

1. ['prɪz(ə)n] *n*

1) тюрьма

prison sentence - тюремное заключение, тюремный срок

prison clothes - арестантская одежда

prison camp - а) исправительно-трудовой лагерь; б) лагерь для военнопленных

keeper of a prison - тюремный надзиратель

to cast /to throw/ [to put] smb. into prison - бросить [посадить] кого-л. в тюрьму

to lie /to be/ in prison - находиться в заключении /в тюрьме/

to be sent to prison - быть приговорённым к тюремному заключению

to break (out of) prison, to escape from prison - бежать /совершить побег/ из тюрьмы

he's (been) in prison - он сидит /отбывает срок/

2) тюрьма, неволя; заключение

2. ['prɪz(ə)n] *v*1) *поэт.* заключать в тюрьму

2) связывать, лишать свободы

prison

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

prison [prɪzən prɪzənz prɪzənd prɪzənɪŋ] *BrE* ['prɪzn] ^o *NAmE* ['prɪzn] ^o

noun

1. countable, uncountable a building where people are kept as a punishment for a crime they have committed, or while they are waiting for trial

Syn: ↑jail

• He was **sent to prison** for five years.

• She is **in prison**, awaiting trial.

• to **be released from prison**

• a **maximum-security prison**

• the **prison population** (= the total number of prisoners in a country)

• the problem of overcrowding in prisons

• Ten prison officers and three inmates needed hospital treatment following the riot.

2. uncountable the system of keeping people in **prisons**

• the **prison service/system**

• The government insists that 'prison works' and plans to introduce a tougher sentencing policy for people convicted of violent crime.

3. countable a place or situation from which sb cannot escape

• His hospital room had become a prison.

Word Origin:

late Old English, from Old French **prisun**, from Latin **prensio(n-)**, variant of **prehensio(n-)** 'laying hold of', from the verb **prehendere**

Culture:**prisons**

Britain's system of justice relies heavily on **imprisonment** as a form of ↑**punishment**. Until the late 18th century conditions in prisons such as ↑**Newgate** were dirty and violent. In the 19th century conditions improved, thanks to the work of reformers like Elizabeth **Fry**. New prisons were built, in which most prisoners had their own **cell** facing into a large central area. Many of these prisons, such as ↑**Pentonville** and ↑**Strangeways**, still exist today, although Strangeways had to be rebuilt after most of the building was destroyed in riots in the 1990s.

The type of prison in which criminals **serve their sentence** depends on their **category**. Category A prisoners are considered dangerous and are held in **high-security** closed prisons, such as ↑**Wormwood Scrubs**. Prisoners may be kept in **solitary confinement** if they are likely to harm others. Category B and C prisoners are also held in closed prisons. Category D prisoners are trusted not to escape and are sent to **low-security open prisons**. Prisoners **on remand** (= waiting for their trial) are held in **remand centres**, but problems of overcrowding have resulted in many of them being kept in prisons or police stations. Young people aged 15–20 are normally sent to ↑**young offender institutions**, sometimes called detention centres or youth custody centres. These have replaced the old **Borstals**. However, if space is not available young people are sometimes sent to adult prisons. A prison is run by a **governor** who is responsible to the ↑**Home Office**, and the prisoners are guarded by **warders**.

There is not enough space available in prisons for the number of people being given **custodial sentences**. In the 1990s there were **riots** at several prisons because of poor conditions. Cells intended for one person often contain two or three. Despite this, some people think life in Britain's prisons is not hard enough. Some prisons are described as 'universities of crime', where prisoners gain new skills in breaking the law and have access to drugs.

There are many British ↑**slang** expressions connected with prison. To **do time** is to serve a prison sentence and to have been **inside** means to have been in prison. Time spent in prison is **porridge**. Prison itself is **the nick**, **the slammer** or **choky**, warders are **screws** and the prisoners are **lags**.

In the US the **federal** and state governments have **prisons**, sometimes called **penitentiaries** or **correctional facilities**. Counties and cities have **jails**. Federal prisons are classified as minimum, low, medium or high security. All **inmates** (= prisoners) who can work must do so. People are sent to a **prison** if their sentence is for several years. If the sentence is a year or less they are sent to **jail**. Some prisoners on **work release** are allowed to leave jail during the day to go to a job. Prisoners often spend the last few months of their sentence in a **halfway house** where they are helped to prepare for life outside prison.

