

attack1. [ə'tæk] *n*

1. 1) нападение

sudden /surprise/ attack - внезапное нападение
armed attack - вооружённое нападение

2) наступление, наступательный бой; атака

composed [direct] attack - сложная [прямая] атака (*фехтование*)
attack position - *воен.* исходное положение для наступления
attack formation - *воен.* боевой порядок в наступлении
attack against an organized position - наступление на заранее подготовленную оборону противника
attack in force - атака крупными силами
to make an attack (on) - атаковать, наступать (на)
to open an attack - начать наступление
to carry /to deliver/ an attack - атаковать, наносить удар

2. нападки, враждебная критика

attack against the policy of government in the House of Commons - критика политики правительства в палате общин

3. *мед.* приступ, вспышка (*болезни*); припадок; криз, атака:

attack of fever - приступ лихорадки
attack of flu - вспышка гриппа

4. *муз.* атака

5. коррозия, агрессивное действие среды

6. *сбир. спорт.* нападающие, нападение (*хоккей*)2. [ə'tæk] *v*

1. нападать; атаковать

to attack a town - напасть на город
to attack an enemy - напасть на противника, атаковать противника

2. нападать, критиковать

to attack smb.'s conduct - подвергать критике /критиковать/ чьё-л. поведение
the candidate angrily attacked his opponent - кандидат подверг своего соперника ожесточённым нападкам

3. энергично браться за работу; приступать, подступиться

to attack a task [a problem] - энергично взяться за выполнение задания [за разрешение проблемы]
she attacked housecleaning - она с жаром принялась за (генеральную) уборку
he attacked his dinner at once - *шутл.* он сразу набросился на обед

4. поражать (*о болезни*)

a disease that attacks children - болезнь, поражающая детей

5. 1) разрушать

the damp is attacking the wall - сырость разрушает стену

2) поражать, причинять ущерб

crops were attacked by locusts - посева были уничтожены саранчой

3) *тех.* разъедать, корродировать

acid attacks metals - кислота разъедает металлы

4) *метал.* травить5) *хим.* вступать в реакцию**attack**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

at-tack [attack attacks attacked attacking] noun, verb BrE [ə'tæk] ^{us} NAmE

[ə'tæk]

noun

VIOLENCE1. **countable, uncountable** ~ (on sb) an act of using violence to try to hurt or kill sb

- a series of racist attacks
- A child is recovering in hospital after a serious attack by a stray dog.

IN WAR2. **countable, uncountable** ~ (on sb/sth) an act of trying to kill or injure the enemy in war, using weapons such as guns and bombs

- to **launch/make/mount an attack**
- The patrol came **under attack** from all sides.

see also ↑counter-attack

CRITICISM3. **countable, uncountable** ~ (on sb/sth) strong criticism of sb/sth in speech or in writing

- a scathing attack on the government's policies
- The school has come **under attack** for failing to encourage bright pupils.

ACTION TO STOP STH4. **countable** ~ (on sth) an action that you take to try to stop or change sth that you feel is bad

- to launch **an all-out attack on** poverty/unemployment

OF ILLNESS

5. countable a sudden, short period of illness, usually severe, especially an illness that you have often

- to suffer an asthma attack
- an acute attack of food poisoning
- a panic attack
- (figurative) an attack of the giggles

see also ↑heart attack

OF EMOTION

6. countable a sudden period of feeling an emotion such as fear

- an attack of nerves

DAMAGE

7. uncountable, countable the action of sth such as an insect, or a disease, that causes damage to sth/sb

- The roof timbers were affected by rot and insect attack.

IN SPORT

8. singular (BrE) (NAMe **of-fense**) the players in a team whose job is to try to score goals or points

- Germany's attack has been weakened by the loss of some key players through injury.

compare ↑defence

9. countable, uncountable the actions that players take to try to score a goal or win the game

- a sustained attack on the Arsenal goal

Word Origin:

early 17th cent.: from French **attaque** (noun), **attaquer** (verb), from Italian **attacco** 'an attack', **attaccare** 'join battle', based on an element of Germanic origin (see ↑attach).

