

silence**1. ['saɪləns] n****1. тишина**

dead [complete] silence - мёртвая [полная] тишина
 to break /to destroy/ the silence - нарушить тишину
 to call for silence - требовать тишины; кричать «тише!»
 silence! - тише!

2. молчание, безмолвие

to keep silence - молчать, хранить молчание
 to pass smth. over in silence - обойти что-л. молчанием
 to put /to reduce/ smb. to silence - заставить кого-л. молчать
 to suffer in silence - страдать молча
 one minute's silence in remembrance of ... - минута молчания в память (кого-л.)
 to secure the silence of smb. - обеспечить чьё-л. молчание, заставить кого-л. держать язык за зубами

3. забвение; отсутствие сведений

to pass into silence - быть преданным забвению
 the rest is silence (*Shakespeare*) - а дальше - тишина

4. редк. отсутствие запаха (в спирте)

◇ great silence - великое безмолвие, смерть
 silence gives consent - *посл.* молчание - знак согласия

2. ['saɪləns] v**1. 1) заставить замолчать**

to silence a speaker - заставить оратора замолчать

2) успокоить, утихомирить

to silence a crying child - успокоить плачущего ребёнка

2. 1) преодолевать (сопротивление и т. п.)**2) воен. подавлять****3. глушить, заглушать**

to silence a noise - заглушать шум

silence

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

si-lence [silence silences silenced silencing] noun, verb, exclamation *BrE*['saɪləns] ¹ *NAmE* ['saɪləns] ²

noun

1. uncountable a complete lack of noise or sound**Syn:** ↑quiet

- Their footsteps echoed in the silence.
- A scream broke the silence of the night.
- I need **absolute silence** when I'm working.

2. countable, uncountable a situation when nobody is speaking

- an **embarrassed/awkward silence**
- a moment's stunned silence
- I got used to his long silences.
- They finished their meal **in total silence**.
- She lapsed into silence again.
- There was a **deafening silence** (= one that is very noticeable).
- a two-minute silence in honour of those who had died
- Her accusations reduced him to silence.
- He's not one to suffer in silence! (= to suffer without telling sb)

3. uncountable, singular a situation in which sb refuses to talk about sth or to answer questions

- She **broke her public silence** in a TV interview.
- ~ (**on sth**) The company's silence on the subject has been taken as an admission of guilt.
- the **right to silence** (= the legal right not to say anything when you are arrested)
- There is a **conspiracy of silence** about what is happening (= everyone has agreed not to discuss it).

4. uncountable a situation in which people do not communicate with each other by letter or telephone

- The phone call came after months of silence.

more at a heavy silence/atmosphere **at** ↑heavy *adj.* a pregnant pause/silence **at** ↑pregnantWord Origin:Middle English: from Old French, from Latin *silentium*, from *silere* 'be silent'.Thesaurus:**silence** noun **U**

- A cry broke the silence of the night.

peace • • **quiet** • • **hush** • • **calm** • |especially *BrE*, written **tranquillity** • |*AmE* usually **tranquility** •**Opp:** noise**in** silence/peace/tranquillity**absolute/total** silence/peace/quiet/calm/tranquillity**break** the silence/peace/quiet/calm

Example Bank:

- A heavy silence lingered in the air.
- A minute's silence for the victims will be observed.
- A stunned silence greeted her announcement.
- A sudden silence fell over the room.
- An awkward silence followed.
- Celeste's voice penetrated the silence.
- Countries throughout Europe held a three minutes' silence.
- He has so far kept a dignified silence on the subject.
- He lapsed into a sullen silence.
- He thought for a moment, the silence lengthening.
- Her comments were met with a stunned silence.
- Her question was met with an uneasy silence.
- I took her silence as a no.
- Lewis finally broke the long silence between them.
- She fell into long, brooding silences.
- She filled the silence with music.
- She has broken her vow of silence on the issue.
- She maintained a stony silence.
- Silence reigned.
- The boys were stunned into silence by this news.
- The government's only response has been a deafening silence.
- The rest of the trip passed in relative silence.
- The soldier had broken radio silence to contact his aircraft.
- There is a conspiracy of silence about what is happening.
- There seems to have been a deliberate silence from the newspapers.
- There was a moment's silence before she replied.
- They ate their breakfast in silence.
- They observed two minutes' silence to remember the war dead.
- They walked in companionable silence.
- We sat and watched in awed silence as she performed.
- We sat in complete silence, save for the ticking of the clock.
- a debate to break the silence surrounding domestic violence
- a silence punctuated only by the occasional sniff from the children
- Something was moving in silence along the edge of the woods.

Idiom: ↑silence is golden

verb

1. ~ **sb/sth** to make sb/sth stop speaking or making a noise
 - She silenced him with a glare.
 - Our bombs silenced the enemy's guns (= they destroyed them) .
2. ~ **sb/sth** to make sb stop expressing opinions that are opposed to yours
 - All protest had been silenced.
 - Her recent achievements have silenced her critics .

