

I

1. [bæk] *n*

1. 1) спина

broad back - широкая спина; широкие плечи

board back - *мед.* щит (для исправления спины)

to carry smth. on one's back - а) нести что-л. на спине; б) нести непосильное бремя; ≅ надеть себе на шею хомут

to lie on one's back - лежать на спине

to fall on one's back - упасть навзничь

to be on one's back - лежать (больным) в постели

to pat on the back - а) похлопать по спине; б) покровительствовать (*кому-л.*); поощрять (*кого-л.*); в) подбадривать

to stab in the back - а) всадить нож в спину; б) предать; в) предательски нападать; клеветать, злословить за чьей-л. спиной

he has a strong back - а) у него широкая спина; б) он всё вынесет, его не сломить

excuse my back - извините, я повернулся *или* я сажу к вам спиной2) спина, спинка (*животного*)

back wool - шерсть со спины овцы

3) *pl* высококачественные, первосортные кожи4) спина, спинка (*одежды*)

the back of a coat - спина пальто

2. 1) спинной хребет, позвоночник

he has broken his back - у него перелом позвоночника

2) поясница, крестец

a sharp pain in the back - острая боль в пояснице

to strain one's back - потянуть спину

3. 1) задняя, тыльная часть (*чего-л.*)

the back of the head - затылок

the back of the hand - тыльная сторона руки

the back of a leaf - нижняя поверхность листа

the back of the foot - *анат.* тыл стопы

the back of a chair - спинка стула

the back of a book - корешок книги

back of a rudder - *мор.* спинка руля

back of a knife - тупая сторона ножа

this sound is pronounced with the back of the tongue - *фон.* этот звук произносится с помощью задней части языка2) *тех.* задняя грань (*резца*); затылок *или* обух инструментаback of an arch - *стр.* внешняя поверхность арки4. задняя, более отдалённая часть (*чего-л.*); задний планat the back of - сзади, позади [*ср. тж.* ◇]at the back of one's mind - в глубине души [*ср. тж.* ◇]

the garden at the back of the house - сад за домом

a room in the back of the house - задняя комната

the money was in the back of the drawer - деньги лежали в глубине ящика

we must get to the back of this - мы должны добраться /докопаться/ до сути дела

5. оборотная сторона; оборот, изнанка

the back of cloth [rug] - изнанка ткани [ковра]

see on the back - смотри(те) на обороте

sign on the back - распишитесь на обороте (*чека, счёта*)6. гребень (*волны, горы*)

the monument stood on the back of a hill - памятник стоял на вершине холма

7. нагота, неприкрытое тело (*когда речь идёт об одежде*); одеждаback and belly - одежда и стол /еда/ [*см. тж.* ◇]

I haven't a rag to my back - а) мне нечего надеть; б) мне нечем прикрыть свою наготу

she puts all she earns on her back - она тратит на одежду всё, что зарабатывает

8. *спорт.* защитник (*тж.* full back)

half back - полузащитник

9. *мор.* киль; кильсон10. *горн.* висячий бок (*пласта*); кровля (*забоя*); потолок (*выработки*); кливажная трещина11. нижняя дека (*музыкального инструмента*)

◇ back to back - вплотную, впритык

the back of beyond - глушь, край света

at the back of beyond - *шутл.* на краю света; в недостижимости; ≅ у чёрта на куличках [*ср. тж.* 4]

with one's back to /against/ the wall - припёртый к стенке, в отчаянном положении

behind smb.'s back - за чьей-л. спиной, в отсутствие кого-л.; за глаза, тайком

to be on smb.'s back - привязываться /приставать/ к кому-л.; не давать житья кому-л.; придирается к кому-л.;

набрасываться /накидываться/ на кого-л.

she is always on his back if he comes home late - когда он приходит домой поздно, ему всегда достаётся от неё

to get off smb.'s back - отстать /отвязаться/ от кого-л.; оставить в покое кого-л.

to be (flat /put, thrown/) on one's back - быть в безнадежном /беспомощном/ положении

he is flat on his back after a long succession of failures - постоянные неудачи сломили его; ≅ его положили на обе лопатки