Thesaurus:

attack noun

1. C

- a vicious knife attack

assault • • **rape** •

an attack/assault **on/against** sb

a/an **violent/brutal/savage/vicious/alleged** attack/assault/rape

carry out an attack/assault

2. C, U

- He ordered his men to mount an attack on the city.

raid • • **assault** • • **strike** • • **invasion** • • **offensive** • |formal **incursion** •

a/an attack/raid/assault/strike/offensive **against** sb/sth

a/an attack/assault/strike/offensive/incursion **on** sb/sth

a **military** attack/raid/assault/strike/invasion/offensive/incursion

plan/launch a/an attack/raid/assault/strike/invasion/offensive

3. C, U

- She launched a scathing attack on the government's policies.

assault • • **criticism** • • **condemnation** • |formal **denunciation** • • **censure** •

an attack/assault **on** sb/sth

come under attack/assault/criticism/censure

Attack or assault? **Attack** is used more frequently, but an **assault** can be more severe and damaging.

4. C

- recovering from an attack of food poisoning

bout • • **fit** • • **outburst** • • **burst** • • **flurry** •

a/an attack/bout/fit/outburst/burst/flurry **of** sth

suffer from/have/bring on a/an attack/bout/fit (of sth)

trigger a/an attack/fit/outburst (of sth)

Attack or bout? You can use either to describe period of illness, but **attack** describes a shorter and more sudden illness than **bout**.

Collocations:

War and peace

Starting a war

declare/make/wage war (on sb/sth)

go to war (against/with sb)

cause/spark/provoke/foment/quell unrest

incite/lead/crush/suppress a revolt/rebellion

launch/mount/carry out a surprise/terrorist attack

prevent/halt/represent an escalation of the conflict

be torn apart by/be on the brink of civil war

enter/invade/occupy sb's territory

lead/launch/resist/repel an invasion

Military operations

adopt/develop/implement/pursue a military strategy
carry out/execute/perform military operations/manoeuvres (*especially US*) maneuvers
send/deploy/station/pull back/withdraw troops
go on/fly/carry out a reconnaissance/rescue mission
train/equip/deploy army/military/combat units
lead/launch/conduct a raid/a surprise attack/an (air/airborne/amphibious) assault (on sb)
employ/use guerrilla tactics
conduct/wage biological/guerrilla warfare
fight/crush/defeat the rebels/the insurgency
suffer/inflict a crushing defeat
achieve/win a decisive victory
halt/stop the British/German/Russian advance
order/force a retreat

Fighting

join/serve in the army/navy/air force
be/go/remain/serve on active duty
serve/complete/return from a tour of duty
be sent to the front (line)
attack/strike/engage/defeat/kill/destroy the enemy
see/report/be engaged in heavy fighting
call for/be met with armed resistance
come under heavy/machine-gun/mortar fire
fire a machine-gun/mortar shells/rockets (at sb/sth)
shoot a rifle/a pistol/bullets/missiles
launch/fire a cruise/ballistic/anti-tank missile
use biological/chemical/nuclear weapons
inflict/suffer/sustain heavy losses/casualties
be hit/killed by enemy/friendly/artillery fire
become/be held as a prisoner of war

Civilians in war

harm/kill/target/protect innocent/unarmed civilians
cause/avoid/limit/minimize civilian casualties/collateral damage
impose/enforce/lift a curfew
engage in/be a victim of ethnic cleansing
be sent to an internment/a concentration camp
accept/house/resettle refugees fleeing from war
fear/threaten military/violent reprisals
commit/be accused of war crimes/crimes against humanity/genocide

Making peace

make/bring/win/achieve/maintain/promote peace
call for/negotiate/broker/declare a ceasefire/a temporary truce
sign a ceasefire agreement
call for/bring/put an end to hostilities
demand/negotiate/accept the surrender of sb/sth
establish/send (in) a peacekeeping force
negotiate/conclude/ratify/sign/accept/reject/break/violate a peace treaty

