

chance**1. [tʃɑ:ns] n****1. случайность; случай**

rare [happy, unexpected] chance - редкий [счастливым, неожиданный] случай

by chance - случайно

by a lucky chance - по счастливой случайности

by what chance? - какими судьбами?

is he, by any chance, behind this scheme? - не он, случайно, выдвинул этот план?

it was a chance that they met on the road - они встретились на дороге случайно

he goes as chance directs him - он идёт, куда глаза глядят

on the chance - на случай если

I called at his house on the chance of seeing him - я зашёл к нему, надеясь застать его дома

2. удобный случай, возможность

a chance to do smth. - удобный случай /возможность/ сделать что-л.

to get a chance to do smth. - получить возможность сделать что-л.

to lose /to miss/ the chance - упустить возможность /удобный случай/

to throw away a chance - отказаться от возможности

to give smb. a /the/ chance - дать /предоставить/ кому-л. возможность

give me another chance! - а) простите меня на этот раз!; б) дайте мне возможность попытаться ещё раз!

3. счастливый случай, удача, счастье

chance cannot be calculated on - на счастливый случай /на удачу/ нельзя рассчитывать

to take one's chance with smth. - попытаться счастья в чём-л.

4. шанс, вероятность, возможность

to have a good /a fair/ chance - иметь много шансов

to stand little chance of success - иметь мало шансов /надежды/ на успех

not the slightest /the ghost of a/ chance - ни малейшей надежды

there's just a chance that he'll help you - не исключено, что он вам поможет

there is a chance [no chance] of success - есть надежда [нет надежды] на успех

his chance of success is one to ten - у него один шанс из десяти

even chances - равные шансы /возможности/

he has every chance - он имеет все основания; у него есть все шансы

chances are against him - всё против него, обстановка складывается неблагоприятно для него

to have a chance with smb. - иметь шансы на успех у кого-л.

not a dog's /a cat's/ chance - *сл.* никаких шансов (*на что-л.*)

theory of chances - *мат.* теория вероятностей

5. 1) риск

games of chance - азартные игры

it is the chance of a lifetime - такой (удачный) случай бывает лишь раз в жизни

number nine is my chance - ставлю на девятый номер

we can't take any chances - мы не можем рисковать

2) билет вещевой лотереи (часто благотворительной)**6. *книжн.* судьба; превратности судьбы**

to await no gifts from Chance - *поэт.* не ждать милостей от судьбы

bludgeonings of Chance - удары судьбы

to bear stoutly the chances of fortune - спокойно переносить все превратности судьбы

all the changes and chances of this mortal life - все превратности и случайности нашей бренной жизни

◇ (the) chances are - по всей вероятности, скорее всего

chances are he's already heard the news - вполне возможно, что это известие уже дошло до него

to have an eye /to look/ to the main chance - чутя, где можно поживиться /нажиться/; ловить момент

let chance decide - будь что будет!

leave things to chance - положиться на волю случая, не вмешиваться в ход событий

as chance would have it - как нарочно; (всё-таки) случилось так, что ...

2. [tʃɑ:ns] a**случайный**

chance encounter - случайная встреча

chance shell - *воен.* случайное попадание снаряда; случайно попавший снаряд

3. [tʃɑ:ns] v**1. рискнуть**

let's chance it - рискнём

to chance one's luck - искушать судьбу

2. случиться, случайно произойти

it chanced that he lost - вышло так, что он проиграл

it chanced that I was out when he called - случилось так, что, когда он пришёл, меня не было дома

I chanced to be passing when she fell - я случайно проходил мимо, когда она упала

if I chance to find it - если мне доведётся найти это

3. (on, upon) случайно наткнуться на; обнаружить, найти

I chanced upon an old friend in a bar - в баре я случайно столкнулся со старым знакомым

◇ to chance one's arm - не щадить себя; рисковать головой

chance**chance** [chance chances chanced chancing] noun, verb, adjective BrE [tʃɑːns]