The number of people in prisons and jails in the US is higher as a proportion of the population than in any other country. In 2002 it went above two million for the first time, twice what it was in 1990. Problems include overcrowding and the use of drugs. The fact

that over 10% of African American men aged between 25 and 29 are in prison compared to 1% of white men is seen as evidence that African Americans are treated unfairly by the justice system and are more likely to be sent to prison than white Americans. In the US people who are awaiting trial often do not go to prison but instead **make bail** (= pay money to the court) as a guarantee that they will return for the trial. People sent to prison as punishment rarely serve their full sentence but after some time are released **on parole**, which means they must report regularly to a government official. It is possible that two people who have committed the same crime may receive different punishments. To stop this happening some states have introduced **mandatory sentencing**, which means that the punishment for a crime is fixed by law, not decided by a judge.

Thesaurus:

prison noun C, U

• He was sent to prison for six years.

jail • |BrE **detention centre** • |AmE **detention center** • • **penitentiary** • • **jailhouse** • • **correctional facility** •
in prison/jail

in a prison/jail/detention centre/penitentiary/jailhouse/correctional facility

go to/be sent to/be released from/get out of prison/jail

Jail or prison? In British English there is little difference between these words. **Prison** can be used to describe the system, as well as the buildings or institution:

• the prison service/system

✗ **the jail service/system** In American English a **jail** is usually smaller than a **prison**.

Collocations:

Criminal justice

Breaking the law

break/violate/obey/uphold the law

be investigated/arrested/tried for a crime/a robbery/fraud

be arrested/ (especially NAmE) indicted/convicted on charges of rape/fraud/(especially US) felony charges

be arrested on suspicion of arson/robbery/shoplifting

be accused of/be charged with murder/(especially NAmE) homicide/four counts of fraud

face two charges of indecent assault

admit your guilt/liability/responsibility (for sth)

deny the allegations/claims/charges

confess to a crime

grant/be refused/be released on/skip/jump bail

The legal process

stand/await /bring sb to/come to/be on trial

take sb to/come to/settle sth out of court

face/avoid/escape prosecution

seek/retain/have the right to/be denied access to legal counsel

hold/conduct/attend/adjourn a hearing/trial

sit on/influence /persuade/convince the jury

sit/stand/appear /be put/place sb in the dock

plead guilty/not guilty to a crime

be called to/enter (BrE) the witness box

take/put sb on the stand/(NAmE) the witness stand

call/subpoena/question/cross-examine a witness

give/hear the evidence against/on behalf of sb

raise/withdraw /overrule an objection

reach a unanimous/majority verdict

return/deliver /record a verdict of not guilty/unlawful killing/accidental death

convict/acquit the defendant of the crime

secure a conviction/your acquittal

lodge/file an appeal

appeal (against)/challenge /uphold/overturn a conviction/verdict

Sentencing and punishment

pass sentence on sb

carry/face/serve a seven-year/life sentence

receive/be given the death penalty

be sentenced to ten years (in prison/jail)

carry/impose/pay a fine (of \$3 000)/a penalty (of 14 years imprisonment)

be imprisoned/jailed for drug possession/fraud/murder

do/serve time/ten years

be sent to/put sb in/be released from jail/prison

be/put sb/spend X years on death row

be granted/be denied /break (your) parole

more collocations at ↑[crime](#)

Grammar Point:

school

When a **school** is being referred to as an institution, you do not need to use the: ▪ When do the children finish school? When you

are talking about a particular building, **the** is used: ▪ I'll meet you outside the school. Prison, jail, court, and church work in the same way: ▪ Her husband spent three years in prison.
note at ↑college, ↑hospital

Example Bank:

- A dangerous criminal has escaped from a maximum-security prison.
- Building new prisons is not going to help lower our incarceration rate.
- He was immediately seized and thrown into prison.
- He went to prison for tax evasion.
- How long has her father been in prison?
- It is one of several companies running private prisons across Britain.
- Open prisons prepare prisoners for life back in the community.
- She was sent to prison for leaking state secrets.
- She was told by magistrates she could now face prison.
- The police are investigating disturbances at the prison.
- There have been riots in the prison.
- When did he get out of prison?
- You only escaped prison because of your previous good character.
- You only escaped prison= escaped being sent to prison because of your previous good character.
- She is serving a 20-month sentence at an open prison.
- Since 1990, the US prison population has almost doubled.
- prison guards

prison

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

prison **S2 W2** /'prɪzən/ BrE " AmE " noun

[Word Family: noun: ↑prison, ↑prisoner, ↑imprisonment; verb: ↑imprison; adjective: imprisonable]

[Date: 1100-1200; Language: Old French; Origin: Latin prehensio 'act of seizing', from prehendere; ⇨ ↑prehensile]

1. [uncountable and countable] a building where people are kept as a punishment for a crime, or while they are waiting to go to court for their ↑trial **SYN** jail ⇨ **prisoner, imprison:**

- He visits his dad in prison every week.
- Ricky has been out of prison for three years now.
- They'll probably put him in prison for a long time.
- Helen was sent to prison for attacking a man with a knife.
- The two men were arrested only a week after they were released from prison.
- Three terrorists escaped from Brixton Prison.
- an increase in the number of women going to prison
- Mr Gunn received a ten year prison sentence.