to be at the back of smb., to stand behind smb.'s back - а) стоять за кем-л., оказывать кому-л. поддержку; б) преследовать кого-л.; гнаться по пятам за кем-л.
 to be at the back of the pack - «наступать на пятки», идти непосредственно за лидером, «дышать в спину»
 to be at the back of smth. - а) скрываться за чем-л., таиться в чём-л.; what's at the back of it? - что за этим кроется?; б) быть зачинщиком чего-л.
 to turn one's back - обратиться в бегство; отступить; ≅ показать пятки
 to get one's back up - а) рассердиться, разозлиться, выйти из себя; ошетиниться; б) заупрямиться, упереться
 to put /to set/ smb.'s back up - рассердить кого-л., восстановить кого-л. против себя
 to see smb.'s back, to see the back of smb. - а) видеть чей-л. уход; I'm always glad to see the back of him - я всегда жду не дожусь его ухода; б) избавиться /отделаться/ от кого-л.
 to put one's back into one's work - работать энергично /с энтузиазмом/; вкладывать всю душу в работу
 to give smb. the back - отвернуться от кого-л., игнорировать кого-л.
 to turn one's back upon /on/ smb. - повернуться к кому-л. спиной, отвернуться от кого-л.; порвать отношения с кем-л.
 to how /to crouch/ one's back - гнуть спину (*перед кем-л.*); подчиняться; подхалимничать
 to cast behind the back - **библ.** забыть и простить
 to beat smb. back and belly - избить до полусмерти [**см. тж.** 7]
 he has them on his back - они сидят у него на шее
 you give me a pain in the back - ≅ ты мне ужасно надоел

2. [bæk] **a**

1. задний

back rows - задние /последние/ ряды
 back garden - сад за домом
 back entrance - чёрный ход
 back seam - изнаночный шов
 back edge /margin/ - **полигр.** внутреннее /корешковое/ поле (*страницы*)
 back elevation - **тех.**, **стр.** вид сзади, задний фасад
 back vowel - **фон.** гласный заднего ряда
 back light - **кино** задний контржурный свет
 back lighting - **кино** контржурное освещение
 back projection - **кино** рирпроекция, проекция на просвет

2. отдалённый, дальний

back settlement - дальнее поселение
 back street - глухая улица
 back alley - а) глухой переулок; б) трущобы, задворки
 back blocks - отдалённые кварталы
 back district - **амер.** сельский район, глушь
 back road - просёлочная дорога

3. обратный

back current - обратное течение
 back freight - обратный фрахт /груз/
 back azimuth - **топ.** обратный азимут; обратное направление

4. 1) запоздалый, отсталый

to have a back view of things - иметь отсталые взгляды

2) старый

a back number /issue/ (of a magazine) - а) старый номер (журнала); б) отсталый человек, ретроград; в) нечто устаревшее, несовременное, допотопное
 back file - комплект предшествующих номеров периодического издания

5. **преим. амер.** задержанный, просроченный; следуемый или уплачиваемый за прошлое время

back pay - а) **амер.** жалование за проработанное время; б) задержанная зарплата
 back rent [taxes] - **амер.** квартирная плата [налоги] за прошедшее время
 back payment - просроченный платёж
 back order - невыполненный заказ
 back lessons - невыученные уроки, уроки за пропущенное время

6. **воен.** тыловой

back areas - тыл(ы), тыловые районы
 back line defence - оборона тыловой полосы

3. [bæk] **adv**

1. сзади, позади

keep back! - не подходи(те)!, отойди(те)!
 he stood back in the crowd - он стоял позади в толпе
 the police kept the crowd back - полиция сдерживала толпу

2. 1) обратно, назад

back and forth - взад и вперёд
 there and back - туда и обратно
 back there! - осадил!; назад!
 back home - на родине
 I knew him back home - я знал его, когда жил на родине
 to get [to take, to send, to bring] back - получить [взять, послать, принести] назад /обратно/
 to go [to come, to run, to ride, to fly] back - пойти [прийти, прибежать, ехать, лететь] обратно
 to sit back - откинуться на спинку кресла; удобно усесться

to look back - а) оглядываться назад, кинуть взгляд о прошлом; б) жалеть о прошлом; раскаиваться в содеянном
to go back from /upon/ one's word - не сдерживать, нарушить слово
to step back - а) сделать шаг назад; б) нанести защитный удар
to push the bolt back - отодвинуть засов /задвижку/
he is just back from voyage - он только что вернулся из морского путешествия
when will they be back? - когда они вернуться?

2) снова, опять

the liquid turned back into gas - жидкость снова превратилась в газ

3) *тех.* (в направлении) против часовой стрелки

3. 1) (тому) назад

an hour or so back - около часа назад

for years back - в течение многих лет (в прошлом)

if we go back a few years ... - если вернуться к тому /если вспомнить/, что было несколько лет (тому) назад ...

it was way back in 1890 - это было ещё в 1890 году

far back in the Middle Ages - давным-давно, ещё в средние века

2) с опозданием; с отставанием

he was three days back in his work - в своей работе он отстал на три дня

4. *указывает на ответное действие:*

to pay back - а) отдать долг; б) отплатить

to answer back - возражать (*особ.* на замечание)

to hit /to strike/ back - дать сдачи

to love back - отвечать взаимностью

to talk back - огрызаться

to bow back to smb. - отвечать на приветствие

I had a bit of my own back on him - *разг.* я отомстил ему

5. *указывает на сдерживание или задержку:*

to hold back the tears - сдерживать слёзы

to hold back wages - задерживать зарплату

6. *в сочетаниях:*

back from - в стороне, вдалеке от

back from the road - в стороне от дороги

back of - *амер.* а) сзади, позади; he rode back of the cart - он ехал верхом позади телеги; б) (стоящий или скрывающийся) за

various motives were back of this reversal of policy - эта перемена политики диктовалась многими соображениями

each speaker told what the organization back of him wanted - каждый оратор рассказал, чего хочет организация, которую он представляет

4. [bæk] *v*

1. 1) поддерживать, подкреплять (*тж.* back up)

to back a plan [a draft resolution, an appeal] - поддержать план [проект резолюции, призыв]

to back an argument with proof - подкрепить аргументацию доказательствами

to back smb. (up) - оказывать кому-л. поддержку, содействовать кому-л.