Example Bank:

- Bombers pressed home their attack, causing severe damage to harbour installations.
- Doctors have gone on the attack, accusing the government of incompetence.
- He has laid himself wide open to attack.
- He suffers from attacks of anxiety.
- He was subjected to a violent attack.
- Is this a personal attack on the president, or a criticism of the government?
- It was seen as a personal attack on the president.
- Most of the population would stand little chance of surviving a nuclear attack.
- Stephen had died in an unprovoked racist attack.
- The administration may launch a pre-emptive attack against terrorist bases.
- The attack took place under cover of darkness.
- The border towns have suffered a series of attacks.
- The first line of attack is often name-calling.
- The government's decision has provoked an attack from leaders of the health service.
- The province has been under attack from the rebels.
- The soldiers mounted an all-out attack on the town.
- They came under sustained attack from the air.
- Two teenagers carried out a frenzied attack on a local shopkeeper.
- Where did the attack happen?
- a fatal heart attack
- a heart attack brought on by stress

- a sudden attack of nerves
- an attack by an armed gang
- an attack by rebel forces
- an attack on a bus driver
- an attack on enemy positions
- an attack on my integrity
- an increase in knife attacks on police officers
- attacks against civilians
- the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor
- vicious attacks against pensioners
- vicious attacks against senior citizens
- An attack of nerves took hold of her.
- He died after suffering an asthma attack.
- He is recovering in hospital after an acute attack of food poisoning.
- He ordered his men to mount an attack on the city.
- Not everyone who has problems with stress and anxiety will have panic attacks.
- Police have reported a series of racist attacks.
- She launched a scathing attack on the government's policies.
- The school has come under attack for failing to encourage bright students.

verb

USE VIOLENCE

1. **intransitive, transitive, often passive** to use violence to try to hurt or kill sb

- Most dogs will not attack unless provoked
- ~ **sb** A woman was attacked and robbed by a gang of youths.
- ~ **sb with sth** The man attacked him with a knife.

IN WAR

2. **intransitive, transitive** to use weapons, such as guns and bombs against an enemy in a war, etc

- The guerrillas attack at night.
- ~ **sb/sth** At dawn the army attacked the town.

CRITICIZE

3. **transitive** to criticize sb/sth severely

- ~ **sb/sth** a newspaper article attacking the England football manager
- ~ **sb/sth for sth/for doing sth** She has been attacked for ignoring her own party members.

DAMAGE

4. **transitive ~ sth** to have a harmful effect on sth

- a disease that attacks the brain
- The vines were attacked by mildew.

DO STH WITH ENERGY

5. **transitive ~ sth** to deal with sth with a lot of energy and determination

- Let's attack one problem at a time.

IN SPORT

6. **intransitive** to go forward in a game in order to try to score goals or points

compare ↑defend

- Spain attacked more in the second half and deserved a goal.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	attack
	BrE /ə 'tæk/
	NA.mE /ə 'tæk/
he / she / it	attacks
	BrE /ə 'tæks/
	NA.mE /ə 'tæks/
past simple, past participle	attacked
	BrE /ə 'tækt/
	NA.mE /ə 'tækt/
-ing form	attacking
	BrE /ə 'tæknɪ/
	NA.mE /ə 'tæknɪ/

Word Origin:

early 17th cent.: from French **attaque** (noun), **attaquer** (verb), from Italian **attacco** 'an attack', **attaccare** 'join battle', based on an element of Germanic origin (see ↑**attach**).

