

grasp**1. [grɑ:sp] n**

1. 1) крепкое сжатие; схватка

iron grasp - железная хватка

to have a strong grasp - иметь крепкое рукопожатие

to lose one's grasp - выпустить (*что-л.*) из рук

to wrest smth. from smb.'s grasp - вырвать что-л. из рук у кого-л.

to escape from smb.'s grasp - вырваться из чьих-л. объятий

the fish squirmed from his grasp and fell into the water - рыба выскользнула у него из руки и плюхнулась в воду

2) власть, господство; обладание

to be in the grasp of the enemy - быть во власти врага

if he comes into my grasp - если он попадётся мне в руки

2. способность быстрого восприятия, понимание, схватывание

to have a thorough grasp of a subject - основательно усвоить предмет

mental grasp - проницательность

3. рукоятка

4. шейка приклада

5. *тех.* зажим (*действие*)6. хват (*гимнастика*)

combined [cross, reverse] grasp - смешанный [скрёстный, обратный] хват

◇ beyond one's grasp - а) вне пределов досягаемости; the toy is on the top shelf, beyond the baby's grasp - игрушка лежит на верхней полке, ребёнку её не достать /ребёнок до неё не дотянется/; б) выше чьего-л. понимания

ready to one's grasp, within one's grasp - а) так близко от кого-л., что можно рукой достать; в пределах досягаемости; б) в чьей-л. власти, в пределах чьих-л. возможностей; to have success within one's grasp - быть близким к успеху; в) доступный чьему-л. пониманию

to slip from /out of/ one's grasp - а) ускользнуть от кого-л.; б) стать недоступным для кого-л.

2. [grɑ:sp] v1. схватывать, захватывать; сжимать, зажимать (*в руке*)

to grasp a branch of a tree [a flag] - крепко держать ветку дерева [знамя]

to grasp smb.'s arm - схватить кого-л. за руку

2. 1) (at) хвататься (*за что-л.*); ухватиться (*за что-л.*); делать попытку схватить (*что-л.*)

the baby grasped at the rattle dangling in front of him - ребёнок хватался за погремушку, висящую перед ним

2) (at, for) хвататься, ухватиться

to grasp (at) the opportunity - ухватиться за эту возможность

to grasp for any chance - хвататься за любую возможность

to grasp at a proposal - ухватиться за предложение

3) крепко держаться (*за что-л.*)

she grasped the post with her hands for fear of falling - боясь упасть, она крепко держалась за столб обеими руками

3. охватить умом, понять, постичь; усвоить; осознать; взять в толк

to grasp an argument - понять довод

to grasp the importance of smth. - осознать важность чего-л.

they couldn't grasp the fact that ... - они не могли взять в толк, что ...

I can't grasp your meaning - не понимаю, что вы хотите сказать

◇ to grasp the shadow and let go the substance - в погоне за нереальным упустить реальное

to grasp the nettle - смело браться за трудное дело

to grasp at a straw - хвататься за соломинку

grasp all, lose all - *посл.* ≅ за двумя зайцами погонишься, ни одного не поймаешь**grasp**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

grasp [grasp grasps grasped grasping] verb, noun BrE [grɑːsp] NAmE

[græsp]

verb

1. ~ **sb/sth** to take a firm hold of sb/sth**Syn:** ↑grip

• He grasped my hand and shook it warmly.

• Kay grasped him by the wrist.

2. to understand sth completely

• ~ **sth** They failed to grasp the importance of his words.• ~ **how, why, etc...** She was unable to grasp how to do it.• ~ **that...** It took him some time to grasp that he was now a public figure.3. ~ **a chance/an opportunity** to take an opportunity without hesitating and use it

• I grasped the opportunity to work abroad.

more at clutch/grasp at straws **at** ↑straw

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	grasp
	BrE /grɑːsp/
	NAmE /græsp/
he / she / it	grasps
	BrE /grɑːspz/
	NAmE /græspz/
past simple, past participle	grasped
	BrE /grɑːspɪd/
	NAmE /græspɪd/
-ing form	grasping
	BrE /grɑːspɪŋ/
	NAmE /græspɪŋ/

Word Origin:

late Middle English: perhaps related to ↑grope.