" NAmE [tʃæns] "

noun

- 1. countable, uncountable** a possibility of sth happening, especially sth that you want
 - ~ **of doing sth** Is there any chance of getting tickets for tonight?
 - She has only **a slim chance** of passing the exam.
 - ~ **that...** There's a **slight chance** that he'll be back in time.
 - There is **no chance** that he will change his mind.
 - ~ **of sth happening** What chance is there of anybody being found alive?
 - ~ **of sth** Nowadays a premature baby **has a very good chance** of survival
 - The operation has a **fifty-fifty chance** of success.
 - an **outside chance** (= a very small one)
 - The chances are a million to one against being struck by lightning.
- 2. countable** a suitable time or situation when you have the opportunity to do sth
 - It was the chance she had been waiting for.
 - Jeff deceived me once already— I won't give him **a second chance**.
 - This is your **big chance** (= opportunity for success).
 - ~ **of sth** We won't **get another chance** of a holiday this year.
 - ~ **to do sth** Please **give me a chance** to explain.
 - Tonight is your **last chance** to catch the play at your local theatre.
 - ~ **for sb to do sth** There will be a chance for parents to look around the school.
- 3. countable** an unpleasant or dangerous possibility
 - When installing electrical equipment don't **take any chances**. A mistake could kill.
 - The car might break down but that's a chance we'll have to take.
- 4. uncountable** the way that some things happen without any cause that you can see or understand
 - I met her **by chance** (= without planning to) at the airport.
 - Chess is not a **game of chance**.
 - It was **pure chance** that we were both there.
 - We'll plan everything very carefully and **leave nothing to chance**.

more at not have/stand a cat in hell's chance **at** ↑**cat**, not have a dog's chance **at** ↑**dog** n., have an even chance **at** ↑**even** adj., with an eye for/to the main chance **at** ↑**eye** n., fat chance **at** ↑**fat** adj., a fighting chance **at** ↑**fight** v., not have a snowball's chance in hell **at** ↑**snowball** n., a sporting chance **at** ↑**sporting**

Word Origin:Middle English: from Old French **cheance**, from **cheoir** 'fall, befall', based on Latin **cadere**.Thesaurus:**chance** noun**1. C, U**

- Is there any chance of getting tickets now?

possibility • • **prospect** • • **odds** • • **likelihood** • • **probability** •a chance/a possibility/the prospect/the odds/the likelihood/a probability **of/that...****little/no** chance/possibility/prospect/likelihoodthe chances/odds/likelihood/probability **is/are that...****increase/reduce** the chance/possibility/odds/probability/likelihood**2. C**

- This is your big chance.

opportunity • • **start** • • **possibilities** • |informal **break** • |especially **spoken moment** • |especially **business window** •a chance/the opportunity **to do sth****have** a/an chance/opportunity/break/moment/window**get/give sb** a/an chance/opportunity/break/moment/start**take advantage of** a chance/an opportunity/the possibilities/a window**Chance or opportunity? Opportunity** tends to be more formal. In some cases only one of the words can be used:

- I won't give him a second chance.

✗ I won't give him a second opportunity.:

- job/equal opportunities

✗ job/equal chances

3. C

- The manager took a chance on a young, inexperienced player.

gamble • • **risk** •**take** a chance/gamble/risk **on** sth**take** a chance/risk **with** stha **big** chance/gamble/risk

Chance, gamble or risk? Risk is used especially when there is danger to life or sb's safety; **gamble** is used about less serious danger, or when you risk money. When you decide to give/not to give sb the opportunity to do sth, you **take a chance/take no chances**.

4. U, sing.

• We met by chance at the airport.
coincidence • • **accident** • • **luck** •
by chance/coincidence/accident/luck
pure/sheer chance/coincidence/accident/luck
a/an happy/unfortunate/strange chance/coincidence/accident

Synonyms:

luck

chance • **coincidence** • **accident** • **fate** • **destiny**

These are all words for things that happen or the force that causes them to happen.

luck • the force that causes good or bad things to happen to people: ▪ This ring has always brought me good luck.

chance • the way that some things happen without any cause that you can see or understand: ▪ The results could simply be due to chance.

coincidence • the fact of two things happening at the same time by chance, in a surprising way: ▪ They met through a series of strange coincidences.

accident • something that happens unexpectedly and is not planned in advance: ▪ Their early arrival was just an accident.

fate • the power that is believed to control everything that happens and that cannot be stopped or changed: ▪ Fate decreed that she would never reach America.

destiny • the power that is believed to control events: ▪ I believe there's some force guiding us— call it God, destiny or fate.

fate or destiny?