Thesaurus:

attack verb

1. T, I

- He was attacked with a knife.

assault • • **beat sb up** • • **mug** • • **strike** •

attack/assault/beat sb up **with** sth

get beaten up/mugged

violently attack/assault/beat up sb

2. T, I

- At dawn the army attacked the town.

raid • • **strike** • • **charge** • • **storm** •

attack/strike/charge **the enemy**

attack/storm a/an **house/building/embassy**

soldiers/troops/police attack/raid/charge/storm sth

aircraft attack/raid/strike sth

3. T

- The studio audience repeatedly attacked the minister for her stance.

criticize • • **condemn** • • **denounce** • | **formal censure** • • **berate** • • **castigate** •

attack/criticize/condemn/denounce/censure/berate/castigate sb **for** sth

attack/criticize/condemn/denounce/censure a **decision**

attack/criticize/condemn/denounce/censure/berate/castigate sb **publicly**

Example Bank:

- He attacked her with a knife.
- She was brutally attacked by two men.
- The police have been strongly attacked for not taking immediate action.
- Bacteria act on sugars to form acids which attack the tooth surface.
- He attacked the idea that the company's practices were bad for the environment.
- It's alleged that the man savagely attacked the pensioner in his home.
- Let's attack one problem at a time.
- The disease attacks the central nervous system.
- The guerrillas usually attack at night.
- The studio audience repeatedly attacked the minister for her stance.
- The vines had been attacked by mildew.
- The virus attacks different cells in the body.
- They run a helpline for women who have been sexually attacked.

See also: ↑[offense](#)

attack

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **at** **tæk**¹ **S2 W2** /ə'tæk/ *BrE* ^m *AmE* ^m *noun*

[**Word Family**: **noun**: ↑[attack](#), ↑[counterattack](#), ↑[attacker](#); **verb**: ↑[attack](#), ↑[counterattack](#); **adjective**: [attacking](#), [counterattacking](#)]

1. **VIOLENCE AGAINST SOMEBODY/SOMETHING** [**countable**] an act of violence that is intended to hurt a person or damage a place

attack on

- There have been several attacks on foreigners recently.
- a bomb attack
- a knife attack
- an arson attack (=an attempt to destroy a building using fire)
- victims of racial attacks

2. **IN A WAR** [**uncountable and countable**] the act of using weapons against an enemy in a war:

- The attack began at dawn.

attack on

- the attack on Pearl Harbor

be/come under attack

- Once again we came under attack from enemy fighter planes.
- Rebel forces launched (=started) an attack late Sunday night.

air/missile/nuclear etc attack

- the threat of nuclear attack

3. **CRITICISM** [**uncountable and countable**] a strong and direct criticism of someone or something

attack on

- The magazine recently published a vicious personal attack on the novelist.

be/come under attack (=be strongly criticized)

- The company has come under fierce attack for its decision to close the factory.

go on the attack (=start to criticize someone severely)

4. **ILLNESS** [**countable**] a sudden short period of suffering from an illness, especially an illness that you have often

attack of

- I had a bad attack of flu at Christmas.
- He died after suffering a severe asthma attack. ⇔ ↑[heart attack](#)

5. **EMOTION** [**countable**] a short period of time when you suddenly feel extremely frightened or worried and cannot think normally or

deal with the situation

panic/anxiety attack

" Her heart began to pound frantically, as if she were having a panic attack.

attack of

" a sudden attack of nerves

6. ATTEMPT TO STOP SOMETHING [uncountable and countable] actions that are intended to get rid of or stop something such as a system, a set of laws etc

attack on

" The new measures were seen by many as an attack on the Scottish way of life.

7. SPORT

a) [uncountable and countable] an attempt by a player or group of players to score ↑goals or win points

b) British English [singular] the players in a team that are responsible for trying to score ↑goals or win points **SYN offense**

American English ⇒ **defence**

in attack

" Heath will play alongside Smith in attack.

8. DAMAGE [uncountable and countable] when something such as a disease, insect, or chemical damages something:

" Unfortunately, the carved ceilings have suffered woodworm attack over the years.

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 1)

■ **NOUN + attack**

▪ **a bomb attack** (=usually intended to achieve a political aim) Animal rights activists are believed to have carried out the bomb attack.

▪ **a terrorist attack** The accused men went on trial Monday for America's worst-ever terrorist attack.

▪ **a knife/gun attack** He was sentenced to nine years in prison for the knife attack.

▪ **an arson attack** (=intended to destroy a building by burning it) Ten classrooms were completely destroyed in the arson attack.