Synonyms:

hold

hold on • cling • clutch • grip • grasp • clasp • hang on

These words all mean to have sb/sth in your hands or arms.

hold • to have sb/sth in your hand or arms: ▫ She was holding a large box. ◇ ▫ I held the baby gently in my arms.

hold on (to sb/sth) • to continue to hold sb/sth; to put your hand on sb/sth and not take your hand away: ▫ Hold on and don't let go until I say so.

cling • to hold on to sb/sth tightly, especially with your whole body: ▫ Survivors ▫ clung to ▫ pieces of floating debris.

clutch • to hold sb/sth tightly, especially in your hand; to take hold of sth suddenly: ▫ She stood there, the flowers still clutched in her hand. ◇ ▫ He felt himself slipping and ▫ clutched at ▫ a branch.

grip • to hold on to sth very tightly with your hand: ▫ Grip the rope as tightly as you can.

grasp • to take hold of sth firmly: ▫ He grasped my hand and shook it warmly.

The object of **grasp** is often sb's **hand** or **wrist**.

clasp • (formal) to hold sb/sth tightly in your hand or in your arms: ▫ They clasped hands ▫ (= held each other's hands) ▫. ◇ ▫ She clasped the children in her arms.

The object of **clasp** is often your **hands**, sb else's **hand** or another person.

hang on (to sth) • to hold on to sth very tightly, especially in order to support yourself or stop yourself from falling: ▫ Hang on tight. We're off!

to hold/clutch/grip/clasp sth **in your hand/hands**

to hold/catch/clasp sb/sth **in your arms**

to hold/clutch/grip/grasp/clasp/hang on to sth

to hold/cling/hang on

to hold/clutch/clasp sb/sth **to** you

to hold/hold on to/cling to/clutch/grip/grasp/clasp/hang on to sb/sth **tightly**

to hold/hold on to/cling to/clutch/grip/grasp/clasp sb/sth **firmly**

to hold/hold on to/clutch/grip/clasp/hang on to sb/sth **tight**

Synonyms:

understand

see • get • follow • grasp • comprehend

These words all mean to know or realize sth, for example why sth happens, how sth works or what sth means.

understand • to know or realize the meaning of words, a language, what sb says, etc; to know or realize how or why sth happens, how it works or why it is important: ▫ I don't understand the instructions. ◇ ▫ Doctors still don't understand much about the disease.

see • to understand what is happening, what sb is saying, how sth works or how important sth is: ▫ 'It opens like this.' 'Oh, ▫ I see ▫.' ◇ ▫ Oh yes, ▫ I see what you mean ▫.

get • (informal) to understand a joke, what sb is trying to tell you, or a situation that they are trying to describe: ▫ She didn't get the joke. ◇ ▫ I don't get you.

follow • to understand an explanation, a story or the meaning of sth: ▫ Sorry— I don't quite follow. ◇ ▫ The plot is almost impossible to follow.

grasp • to come to understand a fact, an idea or how to do sth: ▫ They failed to grasp the importance of his words.

understand or grasp?

You can use **understand** or **grasp** for the action of realizing the meaning or importance of sth for the first time: ▫ It's a difficult concept for children to understand/grasp. Only **understand** can be used to talk about languages, words or writing: I don't grasp French/the instructions.

comprehend • (often used in negative statements) (formal) to understand a fact, idea or reason: ▫ The concept of infinity is almost impossible for the human mind to comprehend.

to understand/see/get/follow/grasp/comprehend **what/why/how...**

to understand/see/grasp/comprehend **that...**

to understand/see/get/grasp **the point/idea** (of sth)

to be **easy/difficult/hard** to understand/see/follow/grasp/comprehend

to **fully** understand/see/grasp/comprehend sth

Example Bank:

- He had not fully grasped the fact that he was the one who would pay for all this.
- He was quick to grasp the basic principles.
- Her hands were grasping at his coat.
- I hadn't really grasped what they were talking about.
- She failed to grasp the significance of these facts.
- She grasped him tightly by the wrist.
- She grasped hold of the banister to support herself.
- Some of these concepts are very difficult to grasp.
- a means by which students can more easily grasp the basics of science
- By this time, engineers understood/had grasped the basic principles of aerodynamics.
- He grasped the pan by its handle.
- It's a difficult concept for children to understand/grasp.