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	silence
	BrE / 'saɪləns/
	NAme / 'saɪləns/
he / she / it	silences
	BrE / 'saɪlənsɪz/
	NAme / 'saɪlənsɪz/
past simple, past participle	silenced
	BrE / 'saɪlənst/
	NAme / 'saɪlənst/
-ing form	silencing
	BrE / 'saɪlənsɪŋ/
	NAme / 'saɪlənsɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French, from Latin **silentium**, from **silere** 'be silent'.

Example Bank:

- A shot to the head silenced him forever
- Criticism has now been effectively silenced.
- Even these improvements to the service failed to silence a grumbling chorus of complaints.
- Her scream was abruptly silenced.
- Our bombs silenced the enemy's guns.

exclamation (formal) used to tell people to be quiet

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French, from Latin *silentium*, from *silere* 'be silent'.

silence

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **silence**¹ **W2** /'saɪləns/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *noun*

[*Word Family:* *noun:* ↑silence, ↑silencer; *verb:* ↑silence; *adverb:* ↑silently; *adjective:* ↑silent]

1. **NO NOISE** [uncountable] complete absence of sound or noise **SYN** quiet

silence of

Nothing disturbed the silence of the night.

silence falls/descends (on/upon something)

After the explosion, an eerie silence fell upon the scene.

break/shatter the silence

A loud scream shattered the silence.

2. **NO TALKING** [uncountable and countable] complete quiet because nobody is talking:

There was a brief silence before anyone answered.

in silence

The four men sat in silence.

complete/total/dead silence

'How long have you been here?' I asked. There was complete silence.

'Silence in court!' roared the judge.

embarrassed/awkward/stunned etc silence

There was an awkward silence between them.

The accused exercised his right to silence (=the legal right to choose to say nothing).

3. **NO DISCUSSION/ANSWER** [uncountable] failure or refusal to discuss something or answer questions about something

silence on

The government's silence on such an important issue seems very strange.

Once again the answer was a deafening silence (=a very noticeable refusal to discuss something).

4. **NO COMMUNICATION** [uncountable] failure to write a letter to someone, telephone them etc:

After two years of silence, he suddenly got in touch with us again.

5. **one-minute/two-minute etc silence** a period of time in which everyone stops talking as a sign of honour and respect towards someone who has died

• • •

COLLOCATIONS (for Meanings 1 & 2)

■ **adjectives**

- **complete/total/absolute/utter silence** They sat in complete silence. | The silence in the room was absolute.
- **dead silence** (=complete silence) There was a gasp from Peter and then a dead silence.
- **a long silence** 'He's dead.' There was a long silence.
- **a short/brief silence** After a brief silence, Katherine nodded.
- **an awkward/uncomfortable/embarrassed silence** 'Fred tells me you like books,' Steve said, after an awkward silence.
- **a stunned/shocked silence** There was a stunned silence at the other end of the phone.
- **stony silence** (=unfriendly silence) Harrison stared at him in stony silence.
- **a tense silence** There was a brief, tense silence.
- **an eerie silence** (=one that is strange and rather frightening) An eerie silence descended over the house.
- **an ominous silence** (=one that makes you feel that something bad is going to happen) 'How long will she be ill?' There was a short, ominous silence.
- **a sudden silence** At the mention of John, a sudden silence fell on the room.

■ **verbs**

- **there is (a) silence** There was silence in the library for several moments.
- **break/shatter the silence** (=end the silence) The sound of a car engine broke the silence.
- **disturb the silence** (=end the silence by making a sound) Nothing moved, no sound disturbed the silence.
- **silence falls/descends** (=a silence begins) A sudden silence fell over the room.
- **lapse into silence** (=to stop talking and be quiet) 'I don't want any,' he said, and lapsed into silence again.

II. **silence**² *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *verb* [transitive]

[*Word Family:* *noun:* ↑silence, ↑silencer; *verb:* ↑silence; *adverb:* ↑silently; *adjective:* ↑silent]

1. to make someone stop talking, or stop something making a noise:

She held up her hand to silence the children.

2. to make someone stop expressing opposition or criticisms – used especially in news reports:

attempts to silence the rumours

Barnes has failed to silence his critics.

silence

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1646**^{MCW}

15000 **976**^{COCA}

RANGE: **3k SILENCE** 47912

silence 22804

silenced 1205

unsilenced 0
silences 662
silencing 385
silent 17386
silently 5229
silencer 180
silencers 61

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

10637 **1987**²¹⁶¹⁶ *nn1*
744 **23925**⁸¹⁶ *vvi*
322 **39422**³⁴⁴ *vv0*
14 **214362**¹⁴ *nnu*
5 **303861**⁸ *np1*
5 **352375**⁶ *jj*