2) закреплять (*якорь и т. п.*)

3) укреплять; подпирать (*стену и т. п.*)

4) наклонять; прислонять

he backed the mirror against the wall - он прислонил зеркало к стене

2. субсидировать; финансировать

his father backed him in business - отец финансировал его дело /предприятие/

the project was backed by the Chicago financiers - предприятие субсидировалось финансистами Чикаго

3. 1) ставить (*на иголку, боксёра, лошадь*)

to back a wrong horse - а) поставить не на ту лошадь; б) просчитаться, ошибиться в расчётах

2) (он) надеяться на (*кого-л., что-л.*)

I backed on his ability to get out of scrapes - я рассчитывал на его способность выходить сухим из воды

4. 1) двигать в обратном направлении; осаживать; отводить

to back a car - давать задний ход машине

to back in (a car) - ввести машину в гараж задним ходом

to back out - выехать откуда-л. задним ходом

to back a horse - осаживать лошадь

to back the troops into position - отводить войска на исходные позиции

to back the oars - *мор.* табанить

to back water - а) *мор.* табанить; б) идти на попятный, отступать; отступаться

back her! - *мор.* задний ход! (*команда*)

2) двигаться в обратном направлении, идти задним ходом; отходить, отступать; пятиться

he backed a step or two to let them pass - он отступил на несколько шагов, чтобы пропустить их

5. садиться на лошадь; ехать верхом; объезжать лошадь

she backed the horse at a jump - она вскочила на лошадь одним прыжком

6. 1) покрывать; снабжать спинкой

to back a book - переплести книгу

the wardrobe was backed with plywood - задняя стенка шкафа была обшита фанерой

2) ставить на подкладку

a coat backed with fur - шуба на меху

7. примыкать (сзади)

the hills backed the town - за городом раскинулись холмы, город стоял у подножия холмов

we saw a sandy beach backed by chalk cliffs - мы увидели песчаный пляж на фоне меловых утёсов

our house backs on to a park - задняя стена нашего дома выходит в парк

8. 1) подписывать, скреплять подписью; утверждать; визировать

2) фин. индоссировать (вексель)

to back a bill - поставить свою подпись на оборотной стороне векселя, гарантировать оплату векселя

9. аккомпанировать; сопровождать музыкой (мж. back up)

◇ to back and fill - а) мор. лежать в дрейфе; б) передвигаться зигзагами; в) амер. колебаться, проявлять нерешительность

he backed and filled until the last moment - он колебался до последней минуты

II

[bæk] n

корыто; чан; большой бак

back

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

back [back backs backed backing] noun, adjective, adverb verb BrE [bæk]

NAmE [bæk]

noun

PART OF BODY

1. the part of the human body that is on the opposite side to the chest, between the neck and the tops of the legs; the part of an animal's body that corresponds to this

- Do you sleep on your back or your front?
- He stood with his back to the door.
- They had their hands tied behind their backs.
- They set off with the wind at their backs (= behind them).
- I pulled (= injured the muscles in) my back playing squash.
- back pain
- a back massage
- A small boy rode on the elephant's back.



see also ↑bareback, ↑horseback

2. the row of bones in the middle of the back

Syn: ↑backbone, Syn: ↑spine

- She broke her back in a riding accident.
- He put his back out (= dislocated sth in his back) lifting the crates.

PART FURTHEST FROM FRONT

3. usually singular ~ (of sth) the part or area of sth that is furthest from the front

- We could only get seats at the back (= of the room).
- I found some old photos at the back of the drawer.
- He was shot in the back of the knee.
- The house has three bedrooms at the front and two at the back.
- (BrE) There's room for three people in the back.
- (NAmE) There's room for three people in back = of a car, etc.
- (BrE) If you'd like to come round the back (= to the area behind the house), I'll show you the garden.

see also ↑hardback, ↑paperback, ↑short back and sides

OF PIECE OF PAPER

4. usually singular ~ (of sth) the part of a piece of paper, etc. that is on the opposite side to the one that has information or the most important information on it

- Write your name on the back of the cheque.

OF BOOK

5. usually singular ~ (of sth) the last few pages of a book, etc

- The television guide is at the back of the paper.

