

promise**1. ['prɒmɪs] n****1. обещание**

conditional promise - *юр.* условное обещание *или* обязательство

parole promise - устное /словесное/ обещание

promise to help /of help/ - обещание помочь

breach of promise - *юр.* нарушение обещания (*жениться*)

to give /to make/ a promise - дать обещание, обещать

to keep /to carry out/ one's promise - исполнить /выполнить/ обещание

to break one's promise, to go back on one's promise - не сдерживать обещания, нарушить обещание

2. то, что обещано, обещанное

I claim your promise - я требую то, что вы обещали

3. перспектива, надежда

a youth of great /of high/ promise - многообещающий юноша, юноша, подающий надежды

an outlook with fair promise - хорошая перспектива

to give /to show/ promise - подавать надежды

the crops are full of promise - урожай обещает быть хорошим

there is a promise of warm weather - ожидается тёплая погода; погода обещает быть тёплой

◇ the Land of Promise - *библ.* земля обетованная

promise is debt - ≅ давши слово, держись

promises are (like piecrust) made to be broken - обещания не долговечнее корки пирога; на то и обещания, чтобы их нарушать

[*см. тж.* piecrust ◇]

2. ['prɒmɪs] v**1. обещать; давать обещание, обязательство, обязываться**

to promise money [assistance] - обещать деньги [помощь]

he always promises readily - он всегда охотно даёт обещания

I promise to come /that I will come/ - я обещаю прийти /что я приду/

I promised myself a quiet evening - я решил /дал себе слово/ спокойно провести вечер

2. *разг.* уверять

I promise you - уверяю вас

it was not so easy, I promise you - поверьте, это было не так легко

3. подавать надежды; сулить, предвещать

the weather promises large crops - такая погода сулит хороший урожай

the day promises well - день обещает быть хорошим

the scheme promises well - этот план выглядит многообещающим

◇ promise little but do much - поменьше обещай, побольше делай

he promises mountains and performs molehills - ≅ он горазд на обещания; наобещает с три короба, а не сделает почти ничего

promise

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

prom·ise [**promise promises promised promising**] **verb, noun** *BrE* ['prɒmɪs] ^m

NAmE ['prɑɒmɪs]

verb**1. intransitive, transitive** to tell sb that you will definitely do or not do sth, or that sth will definitely happen

- ~ **(to do sth)** The college principal promised to look into the matter.
- 'Promise not to tell anyone!' 'I promise.'
- They arrived at 7.30 **as they had promised** .
- ~ **sth** The government has promised a full investigation into the disaster.
- I'll see what I can do but **I can't promise anything** .
- ~ **(that)...** The brochure promised (that) the local food would be superb.
- ~ **sb (that)...** You promised me (that) you'd be home early tonight.
- ~ **sth to sb** He promised the money to his grandchildren.
- ~ **sb sth** He promised his grandchildren the money.
- ~ **yourself sth** I've promised myself some fun when the exams are over.
- ~ **(sb) + speech** 'I'll be back soon,' she promised.

2. transitive to make sth seem likely to happen; to show signs of sth

- **it promises to be sth** It promises to be an exciting few days.
- ~ **sth** There were dark clouds overhead promising rain.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	promise
	BrE / 'prɒmɪs/
	NAmE / 'prɑ:mɪs/
he / she / it	promises
	BrE / 'prɒmɪsɪz/
	NAmE / 'prɑ:mɪsɪz/
past simple, past participle	promised
	BrE / 'prɒmɪst/
	NAmE / 'prɑ:mɪst/
-ing form	promising
	BrE / 'prɒmɪsɪŋ/
	NAmE / 'prɑ:mɪsɪŋ/

Word Origin:

late Middle English: from Latin **promissum** 'something promised', neuter past participle of **promittere** 'put forth, promise', from **pro-** 'forward' + **mittere** 'send'.

Thesaurus:

promise verb T, I

• I promise not to tell anyone.

guarantee • • **swear** • • **pledge** • • **commit** • • **assure** • |especially written **vow** • |formal **business undertake** •

Opp:

promise/guarantee/swear/pledge/vow/undertake **to do sth**

promise/guarantee/swear/pledge/vow **that...**

promise/guarantee/pledge your **support**

Promise or guarantee? When you **promise** sth, you make a personal commitment to do sth. **Guarantee** is less personal; when you **guarantee** sth, you mean that you will make sure that it happens. You have a moral duty to do what you have promised, but you may also have a legal duty to do what you have guaranteed.

Example Bank:

- He repeatedly promised to cut taxes in his campaign.
- I am sending you information on holidays as promised.
- I can definitely promise you that I'll do all I can to help.
- I can't promise I'll be there.
- I can't promise anything, but I hope to have it finished next week.
- I've promised my old computer to Jane.
- She promised faithfully that she would come.
- The plan seemed to promise a new beginning.
- 'I'll be back soon,' she promised.
- I'll see what I can do but I can't promise anything.
- It was a disappointing end to a season which had promised so much for the team.
- The new drug promises to bring relief to thousands of asthma sufferers.
- You promised me (that) you'd be home early tonight.