Fate can be kind, but this is an unexpected gift; just as often, **fate** is cruel and makes people feel helpless. **Destiny** is more likely to give people a sense of power: people who have a **strong sense of destiny** usually believe that they are meant to be great or do great things.

by ...luck/chance/coincidence/accident

It's no coincidence/accident **that...**

pure/sheer luck/chance/coincidence/accident

to **believe in** luck/coincidences/fate/destiny

Example Bank:

- After a poor start, they are now in with a chance of winning the league.
- Are you by any chance Mr Ludd?
- As long as there is an outside chance, we will go for it.
- By a happy chance he bumped into an old friend on the plane.
- Chess is not a game of chance.
- Fat chance of him helping you!
- Given the chance, I'd retire tomorrow.
- He blew four of his seven save chances.
- He deserves the chance to give his side of the story.
- He didn't want to risk the chance of being discovered.
- He doesn't stand a chance of winning against such an experienced player.
- He had wasted a golden chance to make history.
- He had zero chance of survival
- He realized that this might be his only chance to save himself.
- How do you rate our chances of finding her?
- I don't fancy our chances of getting there on time.
- I finally had the chance to meet my hero.
- I got most answers right through sheer chance.
- I rang the company just on the off chance that they might have a vacancy.
- I would welcome the chance to give my opinion.
- I wouldn't pass up the chance of working for them.
- If she let this chance slip, she would regret it for the rest of her life.
- It was a mistake which eliminated any chance of an Australian victory.
- Katie was his last real chance at happiness.
- Leaving nothing to chance, he delivered the letter himself.
- No child should be denied the chance of growing up in a family.
- She has every chance of passing the exam if she works hard.
- She played left-handed to give her opponent a fair chance.
- She spotted her chance of making a quick profit.
- Take every chance that comes your way.
- The doctors gave him little chance of surviving the night.
- The dog always runs off when it gets half a chance.
- The guide book didn't mention the hotel, but we decided to take a chance.
- The manager took a chance on the young goalkeeper.
- The missing climber's chances of survival are slim.
- The new college is intended to improve the life chances of children in the inner city.
- The police came upon the hideout purely by chance.
- The police were taking no chances with the protesters.
- The results could simply be due to chance.
- The teacher gave her one last chance to prove she could behave
- The team created several clear chances but failed to score.

- There are no second chances in this business.
- There is a very real chance that the film will win an award.
- There is always an element of chance in buying a used car.
- There isn't a snowball's chance in hell that I'll wear that thing!
- There was only a million-to-one chance of it happening.
- There's a fair chance that nobody will come to the talk.
- They blew their chance to go second in the league.
- They have a 90 per cent chance of success.
- This is the ideal chance for him to show his ability.
- This is your big chance— grab it with both hands.
- Travis had left the door open— she seized her chance and was through it like a shot.
- What are his survival chances?
- When the chance came to go to Paris, she jumped at it.
- the variety with the best chance for success
- As chance would have it, John was going to London too.
- Jeff deceived me once already— I won't give him a second chance.
- Nowadays a premature baby has a very good chance of survival
- The car might break down but that's a chance we'll have to take.
- There's a slight chance that she'll be back in time.
- We met by chance at the airport.
- We won't get another chance at a vacation this year.
- We'll plan everything very carefully and leave nothing to chance.
- When installing electrical equipment don't take any chances.
- You'll have the opportunity/chance to ask questions at the end.

Idioms: ↑as chance would have it ▪ ↑by any chance ▪ ↑chance would be a fine thing ▪ ↑chance your arm ▪ ↑chances are ... ▪ ↑give somebody half a chance ▪ ↑in with a chance ▪ ↑no chance ▪ ↑on the off chance ▪ ↑stand a chance ▪ ↑take a chance ▪ ↑take your chances

Derived ↑chance on somebody

verb

1. transitive (informal) to risk sth, although you know the result may not be successful

- ~ **sth** She was **chancing her luck** driving without a licence.
- 'Take an umbrella.' 'No, I'll **chance it** ' (= take the risk that it may rain) .
- ~ **doing sth** I stayed hidden; I couldn't chance coming out.

2. linking verb (formal) to happen or to do sth by chance

- ~ **to do sth** If I do chance to find out where she is, I'll inform you immediately.
- They chanced to be staying at the same hotel.
- **it chanced (that)...** It chanced (that) they were staying at the same hotel.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we /they	chance
	BrE /tʃɑːns/
	NAme /tʃæns/
he / she /it	chances
	BrE /tʃɑːnsɪz/
	NAme /tʃænsɪz/
past simple, past participle	chanced
	BrE /tʃɑːnst/
	NAme /tʃænst/
-ing form	chancing
	BrE /tʃɑːnsɪŋ/
	NAme /tʃænsɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French **cheance**, from **cheoir 'fall, befall'** , based on Latin **cadere**.