OF CHAIR

6. the part of a chair, etc. against which you lean your back

-BACKED

7. (in adjectives) used to describe furniture that has the type of back mentioned

- a high-backed sofa

IN SPORT

8. (in sports) a player whose main role is to defend their team's goal

compare ↑forward *n.*

see also ↑fullback, ↑halfback

more at cover your back **at** ↑cover *v.*, have eyes in the back of your head **at** ↑eye *n.*, know sb/sth like the back of your hand **at**

↑know *v.*, a pat on the back **at** ↑pat *n.*, pat sb/yourself on the back **at** ↑pat *v.*, push sth to the back of your mind **at** ↑push *v.*, make

a rod for your own back **at** ↑rod, you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours **at** ↑scratch *v.*, the shirt off sb's back **at** ↑shirt, a stab in

the back **at** ↑stab *n.*, stab sb in the back **at** ↑stab *v.*, the straw that breaks/broke the camel's back **at** ↑straw, (like) water off a

duck's back **at** ↑water *n.*

Word Origin:

Old English *bæc*, of Germanic origin; related to Middle Dutch and Old Norse *bak*. The adverb use dates from late Middle English and is a shortening of ↑*aback*.

Collocations:

Physical appearance

A person may be described as **having** :

Eyes

(bright) blue/green/(dark/light) brown/hazel **eyes**

deep-set/sunken/bulging/protruding **eyes**

small/beady/sparkling/twinkling/(*informal*) shifty **eyes**

piercing/penetrating/steely **eyes**

bloodshot/watery/puffy **eyes**

bushy/thick/dark/raised/arched **eyebrows**

long/dark/thick/curlly/false **eyelashes/lashes**

Face

a flat/bulbous/pointed/sharp/snub **nose**

a straight/a hooked/a Roman/(*formal*) an aquiline **nose**

full/thick/thin/pouty **lips**

dry/chapped/cracked **lips**

flushed/rosy/red/ruddy/pale **cheeks**

soft/chubby/sunken **cheeks**

white/perfect/crooked/protruding **teeth**

a large/high/broad/wide/sloping **forehead**

a strong/weak/pointed/double **chin**

a long/full/bushy/wispy/goatee **beard**

a long/thin/bushy/droopy/handlebar/pencil **moustache/ (especially US) mustache**

Hair and skin

pale/fair/olive/dark/tanned **skin**

dry/oily/smooth/rough/leathery/wrinkled **skin**

a dark/pale/light/sallow/ruddy/olive/swarthy/clear **complexion**

deep/fine/little/facial **wrinkles**

blonde/blond/fair/(light/dark) brown/(jet-)black/auburn/red/(*BrE*) ginger/grey **hair**

straight/curly/wavy/frizzy/spiky **hair**

thick/thin/fine/bushy/thinning **hair**

dyed/bleached/soft/silky/dry/greasy/shiny **hair**

long/short/shoulder-length/cropped **hair**

a bald/balding/shaved **head**

a receding **hairline**

a bald **patch/spot**

a side/centre/(*US*) center (*BrE*) **parting/ (NAme) part**

Body

a long/short/thick/slender/(*disapproving*) scrawny **neck**

broad/narrow/sloping/rounded/hunched **shoulders**

a bare/broad/muscular/small/large **chest**

a flat/swollen/bulging **stomach**

a small/tiny/narrow/slim/slender/28-inch **waist**

big/wide/narrow/slim **hips**

a straight/bent/arched/broad/hairy **back**

thin/slender/muscular **arms**

big/large/small/manicured/calloused/gloved **hands**

long/short/fat/slender/delicate/bony **fingers**

long/muscular/hairy/shapely/(*both informal, often disapproving*) skinny/spindly **legs**

muscular/chubby/(*informal, disapproving*) flabby **thighs**

big/little/small/dainty/wide/narrow/bare **feet**

a good/a slim/a slender/an hourglass **figure**

be of slim/medium/average/large/athletic/stocky build

Which Word?:

at the back / at the rear / behind

At the back and at the rear have a similar meaning, but at the rear is used more in formal or official language: ▪ What's that at the back of the fridge? ◊ ▪ Smoking is only allowed at the rear of the aircraft. It is more usual to talk about the back door of a house but the rear exit of an aircraft or public building. If something is behind something else it is near to the back of it but not part of it. Compare: ▪ Our room was at the back of the hotel and ▪ There's a lovely wood just behind our hotel .

