



SINCE 1828

bank

dictionary

thesaurus

¹ bank

noun | \ˈbɑŋk\

Popularity: Bottom 10% of words

cited in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

Editor's Note: Did You Know?



Definition of BANK

- 1 :
a mound, pile, or ridge raised above the surrounding level: such as
a
:
a piled-up mass of cloud or fog • a fog *bank* • a *bank* of dark clouds
b
:
an undersea elevation rising especially from the **continental shelf**

- 2 :
the rising ground bordering a lake, river, or sea or forming the edge of a cut or hollow ● We lived the *banks* of the Mississippi River.
- 3 a
:
a steep slope (as of a hill) ● climbed a steep *bank* up to the cabin
- b
:
the **lateral** inward tilt of a surface along a curve ● The engineers hadn't given the road enough *bank*
- :
the lateral inward tilt of a vehicle (such as an airplane) when turning ● The bomber crossed the target area in a sharp *bank*.
- 4 :
a protective or cushioning rim or piece



9 Fanciful Words for Your Favorite Things



'Satellite' Associates Become Stars



Is it wrong to use 'decimate' to mean



Trending: Session de
'Stonewalling'

Did You Know?

The literal meaning of Italian *banca* was “bench,” but the word was also used for the benchlike counter which an early money changer transacted business, and later to describe the money changer’s shop its the *bank*. When the banking trade spread from Italy to France, and then to England, the Italian word we with it and became our English bank.

Origin and Etymology of BANK

Middle English, probably of Scandinavian origin; akin to Old Norse *bakki* bank; akin to Old English *benc* bench — more at **BENCH**

First Known Use: 13th century



Definition of BANK

² **bank**
verb

cited in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

transitive verb

1 a

:

to build a raised border of earth around

:

to raise a bank (see ¹bank 2) about • *bank* a fishpond

b

:

to restrict the flow of air to (a fire) especially by piling ash around or over the burning embers • T *banked* the campfire at midnight so it could be easily revived in the morning.

c

:

to build (a curve) with the roadbed or track inclined laterally upward from the inside edge

- 2 :
to heap or pile in a bank • *banking* sand up along a river to prevent flooding
- 3 a *billiards*
:
to drive (a ball) into a cushion
b *sports*
:
to bounce (a ball or shot) off a surface (such as a backboard) into or toward a goal • *bank* in a re
- 4 :
to form or group in a tier

intransitive verb

- 1 :
to rise in or form a **bank** —often used with *up*
• clouds would *bank* up about midday, and showers fall — William Beebe
- 2 a
:
to incline an airplane laterally • The pilot *banked* right.
b (1)
:
to incline laterally
• torpedo planes ... darting in to attack, then *banking* off — K. M. Dodson
(2)
:
to follow a curve or incline
• skiers *banking* around the turn

cited in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

Origin and Etymology of BANK

see ¹BANK

First Known Use: 15th century

³ bank

noun

Definition of BANK

- 1 a
:
an establishment for the custody, loan, exchange, or issue of money, for the extension of credit, and facilitating the transmission of funds • paychecks automatically deposited into the *bank* • went to make a withdrawal • open a *bank* account
b *obsolete*
:
the table, counter, or place of business of a money changer
- 2 :
a person conducting a gambling house or game; *specifically*
:
DEALER
- 3 :
a supply of something held in reserve: such as
a *in games*
:
the fund of supplies (such as money, chips, or pieces) held by the **banker** (see ¹**banker** 2) or dealer
b *in games*
:
a fund of pieces (such as dominoes) from which the players draw • select another domino from 1
- 4 :
a place where something is held available • memory *banks*; *especially*
:

Noted in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

Origin and Etymology of BANK

Middle English, from Middle French or Old Italian; Middle French *banque*, from Old Italian *banca*, literally bench, of Germanic origin; akin to Old English *benc*

First Known Use: 15th century



Other Economics Terms

actuary, compound interest, globalization, indemnity, portfolio, rentier, stagflation, usurer

cited in *Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.*
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

⁴ **bank**
verb

Definition of BANK

intransitive verb

1 :

to manage a **bank**

2 :

to deposit money or have an account in a bank (see ³**bank** 1a) • choosing where to *bank*

transitive verb

:

to deposit or store in a bank • *bank* a check

- Whole blood ... could be *banked* indefinitely ... — *Time*

—bank on

:

to depend or rely on • can always *bank on* her friendship

Origin and Etymology of BANK

see ³BANK

First Known Use: 1738

cited in *Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.*
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

⁵bank

noun

Definition of BANK

1 :

a group or series of objects arranged together in a row or a tier • a *bank* of vending machines: see

a

:

a set of elevators

b

:

a row or tier of telephones • worked at a phone *bank* calling potential donors

2 *journalism*


:

one of the horizontal and usually secondary or lower divisions of a headline • reading the *bank c* headline

Origin and Etymology of BANK

Middle English *banc* bench, from Anglo-French, of Germanic origin; akin to Old English *benc*

First Known Use: 1771


cited in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

BANK Defined for Kids

¹ **bank** 

noun | \ˈbɑŋk\

Definition of BANK for Students

1 : a mound or ridge especially of earth • a *bank* of snow

2 : the side of a hill

3 : the higher ground at the edge of a river, lake, or sea • the *banks* of the river

4 : something shaped like a mound • a *bank* of clouds

5 : an undersea elevation : **SHOAL**

² **bank** 

verb

Definition of BANK for Students

banked; banking

1 : to build (a curve) in a road or track with a slope upward from the inside edge

2 : to heap up in a mound or pile • Wind *banked* snow against the door.

