- 4. *сл.* сигарета «гвоздик»
◇ a nail in smb.'s coffin - гвоздь в чей-л. гроб; нечто, ускоряющее чью-л. смерть *или* гибель
hard as nails - а) жестокий, бесчувственный; б) в форме (*о спор смене*; *тж.* tough as nails)
right as nails - а) совершенно правильно; б) в полном порядке; в) совершенно здоров
to hit the nail on the head - попасть в точку
to a nail - тщательно, с предельной точностью
to drive the nail home - довести дело до конца, добиться своего [*ср. тж.* 2, 1)]
from the tender nail - *поэт.* с юности, с младых ногтей
to fight tooth and nail - бороться не на жизнь, а на смерть
on the nail - на месте, сразу, тут же; немедленно
pay on the nail I - ≅ деньги на бочку!
to be /to go/ off at the nail - *шотл.* а) обезуметь, спянуть; б) быть навеселе
to spit nails - *амер. сл.* хулиганить, дебоширить
one nail drives out another - *посл.* ≅ клин клином вышибают

2. [neɪl] *v*

- 1. 1) забивать гвозди; прибывать (*гвоздями*); приколачивать
to nail a name-plate to a door - прибить к двери дощечку с фамилией
nailed to the cross - пригвождённый к кресту; распятый на кресте
to have one's boots nailed - (отдать) подбить сапоги
to nail a cover on a box - набить крышку на ящик
- 2) приковывать, пригвозждать (*внимание и т. п.*)
nailed to the spot - (остановившись) как вкопанный
nailed to one's bed - прикованный к постели
to nail one's mind on a subject - сосредоточиться на каком-л. предмете
the shopman is nailed all day behind the counter - продавец целый день привязан к прилавку
- 2. *разг.* схватить, поймать, забрать, арестовать
the police have nailed the thief - полиция задержала вора
- 3. уличить (*кого-л.*); поймать (*на лжи*); застукать, накрыть (*на месте преступления*)
to be nailed going without leave - *школ.* попасться при попытке уйти без разрешения
- 4. *сл.* схватить, ухватить; сцапать, сгрести
he nailed me in the corridor - он поймал меня /вцепился в меня/ в коридоре
he nailed me for dinner - он настоял, чтобы я пошёл к нему обедать
- 5. *сл.* украсть
- 6. *разг.* закрепить (*успех и т. п.*)
to nail the bargain - оформить сделку
- 7. *амер.* плотничать
◇ to nail smb. to the wall - прижать кого-л. к стене
to nail to the counter - разоблачить (*ложь и т. п.*)
to nail one's colours to the mast - занять непримиримую позицию; отстаивать свои взгляды до конца; стоять насмерть
to nail to the barn-door - выставлять на поругание; ≅ пригвоздить к позорному столбу

nail

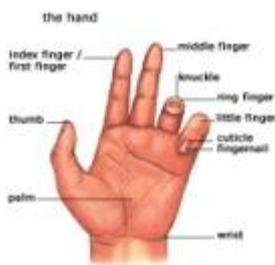
nail [neɪl neɪls naɪld naɪlɪŋ] *noun, verb* *BrE* [neɪl] ⁴ *NAmE* [neɪl] ⁵

noun



- 1. thin hard layer covering the outer tip of the fingers or toes
• Stop biting your nails!

- nail clippers



see also ↑fingernail ↑toenail

2. a small thin pointed piece of metal with a flat head, used for hanging things on a wall or for joining pieces of wood together

- She hammered the nail in.

compare ↑screw (1), ↑tack (3)

more at fight tooth and nail at ↑fight_{v.}, hard as nails at ↑hard_{adj.}, hit the nail on the head at ↑hit_{v.}, (as) tough as nails at ↑tough

adj.

Word Origin:

Old English *nægel* (noun), *næglan* (verb), of Germanic origin; related to Dutch *nagel* and German *Nagel*, from an Indo-European root shared by Latin *unguis* and Greek *onux*.

Collocations:

Decorating and home improvement

Houses

refurbish/renovate / (BrE) do up a building/a house

convert a building/house/room into homes/offices/(especially NAmE) apartments/(BrE) flats

extend/enlarge a house/building/room/kitchen

build (BrE) an extension (to the back/rear of a house)/(NAmE) an addition (on/to sth)/(BrE) a conservatory

knock down/demolish a house/home/building/wall

knock out/through the wall separating two rooms

Decoration

furnish/paint/ (especially BrE) decorate a home/house/apartment/flat/room

be decorated in bright colours/(especially US) colors/in a traditional style/with flowers/with paintings

paint/plaster the walls/ceiling

hang/put up/strip off/remove the wallpaper

install/replace/remove the bathroom fixtures/(BrE) fittings

build/put up shelves

lay wooden flooring/timber decking/floor tiles/a carpet/a patio

put up/hang/take down a picture/painting/poster/curtain

DIY/home improvement

do (BrE) DIY/carpentry/the plumbing/the wiring

make home improvements

add/install central heating/underfloor heating/insulation

fit/install double-glazing/a smoke alarm

insulate your house/your home/the walls/the pipes/the tanks/(especially BrE) the loft

fix/repair a roof/a leak/a pipe/the plumbing/a leaking (especially BrE) tap/(NAmE usually) faucet

block/clog (up)/unblock/unclog a pipe/sink

make/drill/fill a hole

hammer (in)/pull out/remove a nail

tighten/untighten/loosen/remove a screw

saw/cut/treat/stain/varnish/paint wood

Example Bank:

- He knocked the nail into the wall.
- He screamed as she dug her nails into his shoulders.
- I tapped my nails against the glass.
- I was trying to grow my nails.
- I wore acrylic nails for two months.
- She inspected her nails casually.
- There was dirt under his nails.