Example Bank:

- Come around back and I'll show you the pool.
- He hunches his back when he walks.
- He leaned his back against the bar.
- He smiled and gave me a hearty slap on the back.
- He spent six months recovering from a broken back.
- He was carrying a small child on his back.
- He was standing with his back to the fire.
- He yawned and stretched his back as he got out of bed.
- He's in bed with a bad back.
- His back stiffened as he saw the photographers waiting.
- I had my pullover on back to front.
- I have a nagging pain in my lower back.
- I warned her she should watch her back.
- I was flat on my back for six weeks when I broke my leg.
- If you'd like to come round the back, I'll show you the garden.
- My money's all fallen down the back of the cushion.
- People say bad things about him behind his back, but never to his face.
- She decided to turn her back on Paris and return home.
- She decided to turn her back on Paris and return to her home town.
- She deserves a pat on the back for her efforts.
- She felt a sharp pain in the small her back.
- She was lying on her back on the sofa.
- The arts page is usually towards the back of the newspaper.
- The boss was certain that the staff would stop working as soon as his back was turned.
- The cat arched its back and hissed at the dog.
- The children sat back to back so they couldn't see each others' drawings.
- The cup had been pushed to the back of the cupboard.
- The man was refusing to go to the back of the queue.
- The sun beat down on their bare backs.
- There's room for three people in back.
- They blindfolded him and tied his hands behind his back.
- They tied his hands behind his back.
- Two passengers sat in the back of the car.
- We could only get seats at the back.
- Would you give me a back rub?
- a seat with good back support

Idioms: ↑at the back of your mind ▪ ↑back and forth ▪ ↑back in the day ▪ ↑back in the days ▪ ↑back of beyond ▪ ↑back of something ▪ ↑back the wrong horse ▪ ↑back to back ▪ ↑back to front ▪ ↑behind somebody's back ▪ ↑break the back of something ▪ ↑get off somebody's back ▪ ↑get somebody's back up ▪ ↑glad to see the back of somebody ▪ ↑have somebody's back ▪ ↑have your back to the wall ▪ ↑off the back of a lorry ▪ ↑on somebody's back ▪ ↑on the back burner ▪ ↑on the back of something ▪ ↑on your back ▪ ↑put your back into something ▪ ↑turn your back ▪ ↑turn your back on somebody

Derived ↑back away ▪ ↑back down ▪ ↑back off ▪ ↑back onto something ▪ ↑back out ▪ ↑back somebody up ▪ ↑back something up ▪ ↑back up

adjective only before noun

AWAY FROM FRONT

1. located behind or at the back of sth

- We were sitting in the back row.
- back teeth
- a back room (= one at the back of a building)
- the back page of a newspaper

compare ↑front_{adj.}

FROM PAST

2. of or from a past time

- a back number of the magazine

OWED

3. owed for a time in the past

- **back pay/taxes/rent**

PHONETICS

4. (**phonetics**) (of a vowel) produced with the back of the tongue in a higher position than the front, for example /[ɑ:] / in English
compare ↑central, ↑front

Word Origin:

Old English *bæc*, of Germanic origin; related to Middle Dutch and Old Norse *bak*. The adverb use dates from late Middle English and is a shortening of ↑**aback**.

adverb For the special uses of **back** in phrasal verbs, look at the entries for the verbs. For example **pay sb back** is in the phrasal verb section at **pay**.

AWAY FROM FRONT

1. away from the front or centre; behind you

- I stepped back to let them pass.
- Sit back and relax.
- You've combed your hair back.
- He turned and looked back.
- She fell back towards the end of the race.

Opp: ↑forward

AT A DISTANCE

2. at a distance away from sth

- The barriers kept the crowd back.
- Stand back and give me some room.

UNDER CONTROL

3. under control; prevented from being expressed or coming out

- He could no longer hold back his tears.

AS BEFORE

4. to or into the place, condition, situation or activity where sb/sth was before

- Put the book back on the shelf.
- Please give me my ball back.
- He'll be back on Monday.
- It takes me an hour to walk **there and back** .
- Could you go back to the beginning of the story?
- She woke up briefly and then went back to sleep.
- We were right **back where we started** , only this time without any money.

IN PAST

5. in or into the past; ago

- The village has a history going back to the Middle Ages.
- She left **back in** November.
- That was a few years back.

AT A PREVIOUS PLACE

6. at a place previously left or mentioned

- We should have turned left five kilometres back.
- Back at home, her parents were worried.
- I can't wait to get back home.

IN RETURN

7. in return or reply

- If he kicks me, I'll kick him back.
- Could you call back later, please?

more at come back/down to earth **at** ↑**earth** _{n.}, back to square one **at** ↑**square** _{n.}

Word Origin:

Old English *bæc*, of Germanic origin; related to Middle Dutch and Old Norse *bak*. The adverb use dates from late Middle English and is a shortening of ↑**aback**.

verb

MOVE BACKWARDS

1. **intransitive, transitive** to move or make sth move backwards

- + **adv./prep.** He backed against the wall, terrified.
- to back out of a parking space
- ~ **sth + adv./prep.** If you can't drive in forwards, try backing it in.

compare ↑reverse

SUPPORT

2. transitive ~ **sb/sth** to give help or support to sb/sth

- Her parents backed her in her choice of career.
- Doctors have backed plans to raise the tax on cigarettes.
- The programme of economic reform is backed (= given financial support) by foreign aid.
- a United Nations-backed peace plan

BET MONEY

3. transitive ~ **sth** to bet money on a horse in a race, a team in a competition, etc

- I backed the winner and won fifty pounds.