Idioms: ↑ I promise you ▪ ↑ promise the moon

noun

1. countable a statement that tells sb that you will definitely do or not do sth

- to **make/keep/break a promise**
- ~ **(to do sth)** She kept her promise to visit her aunt regularly.
- ~ **(of sth)** The government failed to keep its promise of lower taxes.
- ~ **(that...)** Do I have your promise that you won't tell anyone about this?
- You haven't gone back on your promise, have you?
- He simply broke every single promise he ever made me.

see a lick and a promise **at** ↑lick n.

2. uncountable a sign that sb/sth will be successful

Syn: ↑potential

- Her work **shows** great **promise** .
- He failed to fulfil his **early promise** .
- Their future was **full of promise** .

3. uncountable, singular ~ **of sth** a sign, or a reason for hope that sth may happen, especially sth good

- The day dawned bright and clear, with the promise of warm, sunny weather.
- The dog approached, attracted by the promise of food.

Word Origin:

late Middle English: from Latin **promissum** 'something promised', neuter past participle of **promittere** 'put forth, promise', from **pro-** 'forward' + **mittere** 'send'.

Thesaurus:

promise noun

1. C
- He broke every single promise he ever made me.
- commitment** • **guarantee** • **word** • **vow** • **assurance** • **oath** • especially journalism politics **pledge** •
- (a/an) promise/commitment/guarantee/your word/vow/oath/pledge **to do sth**
 (a/an) promise/guarantee/your word/vow/assurance/oath/pledge **that...**
- make** a promise/commitment/guarantee/vow/pledge
keep your promise/commitment/word/vow
break a promise/your commitment/your word/a vow/a pledge

2. U
- Her work shows great promise.
- potential** • **possibilities** • **prospects** •
- sb/sth **with** promise/potential/possibilities/prospects
show promise/potential
fulfil sb/sth's promise/potential

Example Bank:

- His career failed to fulfil its early promise.
- I'll consider it, but I make no promises.
- Organic food seems to hold out the promise of healthy living.
- Politicians should be held to their promises.
- She showed great promise as a runner.
- The Opposition is determined to hold the government to its election promises.
- The year began so full of promise, and ended in disappointment.
- They've made all sorts of promises about reforming the health system.
- This new venture holds great promise for the future.
- We extracted a promise from them that they would repay the money by May.
- You gave me your promise I could use the car tonight.
- a pianist of promise
- promises of support
- Do I have your promise that you won't tell anyone about this?
- He repeated his promise that there would be extra help for the poorest pensioners.
- Her work shows great promise.
- I try not to make promises that I can't keep.
- I won't be late. That's a promise!
- She had obviously forgotten her promise to call me.
- The day dawned bright and clear, with the promise of warm sunny weather.
- The minister was under attack for a series of broken promises.
- The president has made a habit of breaking election promises.
- Their future was full of promise.
- You haven't gone back on your promise to me, have you?

promise

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

1. **prom** **ise**¹ **S2 W2** /'prɒməs, 'prɒmɪs \$ 'prɑ-BrE² AmE² verb

1. **[intransitive and transitive]** to tell someone that you will definitely do or provide something or that something will happen:

Last night the headmaster promised a full investigation.

promise to do something

She's promised to do all she can to help.

promise (that)

Hurry up – we promised we wouldn't be late.

promise somebody (that)

You promised me the car would be ready on Monday.
 'Promise me you won't do anything stupid.' 'I promise.'

promise something to somebody

I've promised that book to Ian, I'm afraid.

promise somebody something

The company promised us a bonus this year.
 'I'll be back by 1.00.' 'Promise?' 'Yes! Don't worry.'
 He reappeared two hours later, as promised.

2. **[transitive]** to show signs of something

promise to be something

Tonight's meeting promises to be a difficult one.
 dark clouds promising showers later

3. **promise somebody the moon/the earth** to promise to give someone something that is impossible for you to give

4. **I can't promise (anything)** *spoken* used to tell someone that you will try to do what they want, but may not be able to:

I'll try my best to get tickets, but I can't promise anything.

5. **I promise you** *spoken* used to emphasize a promise, warning, or statement:

I promise you, it does work!

• • •

THESAURUS

- **promise** to tell someone that you will definitely do something, or that something will happen: He promised to give the book back. | The organisers have promised that this year's event will take place.
- **swear** to make a very serious and sincere promise, for example in a law court: He had sworn to tell the truth. | I would never do that, I swear.
- **give somebody your word** *especially spoken* to promise sincerely that you will do something or that something is true – often used when you are trying to persuade someone that they can trust you: I give you my word that your money is safe with me. | I'll let you go out tonight if you give me your word that you'll be home by 11.
- **vow** to make a very serious promise, often to yourself: She vowed that she would never drink alcohol again. | They vowed to carry on their campaign for justice.
- **assure** to promise someone that something will happen or that something is true, in order to try to make them feel less worried: Police have assured the public that they are doing everything they can to find the killer.
- **guarantee** to promise that you will make sure that something will definitely happen, so that there is no question of it not happening: I guarantee that you will have the documents by tomorrow. | How can you guarantee that this won't happen again?
- **pledge** to promise publicly or officially that you will do something, for example to give help or money: The government has pledged to increase overseas aid to \$4 billion over the next five years.
- **undertake** *formal* to make an official or legal promise to do something: The government undertook to keep price increases to a minimum. | The two sides undertook to respect each other's territory.
- **commit to something** *formal* to make a firm and definite promise to do something important, which will affect you for a long time and which could result in serious effects if you fail: Bobby felt unready to commit to a romantic relationship. | A group of 11 companies has committed to developing a new passenger plane.

