

**crony**  
 ['krɒni] *n*  
 близкий, закадычный друг

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**crony** [crony cronies] *BrE* ['krəʊni] <sup>m</sup> *NAmE* ['kroʊni] <sup>m</sup> **noun usually plural (pl. cronies)** (often disapproving)  
 a person that sb spends a lot of time with  
 • He was playing cards with his cronies.

Word Origin:

mid 17th cent. (originally Cambridge university slang): from Greek *khronios* 'long-lasting' (here used to mean 'contemporary'), from *khronos* 'time'. Compare with ↑chum.

**crony** Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**cro**ny /'krəʊni \$ 'kroʊni/ *BrE* <sup>m</sup> *AmE* <sup>m</sup> **noun (plural cronies)** [countable usually plural]  
 [Date: 1600-1700; Origin: Probably from Greek *chronios* 'long-lasting', from *chronos* 'time']  
 one of a group of people who spend a lot of time with each other – used to show disapproval  
 sb's cronies  
 \* the senator's political cronies  
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**THESAURUS**

- **friend** someone who you know and like very much and enjoy spending time with: Dad, this is my friend Steve. | She's going to Palm Springs with some friends. | I got a letter from a friend from college. | Amy's a close friend of mine. | John was a really good friend to me when I had all those problems last year.
- **acquaintance** /ə'kweɪntəns/ someone who you know and see sometimes, but who is not one of your close friends: We borrowed the money from one of Paul's business acquaintances.
- **mate** *British English informal* a friend – used especially about boys or men: He always goes to the pub with his mates on Friday night. | Terry's an old mate of mine.
- **buddy** *American English informal* a friend – used especially about men or young people: He's out playing basketball with some of his high school buddies.
- **pal** *informal* a friend – **pal** sounds rather old-fashioned: They met at school and have remained close pals.
- **crony** [usually plural] *disapproving* a friend – used about powerful people who will help each other even if it is slightly dishonest: He's one of the President's cronies.
- **companion** *written* someone who spends time with you, doing the same things as you – used about animals as well as people: travelling companions | His dog was his constant companion. | the perfect companion
- **the girls** *informal* a woman's female friends: We're having a girls' night out.
- **the lads** *British English informal* a man's male friends: a night out with the lads

**crony** Freaquency Pack

12500 **12268**<sup>MCW</sup>  
 15000 **8401**<sup>COCA</sup>  
 RANGE: **12k** CRONY <sup>1062</sup>  
 crony <sup>200</sup>  
 cronies <sup>660</sup>  
 cronyism <sup>202</sup>  
 COCA 500k Unlemmatized  
 153 **54986**<sup>187</sup> *nn1*  
 7 **228587**<sup>13</sup> *np1*