MUSIC

4. transitive ~ **sth** to play or sing music that supports the main singer or instrument

see also ↑backing

COVER BACK

5. transitive ~ **sth (with sth)** usually passive to cover the back of sth in order to support or protect it

BE BEHIND

6. transitive, usually passive ~ **sth** (BrE) to be located behind sth

- The house is backed by fields.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	back
	BrE /bæk/
	NAme /bæk/
he / she / it	backs
	BrE /bæks/
	NAme /bæks/
past simple, past participle	backed
	BrE /bækt/
	NAme /bækt/
-ing form	backing
	BrE /bækiŋ/
	NAme /bækiŋ/

Word Origin:

Old English bæc, of Germanic origin; related to Middle Dutch and Old Norse **bak**. The adverb use dates from late Middle English and is a shortening of ↑**aback**.

Thesaurus:

back verb T

- Her parents backed her in her choice of career.

support • **second** • **champion** • **side with sb** • **vote** • |BrE (be) in favour (of sb/sth) • |AmE (be) in favor (of sb/sth) •

back/support/side with/vote for sb **in sth**

back/support/second/vote for/be in favour of a **plan/proposal/motion/resolution**

back/support/champion/be in favour of **reform/an idea**

Example Bank:

- Can you back your car up so that I can get through?
- He backed out of the drive.
- He took a step forward and she nervously backed away.
- He tried to back away.
- He will never back down.
- She backed across the room.
- She backed away hurriedly.
- She backed into the garage.
- Teachers are strongly backing the new educational policies.
- The children backed away from him in fear.
- The committee finally backed down over the issue of spending cuts.
- The government was forced to back down from implementing these proposals.
- The horse was heavily backed on the morning of the race.
- They instinctively backed away from the intense heat.
- Try backing the car in— it's easier that way.
- his election bid was financially backed by a soft drinks company.
- Campaigners, backed by business leaders, have been calling for a no vote.

- Doctors have backed plans to raise tax on cigarettes.
- He has publicly backed the call for faster reform.

See also: ↑back off • ↑backwards

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

back

I. **back**¹ **S1 W1** /bæk/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *adverb*

1. **RETURN TO PLACE** in, into, or to the place or position where someone or something was before:

- I'll be back in a minute.
- Put that book back where you found it!

back in/to/into etc

- Rory plugged the cable back into the socket.
- I feel like going back to bed.

go/get/head etc back

- We ought to try and get back before it gets dark.
- He was back home by half past eleven.
- It's possible to travel there and back in a day.

2. **AS BEFORE** in or into the condition or situation you were in before:

- Gary woke at 4am and couldn't get back to sleep.
- It took me a long time to get my confidence back.
- If you decide to marry him, there will be no going back (=you will not be able to get back to your previous situation).

go/get back to (doing) something

- There's no way I'm going back to being poor.
- It'll take a while for things to get back to normal.

3. **PREVIOUS PLACE** in or to a place where you lived or worked before

back in/at

- She was the one who had fired him from his first job back in South Africa.

back home (=in the place that you come from and think of as your home)

- It reminded me of evenings back home.

4. **BACKWARDS** in the opposite direction from the way you are facing **OPP forwards**:

- He glanced back at the house.
- Kirov stepped back a pace.
- She tilted her head back to look at him.

5. **REPLY/REACTION** if you do something back, you do it as a reply or reaction to what someone has said or done:

- Can I call you back later?
- I'll pay you back on Friday.
- 'No, thanks!' he shouted back.
- If he hits you, you just hit him back.

6. **RETURN SOMETHING TO SOMEBODY** if you give something, get something etc back, you return it to the person who first had it, or you have it returned to you:

- Can we have our ball back, please?
- I want all my books back as soon as you've finished with them.
- Give me back that letter! It's none of your business!

7. **IN THE PAST** in or towards a time in the past:

- a pile of newspapers dating back to the 1970s
- A lot of emotional problems can be traced back to childhood.
- Looking back on it, I should have known he was unhappy.
- At times, I think back to my life in Moscow.

back in

- The house was built back in 1235.

three years/two months etc back (=three years ago etc)

- His wife died a couple of years back.
- He called me a while back.

8. **AGAIN** once again:

- Go back over your work to check for any mistakes.
- Liverpool were back level again two minutes later with a superb goal.

9. **sit/lie/lean back** to sit or lie in a comfortable relaxed way:

- Sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

10. **AWAY** away from a surface, person, or thing:

- She pulled the bandage back very carefully.
- Her hair was brushed back from her face.
- The woman nodded and stood back, allowing Patrick to enter.

11. **back and forth** going in one direction and then in the opposite direction, and repeating this several times:

- We travel back and forth all the time between Canada and England.
- He was pacing back and forth.