II. **promise**² **S3 W2** *BrE* ^{AmE} *noun*

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Latin; Origin: promissum, from the past participle of promittere 'to send out, promise']

1. **[countable]** a statement that you will definitely do or provide something or that something will definitely happen

promise of

▪ We received promises of support from several MPs.

promise to

▪ He would never break his promise to his father.

promise to do something

▪ She made a promise to visit them once a month.

promise that

▪ He promised that he'd pick me up.

2. **[uncountable]** signs that something or someone will be good or successful:

▪ a young man full of promise

▪ Bill shows great promise as a goalkeeper.

▪ She didn't fulfil her early promise.

3. **[singular, uncountable]** a sign that something, usually something good, may happen

promise of

▪ the promise of spring

▪ The letter gave a promise of greater happiness.

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 1)

■ verbs

- **make a promise** I made a promise to my mother that I'd look after Dad.
- **keep a promise** (also **fulfil a promise** *British English*, **fulfill a promise** *American English formal*) (=do what you promised to do) She said she would come back, and she kept her promise. | The mayor has fulfilled his promise to get tough on corruption.
- **break a promise** (=not do what you promised to do) Once again, the government has broken its promises.
- **go back on your promise** (=break it) They were angry that the company had gone back on its promise.
- **renege on a promise** *formal* (=break it) It is tempting for the government to renege on its promise.
- **have sb's promise** (=they have promised you something) 'It'll remain a secret?' 'Yes, you have my promise.'
- **hold somebody to their promise** (=make them keep it) The next day, Gareth held me to my promise to take him fishing.

■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + promise

- **a solemn promise** As governor, I made a solemn promise to defend the laws of the Republic.
- **a firm promise** (=definite) What had happened to all those firm promises of help?
- **a vague promise** (=not definite) Larry made some vague promises to leave his wife.
- **a false/empty/hollow promise** (=one that will not be kept) I didn't make any false promises.
- **a broken promise** (=one that has not been kept) There have been too many broken promises.
- **a campaign/election promise** He was accused of breaking a campaign promise not to raise taxes.

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 2)

■ verbs

- **show promise** (=seem likely to be good or successful) She showed promise as a singer at an early age.
- **hold promise** (=seem likely to be good or successful – used of things) The Internet clearly held great promise as an educational tool.
- **fulfil your/its promise** (also **live up to your/its promise**) (=be as good as expected) This young player has begun to fulfil his promise. | The rest of this movie never quite lives up to the promise of that opening moment.

■ adjectives

- **great promise** He'd initially shown great promise as a goalkeeper.
- **early promise** Tracey showed early promise in mathematics.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **promise** a statement that you will definitely do or provide something, which may not be reliable: 'I'll call you tomorrow.' 'Is that a promise?' | Politicians are always making promises.
- **pledge** a public or official promise to do a particular thing in the future: The Government has fulfilled at least 50% of its election pledges. | We have received pledges of help from various organizations.
- **vow** a very serious promise to do something or not to do something that you choose to make: He made a vow never to drink alcohol again. | your marriage vows
- **oath** a formal promise, especially one that someone makes in a court of law: Witnesses swear a solemn oath to tell the truth. | Public officials must take an oath to support the US Constitution.
- **undertaking** a serious or public promise to do something, especially something difficult which needs a lot of effort or money: The police have given an undertaking to reduce street crime in the city centre. | He was made to sign a written undertaking that he would not go within a mile of her house.
- **assurance** a promise that something will happen or is true, made so that someone is less worried or more confident: You have my assurance that it won't happen again. | The manager gave me his personal assurance that the goods would be delivered today.
- **guarantee** a very definite promise that something will happen. A guarantee is also a formal written promise by a company to repair or replace a product free if it has a fault within a fixed period of time.: With any diet, there's no guarantee of success. | I'm afraid I can't give you a 100% guarantee. | Is the camera still under guarantee (=within the period during which it can be repaired or replaced free)?

promise

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1373**^{MCW}

15000 **865**^{COCA}

RANGE: **2k** PROMISE 54150

promise 20463

promised 15848

promises 9289

promising 8413

unpromising 137

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

9731 **3232**¹²⁸⁹⁴ *nn1*

4334 **6464**⁵⁶⁰⁸ *vv0*

1722 **13716**¹⁹⁵² *vvi*

9 **274810**⁹ *nnu*