▶ Do not say 'the prison' unless you are referring to a particular building: *She was sent to prison.* | *He spent five years in prison.* | *They live opposite the prison.*

2. [uncountable] the system that deals with keeping people in a prison:

- the prison service
- Does prison deter criminals from offending again?

3. [countable] an unpleasant place or situation which it is difficult to escape from:

- The farm felt like a prison for her.

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COLLOCATIONS

■ verbs

- **go to prison** She went to prison for theft.
- **put somebody in prison** Mentally ill people should not be put in prison.
- **send somebody to prison** I was afraid I might get sent to prison.
- **be released from prison** He was released from prison six weeks ago.
- **let somebody out of prison** When's he going to be let out of prison?
- **come/get out of prison** The boy just come out of prison after doing two years for assault.
- **escape from (a) prison** Blake escaped from a Missouri prison last year.

■ adjectives

- **an open prison** (=one where prisoners are not restricted as much as usual) He was transferred to an open prison.
- **a maximum security prison** He was sent to a maximum security prison where prisoners are kept in their cells almost 23 hours a day.

■ prison + NOUN

- **a prison sentence/term** (=a period of time in prison as a punishment) He is serving a four-year prison sentence.
- **a prison officer/official/warder/guard** Last month, a prisoner attacked two prison officers with a knife.
- **a prison cell** (=a room where a prisoner lives) Overcrowding means that many prisoners have to share a prison cell.
- **the prison population** (=all the prisoners in a country) The government wants to reduce the size of the prison population.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **prison** a large building where people are kept as a punishment for a crime or while they are waiting to go to court for their trial: He was sentenced to five years in prison. | Wandsworth Prison
- **jail** a prison, or a similar smaller building where prisoners are kept for a short time: This old building is the jail that Butch Cassidy escaped from in 1887. | He was taken to a cell in the Los Angeles County Jail. | 58% of prisoners are in jail for non-violent

crimes. | The strikers were harassed, beaten and put in jail for trespassing. | Grovergot caught for not paying his taxes and was sent to jail.

- **gaol** /dʒeɪl/ *British English* another way of spelling **jail**: He spent the night in gaol.
- **penitentiary** /ˌpenəˈtɛnʃəri, ˌpenɪˈtɛnʃəri/ *American English* a large prison for people who are guilty of serious crimes: the Ohio State Penitentiary | The murderer served 10 years at the penitentiary in Stillwater. | the abandoned federal penitentiary on Alcatraz Island
- **correctional facility** *American English formal* an official word for a prison: 1,000 prisoners rioted at the North County Correctional Facility.
- **detention centre** *British English*, **detention center** *American English* a place where young people who have done something illegal are kept, because they are too young to go to prison. Also used about a place where people who have entered a country illegally are kept: Kevin, who had been abandoned by his mother, had been in and out of detention centres all his life. | a juvenile detention center | Harmondsworth detention centre, near Heathrow airport
- **open prison** *British English* a prison in which prisoners have more freedom than in an ordinary prison, usually because their crimes were less serious: In some open prisons, prisoners are allowed to go home at weekends.
- **cell** a small room in a prison or police station, where someone is kept as a punishment: a prison cell | Conditions were poor, and there were several prisoners to one cell.

prison

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1288**^{MCW}

15000 **930**^{COCA}

RANGE: **2k** PRISON ⁵⁰⁶⁰⁴

prison ²⁸²⁶⁷

prisons ³⁷³⁷

prisoners ⁹⁵¹⁵

prisoner ⁵⁰¹³

imprison ¹⁸⁴

imprisoning ¹³²

imprisons ⁶¹

imprisoned ²¹²¹

imprisonment ¹⁵⁵⁰

imprisonments ²⁴

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

10822 **1491**²⁸²⁰⁶ *nn1*

41 **112297**⁴⁷ *nnu*

9 **273039**⁹ *jj*

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