Example Bank:

- 'Take an umbrella.' 'No, I'll chance it.'
- I stayed hidden; I couldn't chance coming out.

adjective only before noun

not planned

Syn: ↑unplanned

- a **chance meeting/encounter**

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French **cheance**, from **cheoir 'fall, befall'** , based on Latin **cadere**.

chance

I. **chance**¹ **S1 W1** /tʃɑːns\$ tʃæns/ *BrE* *AmE* *noun*

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: Vulgar Latin cadentia 'fall', from Latin cadere 'to fall']

1. **POSSIBILITY** [uncountable and countable] the possibility that something will happen, especially something you want:

There's always the chance that something will go wrong.

chance of

What are the team's chances of success?

If we did move to London, I'd stand a much better chance (=have a much better chance) of getting a job.

There is little chance of her being found alive.

Chances are (=it is likely that) you'll be fine.

2. **OPPORTUNITY** [countable] a time or situation which you can use to do something that you want to do **SYN opportunity**

chance to do something

Ralph was waiting for a chance to introduce himself.

chance of

our only chance of escape

I'm sorry, I haven't had a chance to look at it yet.

If someone invited me over to Florida, I'd jump at the chance (=use the opportunity eagerly).

3. **RISK take a chance** to do something that involves risks:

The rope might break, but that's a chance we'll have to take.

After losing \$20,000 on my last business venture, I'm not taking any chances this time.

take a chance on

He was taking a chance on a relatively new young actor.

He decided to take his chances in the boat.

4. **LIKELY TO SUCCEED sb's chances** how likely it is that someone will succeed:

Ryan will be a candidate in next month's elections, but his chances are not good.

sb's chances of doing something

England's chances of winning the series have all but disappeared.

not fancy/not rate sb's chances *British English* (=think someone is unlikely to succeed)

I don't fancy their chances against Brazil.

▶ Do not say 'someone's chances to do something'. Say **someone's chances of doing something**.

5. **LUCK** [uncountable] the way some things happen without being planned or caused by people ⇒ **fate**

by chance

I bumped into her quite by chance in Oxford Street.

leave something to chance (=to not plan something but just hope that everything will happen as intended)

Dave had thought of every possibility, he was leaving nothing to chance.

pure/sheer/blind chance (=not at all planned)

It was pure chance that they ended up working in the same office in the same town.

As chance would have it, the one time I wanted to see her, she wasn't in.

6. **by any chance** *spoken* used to ask politely whether something is true:

Are you Mrs Grant, by any chance?

7. **any chance of ...?** *spoken* used to ask whether you can have something or whether something is possible:

Any chance of a cup of coffee?

Any chance of you coming to the party on Saturday?

8. **be in with a chance** if a competitor is in with a chance, it is possible that they will win:

I think we're in with a good chance of beating them.

9. **no chance!/fat chance!** *spoken* used to emphasize that you are sure something could never happen:

'Maybe your brother would lend you the money?' 'Huh, fat chance!'

10. **on the off chance** if you do something on the off chance, you do it hoping for a particular result, although you know it is not likely:

I didn't really expect her to be at home. I just called on the off chance. ⇒ **↑off-chance**

11. **chance would be a fine thing!** *British English spoken* used to mean that the thing you want to happen is very unlikely:

'Do you think you'll get married?' 'Chance would be a fine thing!'

⇒ **game of chance** at **↑game**¹(15)

...

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 1)**■ verbs**

▪ **have/stand a chance (of something)** (=it is possible you will do it) I think you have a good chance of getting the job.

▪ **give somebody a chance of doing something** (=say how likely it is that they will do it) He has been given a fifty-fifty chance of being fit for Sunday's match.

▪ **increase the chance of something** Certain foods increase the chance of heart disease.

▪ **improve the chance of something** The book shows you how to improve your chance of success.

▪ **reduce/lessen the chance of something** The talks were aimed at reducing the chance of war.

▪ **ruin any chance of something** (=make it impossible for something to happen) Drinking alcohol can ruin any chance of weight loss.

▪ **jeopardize any chance of something** (=make something less likely to happen) This could jeopardize any chance of a ceasefire.

■ adjectives

▪ **a good chance** (=when something is likely) I think there is a good chance that he will say yes.

▪ **every chance** (=a good chance) There's every chance that the baby will survive.

- **some chance** There's some chance of snow later this week.
- **a small/slight/slim chance** He only has a very small chance of being elected. | There's a slight chance of some sunshine in the west.
- **no/little/not much chance** The prisoners knew there was little chance of escape.
- **a one in three/four/ten etc chance** (=used to say how likely something is) People in their 30s have a one in 3,000 chance of getting the disease.
- **a fair chance** (=a fairly good chance) If you work, you have a fair chance of passing the test.
- **a sporting chance** (=a fairly good chance) The proposals had at least a sporting chance of being accepted.
- **a fighting chance** (=a small but real chance) The Republican Party has a fighting chance at the next election.
- **a fifty-fifty chance** (=an equal chance that something will or will not happen) I'd say there is a 50–50 chance that the deal will go through.
- **an outside/a remote chance** (=a very small chance) He still has an outside chance of winning the championship.
- **a million-to-one chance/a one in a million chance** (=when something is extremely unlikely) It must have been a million-to-one chance that we'd meet.