Idioms: ↑nail in somebody's coffin ▪ ↑nail your colours to the mast ▪ ↑on the nail

Derived ↑nail somebody down ▪ ↑nail something down ▪ ↑nail something up

verb

1. ~ sth (+ adv./prep./adj.) to fasten sth to sth with a nail or nails

- I nailed the sign to a tree.
- Wooden boards had been nailed across the windows.
- The shutters had been nailed shut.

2. ~ sb (informal) to catch sb and prove they are guilty of a crime or of doing sth bad

• The police haven't been able to nail the killer.

3. ~ **sth** (informal) to prove that sth is not true

• We must nail this lie.

4. ~ **sth** (NAmE, informal) to achieve sth or do sth right, especially in sport

• He nailed a victory in the semi-finals.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	nail
	BrE /neɪl/
	NAmE /neɪl/
he / she / it	nails
	BrE /neɪz/
	NAmE /neɪz/
past simple, past participle	nailed
	BrE /neɪd/
	NAmE /neɪd/
-ing form	nailing
	BrE /neɪlɪŋ/
	NAmE /neɪlɪŋ/

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Example Bank:

- She nailed the poster to the tree.
- There's no need to nail the wood down.

nail

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

1. **nail**¹ **S3** /neɪl/ BrE ^ˈ AmE ^ˈ noun [countable]

[Language: Old English; Origin: *næg*]



1. a thin pointed piece of metal with a flat top, which you hit into a surface with a hammer, for example to join things together or to hang something on:

• The key was hanging on a nail by the door.

hammer/bang/hit a nail into something

• She hammered a nail into the wall.

2. your nails are the hard smooth layers on the ends of your fingers and toes:

• I've broken my nail.

• Stop biting your nails!

• She sat painting her nails (=putting a coloured substance on them).

• He still had dirt under his nails. ⇒ ↑**fingernail**, ↑**toenail**

3. **nail in sb's/sth's coffin** one of several bad things which help to destroy someone's success or hopes:

• Observers fear that this strike will be another nail in the coffin of the industry.

• the final nail in his coffin

4. **as hard/tough as nails** very ↑**tough** and not easily frightened, or not caring about the effects of your actions on other people

5. **on the nail**

a) **British English** if you pay money on the nail, you pay it immediately

b) **especially American English** completely correct:

• They got it absolutely on the nail.

⇒ **hit the nail on the head** at ↑**hit**¹(26)

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 2)

■ adjectives

- **long** Her long nails were painted a pearly pink.
- **short** Her nails were short and uneven.
- **dirty** How did you get such dirty nails?
- **clean** His nails were neat and clean.

- **finger nail** (also **fingernail**) She had small hands with polished finger nails.
- **toe nail** (also **toenail**) His toenails were long and dirty.

■ verbs

- **cut your nails** You should cut your nails more often!
- **trim your nails** (=cut a small amount off) His nails were neatly trimmed.
- **file your nails** A girl was filing her nails on the bus.
- **bite your nails** Eddie bit his nails nervously.
- **paint/polish/varnish your nails** (=to put coloured liquid on your nails) Don't paint short nails in dark colours.
- **manicure your nails** (=to make your nails look attractive by cutting them and making the skin around them neat) She had manicured nails and expensive clothes.
- **do your nails** *informal* (=to cut or paint your nails) She sat at her desk, doing her nails.
- **break a nail** (=to accidentally damage a nail on one of your fingers) Oh, no, I've broken a nail.

II. **nail**² *BrE* ¹ *AmE* ¹ verb [transitive]

1. [always + adverb/preposition] to fasten something to something else with nails

nail something to something

" A sign saying 'No Fishing' had been nailed to the tree.

nail something down

" The lid was firmly nailed down.

nail something up (=permanently close a window or door by fixing something across it using nails)

" The windows had been nailed up.

2. *informal* to catch someone and prove that they are guilty of a crime or something bad:

" It took us 10 years to nail the guy who killed our daughter.

nail somebody for something

" The state police finally nailed him for fraud.

3. *informal* if you nail something, you succeed in getting it, after a lot of time or effort:

" She finally nailed her dream job.

4. **nail a lie/myth** *British English informal* to prove that what someone has said is completely untrue

5. **nail your colours to the mast** *British English* to say clearly and publicly which ideas or which people you support

6. **nail somebody to the wall/cross** *especially American English* to punish someone severely

nail somebody/something ↔ **down** *phrasal verb informal*

1. to reach a final and definite agreement or decision about something:

" Two days isn't enough time to nail down the details of an agreement.

2. **nail somebody down** to force someone to say clearly what they want or what they intend to do

nail somebody down to

" Before they repair the car, nail them down to a price.

nail

Freakuency Pack

12500 **4363**^{MCW}

15000 **2485**^{COCA}

RANGE: **2k** **NAIL** 11948

nail 4689

nails 5123

nailing 440

nailed 1696

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2294 **8999**³⁵⁷² *nn1*

700 **24621**⁷⁷⁷ *vvi*

248 **39703**³⁴⁰ *vv0*