12. **TOWARDS BEGINNING** towards the beginning of a book, tape, document etc:

- Turn back to the summaries at the end of section 1.5.
- Wind the tape back to the beginning.
- Clicking on the icon will take you back to the previous web page.

II. **back**² **S1 W1** *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *noun* [countable]

[Language: Old English; Origin: bæc]

1. PART OF YOUR BODY

a) the part of the body between the neck and legs, on the opposite side to the stomach and chest:

- The cat arched its back and hissed.
- My feet were sore and my back was aching.
- Keep your head up and your back straight.
- To avoid back problems, always bend your knees when you lift heavy objects.
- He lay on his back and gazed at the ceiling.
- Johnny was lying flat on his back in the middle of the floor.
- Anna stood with her back to the window.

on sb's back (=carried on someone's back)

- The girl appeared again, now with a little baby on her back.

b) the bones between your neck and the top of your legs **SYN spine**:

- He broke his back in a motorbike accident.

2.



NOT AT FRONT [usually singular] the part of something that is furthest from the front **OPP front**:

- a T-shirt with a picture of a snake on the back

back of

- He kissed her on the back of her head.
- Her window faced the backs of the houses.

in the back (of something) (=used especially about the back of a vehicle)

- Two men were sitting in the back of the car.

at the back (of something)

- a small shop with an office at the back

in back (of something) *American English* (=in or at the back of something)

- Kids should always wear seat belts, even in back.

out back *American English* (=behind a house or other building)

- Tom's working on the car out back.

round/out the back *British English* (=behind a house or building)

- Have you looked round the back?

3. LESS IMPORTANT SIDE [usually singular] the less important side or surface of something such as a piece of paper or card **OPP front**:

- Paul scribbled his address on the back of an envelope.
- The credits are listed on the back of the album.

4. PART OF SEAT the part of a seat that you lean against when you are sitting

back of

- He rested his arm on the back of the sofa.

5. BOOK/NEWSPAPER [usually singular] the last pages of a book or newspaper **OPP front**

at the back (of)

- The sports pages are usually at the back.

in the back (of)

- The answers are in the back of the book.

6. at/in the back of your mind a thought that is at the back of your mind is one you try to ignore because you do not want it to be true:

- At the back of her mind was the thought that he might be with someone else.

put/push something to the back of your mind

- He tried to push these uncomfortable thoughts to the back of his mind.

7. back to back

a) with the backs towards each other:

- Stand back to back and we'll see who's tallest.

b) happening immediately one after the other:

- a couple of back-to-back wins for the team ⇒ **↑back-to-back**¹

8. back to front *British English*

a) in an incorrect position so that what should be at the back is at the front:

- You've got your sweater on back to front.

b) doing something the wrong way round and starting with the part that should be at the end:

- He got the commands back to front and the program didn't work.

9. behind sb's back if you do something behind someone's back, you do it without them knowing:

I don't like the idea of the two of them talking about me behind my back.

I should have realized that he'd go behind my back (=do something without telling me).

10. when/while sb's back is turned if something happens when your back is turned, it happens when you are not able to see or know what someone is doing:

What are your kids up to when your back is turned?

11. get/put sb's back up *British English informal* to annoy someone:

Simone was the kind of person who was always putting people's backs up.

12. get (somebody) off sb's back *spoken* to stop annoying someone with a lot of questions, criticisms etc, or to make someone stop annoying you in this way:

Maybe the only way to get him off my back is to tell him the truth.

Do me a favour and get off my back!

13. be on sb's back *spoken* to be trying to make someone do something they do not want to do:

Why are you and Dad always on my back?

14. on the back of something as a result of something that already exists or something you have already done:

The company should be able to generate business on the back of existing contracts.

15. on the backs of somebody using the work of a particular group to achieve something that they will not get any advantage from:

Economic prosperity was won on the backs of the urban poor.

16. SPORTS a defending player in a sports team **SYN defender**

17. the back of beyond *informal* a place that is a long way from other places and is difficult to get to:

It's a nice little cottage but it really is in the back of beyond.

18. be (flat) on your back

a) to be lying on your back – used to emphasize that someone seems unlikely to get up soon:

He was drunk and flat on his back on the street.

b) to be so ill that you cannot get out of bed:

Their best player was flat on his back in hospital.

c) if a business, country, ↑economy etc is on its back, it is not successful:

The UK market was flat on its back.

19. put your back into it *informal* to work extremely hard at something:

If we really put our backs into it, we could finish today.

20. be glad/delighted/pleased etc to see the back of somebody/something to be happy that someone is leaving or because you no longer have to deal with something:

No, I'm not too upset that he left – in fact, I was glad to see the back of him.

I can't wait to see the back of this project, I can tell you (=I will be happy when it ends).

21. have your back to/against the wall *informal* to be in a difficult situation with no choice about what to do

22. at your back

a) behind you:

They had the wind at their backs as they set off.

b) supporting you:

Caesar marched into Rome with an army at his back.