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 2)

■ verbs

- **get/have a chance to do something** I'd like a job in which I get the chance to travel.
- **give somebody/offer/provide a chance** I was given the chance to play the main part in the play. | Sport provides a chance for you to get outside with friends.
- **take a chance** (=accept an opportunity) If I was offered the chance to be in the team, I'd take it.
- **jump at a chance** (=use an opportunity eagerly) Ed jumped at the chance to earn some extra money.
- **grab/seize a chance** (=quickly use an opportunity) As soon as she stopped speaking, I grabbed the chance to leave.
- **miss/lose a chance** (=not use an opportunity) He missed a chance to score just before half time.
- **throw away/pass up/turn down a chance** (=not accept or use an opportunity) Imagine throwing up a chance to go to America!
- **welcome the chance to do something** I'd welcome the chance to discuss the problem with someone.
- **deserve a chance** Every kid deserves a chance in life.
- **blow a chance** *informal* (=have a special opportunity and fail to use it) He thought he'd blown his chance of happiness.

■ adjectives

- **a second chance/another chance** The interview went badly, so I didn't think they would give me a second chance.
- **sb's last chance** This is my last chance to try and pass the exam.

■ phrases

- **the chance of a lifetime** (=one that you are very unlikely to have again) If you don't decide soon, you'll have missed the chance of a lifetime.
- **now's your chance** *spoken* (=you have the opportunity to do something now) You're not working so now's your chance to write a book.
- **given the chance/given half a chance** (=if there is an opportunity to do something) Goats will eat anything, given half a chance.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **luck** *noun* [uncountable] when good or bad things happen to people by chance: The game involves an element of luck as well as skill.
- **chance** *noun* [uncountable] the way that some things happen without being planned or caused by people: I met her by chance on a plane to Tokyo. | Like all top athletes, he leaves nothing to chance, and trains harder than anybody.
- **fortune** *noun* [uncountable] luck and the effect it has on your life: I had the good fortune to work with some great people. | The tour was dogged by ill fortune (=it had a lot of bad luck) from the start. | Fortune has shone on the team so far this season (=they have been lucky).
- **fate** *noun* [uncountable] a power that some people believe controls what happens to people and which cannot be changed or stopped: Fate dealt him a cruel blow with the death of his wife at the age of 32. | It must have been fate that brought them together, and fate that tore them apart. | We can't just leave it to fate.
- **providence** *noun* [uncountable] a power which some people believe controls what happens in our lives and protects us: Do you believe in divine providence (=God's power to make things happen)? | Her life was mapped out for her by providence.
- **fluke** *noun* [countable usually singular] *informal* something good that happens because of luck: Their second goal was a fluke. | They won by a fluke.

II. chance² *BrE* *AmE* *verb*

1. [transitive] to do something that you know involves a risk:

- I wasn't sure if I'd got quite enough petrol to get me home, but I decided to chance it.
- We decided not to chance our luck in the storm.
- She'd never played before, but she was ready to chance her arm (=take a risk by doing something which may fail).

chance doing something

- I decided to stay where I was. I couldn't chance being seen.

2. [intransitive] *literary* to happen in a way which is not expected and not planned

chance to do something

- She chanced to be passing when I came out of the house.
- It chanced that we both went to Paris that year.

chance on/upon/across somebody/something *phrasal verb formal*

to find something or meet someone when you are not expecting to:

- Henry chanced upon some valuable coins in the attic.

III. **chance**³ *BrE* ² *AmE* ² *adjective* [only before noun]

not planned or expected **SYN accidental**

chance meeting/encounter/event etc

" A chance meeting with a journalist changed everything.

" A chance remark by one of his colleagues got him thinking.

chance

Freakuency Pack

12500 **593**^{MCW}

15000 **713**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k** CHANCE 66964

chance 54859

chanced 227

chances 11849

chancing 29

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

34556 **741**⁵³⁵⁵⁷ *nn1*

561 **18897**¹¹⁹³ *np1*

59 **98886**⁶⁰ *vv0*

18 **181751**¹⁹ *nnu*

15 **205628**¹⁵ *jj*

15 **206617**¹⁵ *vvi*