3 : to raise a pile or mound around • *bank* a stone wall

4 : to tilt to one side when turning

³ **bank** 

noun

Definition of BANK for Students

- 1 : a business where people deposit and withdraw their money and borrow money
- 2 : a small closed container in which money may be saved
- 3 : a storage place for a reserve supply • a blood *bank*

cited in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

bank

verb

Definition of BANK for Students

banked; banking

- 1 : to have an account in a bank • We *bank* locally.
- 2 : to deposit in a bank • *bank* ten dollars

⁵ bank 

noun

Definition of BANK for Students

: a group or series of objects arranged together in a row • a *bank* of seats

Medical Dictionary

cited in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

bank 

noun | \ˈbɑŋk\

Medical Definition of BANK

: a place where something is held available • data *bank*; especially : a depot for the collection and storage of biological product of human origin for medical use • a sperm *bank* • an eye *bank*—see **blood bank**

bank 

noun | \ˈbɑŋk\

Legal Definition of BANK

- 1 : an organization for the custody, loan, or exchange of money, for the extension of credit, and for facilitating the transmission of funds
- branch bank
- : a banking facility that is a separate but dependent part of a chartered bank; *especially*: a facility that performs some banking functions and is separate from a main office
- bridge bank
- : a national bank that is chartered for a limited time to operate an insolvent bank until it is sold
- central bank
- : a national bank that establishes monetary and fiscal policy and controls the money supply and interest rate
- collecting bank
- : a bank other than the payor bank that is handling for collection a negotiable instrument or a promissory note or order to pay money
- commercial bank
- : a bank organized chiefly to handle the everyday financial transactions of businesses (as through deposit accounts and commercial loans)
- cooperative bank
- : an association (as a credit union) owned by and offering banking services for its members; *specifically*: SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION
- depository bank

cited in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

: the first bank to take a negotiable instrument or promise or order to pay money unless the instrument, promise, or order is presented for immediate payment over the counter

—federal land bank

: a land bank that is under federal charter and regulated by the Farm Credit Administration

—Federal Reserve bank

: one of 12 central banks set up under the Federal Reserve Act to hold reserves for and extend to affiliated banks in their respective districts

—intermediary bank

: a bank other than the depositary or payor bank to which a negotiable instrument or promise or to pay is transferred in the course of collection

—land bank

1 : a bank that provides financing for land development and farm mortgages especially by issuing stock — see also FEDERAL LAND BANK in this entry

2 : a trust that holds land for purposes of preservation or conservation

—national bank

: a bank operating under federal charter and supervision

—nonbank bank

: a financial organization (as a branch of an out-of-state bank) that either accepts demand deposits or makes commercial loans

—payor bank

: a bank that is the drawee of a draft

—presenting bank

: a bank other than a payor bank that presents a negotiable instrument or promise or order to pay money


—savings bank

: a bank organized to hold depositors' funds in interest-bearing accounts and to make long-term

*cited in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017*

—state bank

: a bank operating under state charter and law

—banker \ˈbɑːkər\  noun

Learn More about BANK

See [words that rhyme with bank](#)

Thesaurus: [All synonyms and antonyms for bank](#)

Spanish Central: [Translation of bank](#)

Nglish: [Translation of bank for Spanish speakers](#)

Britannica English: [Translation of bank for Arabic speakers](#)

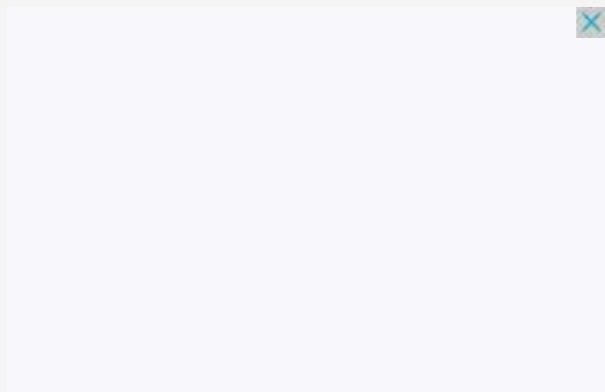
Britannica.com: [Encyclopedia article about bank](#)

cited in *Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.*
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017

Seen and Heard

What made you want to look up *bank*? Please tell us where you read or heard it (including the if possible).

SHOW 19 COMMENTS



OTHER MERRIAM-WEBSTER DICTIONARIES

[SPANISH CENTRAL](#)

[LEARNER'S ESL DICTIONARY](#)

[WORDCENTRAL FOR KIDS](#)

[VISUAL DICTIONARY](#)

[SCRABBLE® WORD FINDER](#)

[MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY](#)

[BRITANNICA ENGLISH - ARABIC TRANSLATION](#)

[ENGLISH - SPANISH-ENGLISH TRANSLATION](#)

FOLLOW US



*cited in Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire Dist.
No. 15-15030 archived on June 15, 2017*

Browse the Dictionary: [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#) [0-9](#)

[Home](#) | [Help](#) | [Apps](#) | [About Us](#) | [Shop](#) | [Advertising Info](#) | [Dictionary API](#) | [About Our Ads](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [The Open Dictionary](#) | [Word of the Year](#) | [Law Dictionary](#) | [Medical Dictionary](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#)

[Browse the Thesaurus](#) | [Browse the Medical Dictionary](#) | [Browse the Legal Dictionary](#) | [Browse the Spanish-English Dictionary](#)

© 2017 Merriam-Webster, Incorporated