■ **adjectives**

▪ **a violent/vicious/brutal attack** Police described it as an extremely violent attack.

▪ **a horrific attack** 'This was a horrific attack,' said Detective Chief Superintendent Ron Astles.

▪ **a frenzied attack** (=very violent and uncontrolled) The woman was stabbed to death in a frenzied attack at her home.

▪ **a racial attack** Staffordshire police are treating the incident as a racial attack.

▪ **a sexual attack** There was no indication of a sexual attack.

▪ **an unprovoked attack** (=in which the victim did nothing to cause the attack) Their teenage son was knocked to the ground, kicked and punched in an unprovoked attack.

▪ **a motiveless attack** (=that happens for no reason) He was stabbed to death in an apparently motiveless attack.

■ **verbs**

▪ **carry out an attack** The man who carried out the attack has been described as white and 25 to 32 years old.

▪ **an attack happens/takes place** (also **an attack occurs formal**) The attack took place at around 10 pm Thursday.

■ **phrases**

▪ **a series/spate/wave of attacks** (=a number of attacks in a row) The killing follows a series of brutal attacks on tourists.

▪ **the victim of an attack** She was the victim of an attack in her own home.

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 2)

■ **ADJECTIVES/NOUN + attack**

▪ **a nuclear attack** They would not risk a nuclear attack on the United States.

▪ **an all-out attack** (=that is done with a lot of determination) General Smith was in favour of an all-out attack on the enemy.

▪ **a full-scale attack** (=that uses all the available soldiers and weapons) German troops launched a full-scale attack on the city.

▪ **an armed attack** Armed attacks against Israeli settlements are on the increase.

▪ **a surprise attack** We launched a surprise attack on their camp just before dawn.

▪ **a missile/rocket/mortar attack** There were 15 dead and 20 wounded in a missile attack on the capital.

▪ **an air/bomb attack** (=an attack from a plane using bombs) Malta was under heavy air attack.

■ **verbs**

▪ **launch an attack** In April the French army launched an attack.

▪ **lead/mount an attack** The King now prepared to mount an attack on Granada.

▪ **come under attack** Camps in the south came under attack from pro-government forces.

▪ **be under attack** He arrived when the base was under attack from mortar and small arms fire.

• • •

THESAURUS

▪ **attack noun [uncountable and countable]** an act of using weapons against an enemy in a war: The US was threatening to launch an attack on Iran. | The men had been carrying out rocket attacks on British forces. | Bombs have been falling throughout the night, and the city is still under attack (=being attacked).

▪ **invasion noun [uncountable and countable]** an occasion when an army enters a country and tries to take control of it: The Allies began their invasion of Europe. | The threat of foreign invasion is very real.

▪ **raid noun [countable]** a short attack on a place by soldiers or planes, intended to cause damage but not take control: an air raid | NATO warplanes carried out a series of bombing raids on the city. | The village has been the target of frequent raids by rebel groups.

▪ **strike noun [countable]** a sudden military attack, especially after a serious disagreement: Senior Israeli officials warned that they were still considering a military strike. | the possibility of a nuclear strike

▪ **assault noun [countable]** a military attack intended to take control of a city, area, or building controlled by an enemy: The final

military assault on Kwangju began at 3 am on May 27. | Hitler launched an all-out assault (=using as many soldiers, weapons, planes etc as possible) on Russia.

- **ambush** *noun* [uncountable and countable] a sudden attack by people who have been waiting and hiding, especially an attack on a vehicle or people who are travelling somewhere: Five soldiers were shot in the back and killed in the ambush. | Enemy forces waiting in ambush opened fire on the vehicle.
- **counterattack** *noun* [uncountable and countable] a military attack made in response to an attack by an enemy: Government forces launched a counterattack against the guerillas. | If they successfully occupied the city, they would need to be capable of defending it against enemy counterattack.
- **onslaught** *noun* [countable] *formal* a large violent attack by an army: In 1544 there was a full-scale onslaught on France, in which the English took Boulogne. | The troops were preparing for another onslaught against the enemy.