Idiom: ↑grasp the nettle

Derived ↑grasp at something

noun usually singular

1. a firm hold of sb/sth or control over sb/sth

Syn: ↑grip

- I grabbed him, but he slipped from my grasp.
- She felt a firm grasp on her arm.
- Don't let the situation escape from your grasp.
- As soon as he relaxed his grasp on the rope, it was pulled out of his hands.
- As the drugs took hold, her grasp of reality began to slip slowly away.

2. a person's understanding of a subject or of difficult facts

- He has a **good grasp of** German grammar.
- These complex formulae are **beyond the grasp of** the average pupil.

3. the ability to get or achieve sth

- Success was **within her grasp**.

Word Origin:

late Middle English: perhaps related to ↑grope.

Example Bank:

- He kept the letter firmly in his grasp.
- He slipped out of our grasp.
- Just when victory seemed within grasp, the referee blew his whistle.
- She felt a firm grasp on her hand.
- She kicked the gun out of his grasp.
- She wrenched the bottle from his grasp.
- The key was on a high shelf, just beyond her grasp.
- The robber tried to free the case from her grasp.
- The task was beyond the intellectual grasp of some of the students.
- These ideas are all beyond his grasp.
- We have no intuitive grasp of the immensity of time.
- Working with native speakers helped me get a good grasp of the language.
- a poor grasp of mathematics
- Don't let the situation escape from your grasp.
- He had a limited grasp of the wider political issues.
- Make sure you have a good grasp of the facts before attempting to argue your case.
- She has an excellent grasp of English grammar.
- Such complicated instructions are beyond the grasp of most of our students.
- The company continues to maintain its grasp on the business computer market.

grasp

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

1. **grasp**¹ /grɑːsp/ *BrE* ² *AmE* ³ *verb* [transitive]

1. to take and hold something firmly **SYN** grip:

- I grasped his arm firmly and led him away.
- Alan grasped the handle and pulled it.

2. [**not in progressive**] to completely understand a fact or an idea, especially a complicated one:

- At that time, we did not fully grasp the significance of what had happened.
- Some people find the idea of relativity difficult to grasp.

grasp what/how etc

- A short opening paragraph enables the reader to quickly grasp what the article is about.

grasp that

- Nick had grasped that something was wrong.

3. **grasp an opportunity** to eagerly and quickly use an opportunity to do something:

She is ready to grasp any opportunity to expand the business.

4. **grasp the nettle** *British English* to deal with an unpleasant situation firmly and without delay:

We need to grasp the nettle of prison reform.

grasp at something *phrasal verb*

to try to hold on to something:

His foot slipped and he grasped at the top of the wall.

II. **grasp**² *BrE* *AmE* *noun* [singular]

1. the way you hold something or your ability to hold it **SYN grip**:

Luke took her arm in a firm grasp and led her through the gate.

He had allowed the ball to slip from his grasp.

2. your ability to understand a complicated idea, situation, or subject **SYN understanding**

grasp of

Her grasp of the issues was impressive.

a good/firm/thorough etc grasp of something

Steve has a good grasp of the European legal system.

grasp on

After two months, his grasp on the subject was improving.

3. your ability to achieve or gain something

within sb's grasp

An agreement to end the war seemed within their grasp.

beyond sb's grasp

Many families are finding suitable housing beyond their grasp.

4. *literary* control or power:

The king was determined not to let Scotland slip from his grasp.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **knowledge** the facts and information that you have learned, and the understanding you have gained: Our knowledge of other cultures and societies has improved. | scientific knowledge
- **expertise** special knowledge about how to do something, that you get through experience, training, or study: The technical expertise was provided by a Japanese company. | They need people with medical expertise.
- **know-how** practical knowledge about how to do something: Business leaders often lack the local know-how to tackle problems in specific countries. | financial know-how
- **wisdom** good sense and judgment, based on knowledge and experience: the wisdom of the older family members | It's a matter of common wisdom that newspapers cannot be trusted.
- **grasp** how much you know about a situation or subject, and how well you understand it: He's been praised for his grasp of the country's economic problems. | She has a good grasp of the language.

grasp

Freakuency Pack

12500 **4396**^{MCW}

15000 **2798**^{COCA}

RANGE: **5k** GRASP 9594

grasp 6085

grasped 1805

grasping 1358

grasps 346

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2489 **10655**²⁸²² *vvi*

2246 **11215**²⁶³⁶ *nn1*

521 **28087**⁶²² *vv0*

5 **387157**⁵ *nnu*