23. on your back *informal not polite* if someone achieves something on their back, they achieve it by having sex with someone

24. high-backed/straight-backed/low-backed etc with a high, straight, low etc back:

a high-backed chair

⇒ know something like the back of your hand at ↑know¹(3), ⇒ turn your back on somebody/something at ↑turn¹(7)

III. **back**³ **S2 W3 BrE** *AmE* *verb*

1. SUPPORT [transitive usually passive]

a) to support someone or something, especially by giving them money or using your influence:

The scheme has been backed by several major companies in the region.

Some suspected that the rebellion was backed and financed by the US.

government-backed loans

b) (also **back up**) to support an idea by providing facts, proof etc:

His claims are not backed by any scientific evidence.

2. MOVE BACKWARDS [intransitive always + adverb/preposition, transitive] to move backwards, or make someone or something move backwards

back into/out of/away from etc

She backed into a doorway to let the crowds pass by.

back somebody into/towards/out of etc something

He began to back her towards the open door.

back something into/towards/out of etc something

I backed the car into the garage.

3. PUT SOMETHING ON THE BACK [transitive usually passive] to put a material or substance onto the back of something, in order to protect it or make it stronger:

Back the photo with cardboard.

a plastic-backed shower curtain

4. BE BEHIND SOMETHING [transitive usually passive] to be at the back of something or behind it:

The Jandia Peninsula is a stretch of white sands backed by a mountain range.

5. MUSIC [transitive usually passive] to play or sing the music that supports the main singer or musician:

They performed all their hits, backed by a 40-piece orchestra.

6. RISK MONEY [transitive] to risk money on whether a particular horse, dog, team etc wins something

7. back the wrong horse to support someone or something that is not successful

back away *phrasal verb*

1. to move backwards and away from something, especially because you are frightened

back away from

" She backed away from the menacing look on his face.

2. to stop supporting a plan or idea, or stop being involved in something

back away from

" The government has backed away from its nuclear weapons strategy.

back down *phrasal verb*

to admit that you are wrong or that you have lost an argument:

" Both sides have refused to back down.

back off *phrasal verb*

1. to move backwards, away from someone or something:

" She backed off and then turned and ran.

2. to stop telling someone what to do, or stop criticizing them, especially so that they can deal with something themselves:

" I think you should back off for a while.

" Back off, Marc! Let me run my own life!

3. to stop supporting something, or decide not to do something you were planning to do:

" Jerry backed off when he realized how much work was involved.

back off from

" The company has backed off from investing new money.

back onto something *phrasal verb*

if a building backs onto something, its back faces it:

" The hotel backs onto St Mark's Square.

back out *phrasal verb*

to decide not to do something that you had promised to do:

" It's too late to back out now.

" After you've signed the contract, it will be impossible to back out.

back out of

" The government is trying to back out of its commitment to reduce pollution.

back up *phrasal verb*

1. **back somebody/something ↔ up** to say or show that what someone is saying is true:

" Jane would back me up if she were here.

" There's no evidence to back up his accusations.

" These theories have not been backed up by research.

2. **back somebody/something ↔ up** to provide support or help for someone or something:

" The plan's success depends on how vigorously the UN will back it up with action.

" The police officers are backed up by extra teams of people at the weekend. ⇒ ↑ **backup**

3. to make a copy of information stored on a computer:

" Make sure you back up.

back something ↔ up

" These devices can back up the whole system.

back something ↔ up onto something

" Back all your files up onto floppy disks. ⇒ ↑ **backup**

4. *especially American English* to make a vehicle move backwards:

" The truck stopped and then backed up.

back something ↔ up

" I backed the car up a little.

5. to move backwards:

" Back up a bit so that everyone can see. ⇒ ↑ **backup**

6. if traffic backs up, it forms a long line of vehicles that cannot move:

" The traffic was starting to back up in both directions.

7. if a toilet, sink etc backs up, it becomes blocked so that water cannot flow out of it

IV. back ⁴ **S2 W3** *BrE* ⁴ *AmE* ⁴ *adjective* [only before noun]

1. at or in the back of something **OPP front**:

" You'll be sleeping in the back bedroom.

" Turn to the back page.

" I keep my keys in my back pocket.

" There was the sound of giggling from the back row.

" The rabbit had one of its back legs caught in a trap. ⇒ ↑ **back door**

2. behind something, especially a building **OPP front**:

" the back garden

" We left by the back gate.

3. from the back:

" The back view of the hotel was even less appealing than the front.

4. **back street/lane/road etc** a street etc that is away from the main streets:

" a short cut down a back lane

5. **back rent/taxes/pay etc** money that someone owes from an earlier date
6. **back issue/copy/number** a copy of a magazine or newspaper from an earlier date
7. **technical** a back vowel sound is made by lifting your tongue at the back of your mouth

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back 517529

backed 9032

backing 5545

backs 7549

backbone 1519

backwards 3124

backward 6200

backwardness 272

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