II. **attack**² **S3** **W2** **BrE** ^{AmE} *verb*

[Word Family: **noun**: ↑**attack**, ↑**counterattack**, ↑**attacker**; **verb**: ↑**attack**, ↑**counterattack**; **adjective**: **attacking**, **counterattacking**]

[Date: 1600-1700; Language: French; Origin: **attaquer**, from Old Italian **attaccare** 'to attach', from **stacca** 'sharp post']

1. **USE VIOLENCE** [intransitive and transitive] to deliberately use violence to hurt a person or damage a place:

- She was attacked while walking home late at night.
- His shop was attacked by a gang of youths.
- Snakes will only attack if you disturb them.

attack somebody/something with something

- He needed 200 stitches after being attacked with a broken bottle.

2. **IN A WAR** [intransitive and transitive] to start using guns, bombs etc against an enemy in a war:

- Army tanks attacked a village near the capital on Sunday.

3. **CRITICIZE** [transitive] to criticize someone or something very strongly:

- Last year Dr Travis publicly attacked the idea that abortion should be available on demand.

attack somebody for (doing) something

- Newspapers attacked the government for failing to cut taxes.

strongly/bitterly/savagely etc attack somebody/something

4. **DAMAGE** [transitive] if something such as a disease, insect, or chemical attacks something, it damages it:

- a cruel disease that attacks the brain and nervous system

5. **BEGIN DOING** [transitive] to begin to do something in a determined and eager way:

- She immediately set about attacking the problem.
- Martin attacked his meal (=started eating) with vigour.

6. **SPORT** [intransitive and transitive] to move forward and try to score ↑**goals** or win points ⇒ **defend**:

- Brazil began to attack more in the second half of the match.

...

THESAURUS

■ to attack a person

- **attack** to use violence against someone and try to hurt them: She was attacked by a man with a baseball bat. | Police dogs are trained to attack.
- **ambush** /'æmbʊʃ/ if a group of people ambush someone, they hide and wait for them and then attack them: The judge was ambushed by gunmen as he drove to work at the courthouse.
- **mug** to attack someone and take money from them in a public place such as a street: He was mugged on his way home from school.
- **stab** to attack someone with a knife: The victim had been stabbed in the neck.
- **assault** to attack and hurt someone – used especially when talking about this as a criminal ↑**offence**: He assaulted a flight attendant who refused to serve him more drinks.
- **be set upon by somebody/something** *written* to be attacked by a group of people: He died outside his home after being set upon by a gang of youths.
- **turn on** to suddenly change your behaviour and attack the person you are with, when they do not expect this: The dog suddenly turned on him, sinking its teeth into his arm.

■ to attack a place

- **attack** to use weapons to try to damage or take control of a place: The village was attacked by enemy warplanes. | We will attack at dawn.
- **invade** to enter a country and try to get control of it using force: The Romans invaded Britain 2,000 years ago.
- **storm** to suddenly attack a city or building that is well defended by getting inside it and taking control: Elite troops stormed the building and rescued the hostages.
- **besiege** /br'i:siədʒ/ to surround a city or building with soldiers in order to stop the people inside from getting out or from receiving supplies: In April 655, Osman's palace was besieged by rebels.

attack

Freakuency Pack

12500 **968**^{MCW}

15000 **591**^{COCA}

RANGE: **2k** **ATTACK** ⁸⁰⁹²⁴

attack ⁴⁰⁶⁵²

attacked ⁹⁴⁷¹

attacking ⁵¹⁹⁰

attacks ²³⁴⁸¹

attacker ⁹⁴⁹

attackers ¹¹⁸¹

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

16588 **1352**³¹¹⁵⁶ *nn1*
4945 **5831**⁶³⁷⁶ *vvi*
2554 **10068**³⁰⁵⁰ *vv0*
44 **104674**⁵⁴ *nnu*
11 **234393**¹² *jj*
4 **425249**⁴ *cc*
