

blow

I

[bləʊ] *n*

1. удар

retaliatory blow - ответный удар; возмездие

illegal blow - *спорт.* запрещённый удар

at a /one/ blow - одним ударом; сразу

to administer /to deal, to deliver, to strike/ a blow - а) наносить удар; б) причинять вред

to come /to fall, to get/ to blows - вступить в драку, дойти до рукопашной

to exchange blows - драться

to rain blows upon smb. - осыпать кого-л. градом ударов

to strike a blow for - помогать

to strike a blow against - противодействовать

to aim a blow at smb.'s authority - подрывать чей-л. авторитет

without striking a blow - без усилий

2. несчастье, удар судьбы

it came as a crushing blow to us - для нас это был страшный удар

3. *горн.* горный удар; обрушение кровли◇ the first blow is half the battle - *посл.* ≅ хорошее начало полдела откачалось; лиха беда начало

II

1. [bləʊ] *n*

1. дуновение; порыв ветра

to get oneself a blow - подышать свежим воздухом

2. 1) звук духового инструмента

2) звук при сморкании

3. фонтанкита

4. *разг.*

1) хвастовство

2) хвастун

5. *метал.*

1) продувка

2) бессемерование

6. *геол.* выход рудной жилы на дневную поверхность7. *сл.*1) *воен.* передышка

2) отдых, перерыв, чтобы перекусить; ≅ перекур

3) = blow-out 2

8. кладка яиц мухами

9. *сл.* кокаин2. [bləʊ] *v* (*blew; blown*)

I

1. дуть, веять (*о ветре*)

it was blowing hard - дул сильный ветер

it is blowing a gale - будет буря

2. 1) гнать (*ветром*); развеять

the wind blew the tent over - ветер перевернул палатку

many trees were blown down - ветер свалил много деревьев

a lot of dust was blown in - нанесло /нагнало/ много пыли

2) нестись, быть гонимым ветром (*часто blow away*)to blow away an obstacle - *воен.* снести препятствие артиллерийским огнём3. 1) играть (*на духовом инструменте*); дуть (*в свисток*)2) издавать звук (*о духовом инструменте*); свистеть (*о сирене, свистке и т. п.*)

stop work when the whistle blows - прекратить работу по свистку

4. 1) дуть на что-л., студить

to blow on one's coffee - (по)дуть на горячий кофе

2) согревать, сушить *или* охлаждать дыханием

to blow on one's fingers - дуть на застывшие пальцы

3) раздувать (*огонь, мехи*)5. выдувать (*стеклянные изделия и т. д.*)

blow glass - выдувать стекло

blow bottles - выдувать бутылки

blow bubbles - пускать (мыльные) пузыри

6. 1) продувать, прочищать (*тж. blow through; blow out*)

to have the pipes blown (through /out/) - прочистить /продуть/ трубы

2) очищать от содержимого (*воздухом или газом*)to blow an egg - выпить яйцо (*через дырочку*)

blow your nose well - хорошенько высморкайся

7. 1) взрывать (*тж. blow up, blow down, blow in*)

they blew the door in and entered - они взорвали дверь и вошли внутрь

the gates were blown up with dynamite - ворота были взорваны динамитом

2) взрываться (*тж.* blow up)

the gun blew (up) - орудие взорвалось

8. лопаться (*о вакуумной трубке, камере, крышке и т. п.*); разорваться от внутреннего давления

this tin has blown - эта консервная банка вздулась

9. 1) пыhtеть; тяжело дышать

the old man was puffing and blowing - старик пыhtел и отдувался

2) загнать (*лошадь*)

10. 1) перегорать (*о предохранителях*)

2) пережигать (*предохранители, тж.* blow out)

he's blown the fuse (out) - он пережёт пробки [*см. тж.* ◇]

11. распространять (*новости, слухи; тж.* blow about, blow abroad)

the rumour has widely blown about, that ... - широко распространился слух, что ...

12. бушевать, разражаться гневом

13. разоблачать

the spy's cover was blown - шпиона разоблачили

14. *разг.* хвастаться

15. 1) транжирить

he blew his last money on a show - он потратил свои последние деньги на театр

2) *разг.* угощать

he blew me to a dinner - он угостил меня обедом

16. *сл.* уходить, удирать

17. *сл.* проиграть; проворонить

18. *сл.* ликвидировать; похерить

19. *разг.* хандрить

20. *театр. жарг.* забыть текст, реплику

21. *сл.* мастерски делать что-л.

he blows great conversation - он мастер на разговоры, он любит много говорить

22. (*р. р. blowed*) *эвф.* ругать, проклинать

blow it! - чёрт возьми!

I'm blowed if I know - провалиться мне на этом месте, если я знаю

23. класть яйца (*о мухах*)

24. выпускать фонтан (*о ките*)

25. *разг.* курить или вдыхать наркотик

26. *уст.* разжигать (*страсти*)

27. *амер. сл.* заниматься минетом, феллацио

28. *метал.* подавать дутьё

29. *тех.* парить (*о сальнике, фланце*)

II Б

to blow smth. to some state приводить что-л. в какое-л. состояние

to blow shut - захлопнуть

the wind blew the door shut - дверь захлопнуло ветром

to blow open - а) распахивать; б) распахиваться

when the door blew open the crowd rushed in - когда дверь распахнулась, толпа бросилась внутрь

to blow to pieces - а) разбить вдребезги; б) разорвать на куски

to blow one's hair dry - высушить волосы феном

◇

to blow one's brains (out) - пустить пулю в лоб

to blow a kiss - послать воздушный поцелуй

to blow hopes /speculations/ sky-high /to smithereens/ - разбить надежды в прах

to blow sky-high - сильно выбранить, выругать

to blow one's own horn /trumpet/ - хвастаться

to blow great guns - дуть, бушевать (*о буре, ветре*)

to blow hot and cold - постоянно менять свои взгляды

blow high, blow low - что бы ни случилось

to blow one's cool /one's top/ - потерять самообладание, выйти из себя

to blow smb.'s mind - а) волновать, возбуждать; б) захватить врасплох; поставить в тупик; в) испытывать наркотическое возбуждение, быть в трансе

to blow the whistle on smth. - положить конец чему-л.

it's about time someone blew the whistle on his dishonest practices - пора прекратить его бесчестные махинации

to blow the lid off smth. - *амер. разг.* разоблачить, обнародовать что-л.

to blow the cobwebs away - проветрить мозги

to blow a fuse - *амер. сл.* а) раздражаться; б) взрываться от гнева; [*см. тж.* I 10, 2])

to blow smb.'s head off - изругать кого-л.

you'll get your head blown off - не носить тебе головы

II

1. [blɒv] *n*

1) цвет, цветение

2) расцвет

2. [bləʊ] v (blew; blown)

1) цвести

2) расцветать

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

blow

blow [blow blows blown blowing] verb, noun, exclamation BrE [bləʊ] ^m

NAmeE [blou] ^m

verb (blew BrE [blu:] ^m ; NAmeE [blu:] ^m blown BrE [bləʊn] ^m ; NAmeE [bloun] ^m In sense 14 **blowed** is used for the past participle.)

FROM MOUTH

1. intransitive, transitive to send out air from the mouth

- + adv./prep. You're not blowing hard enough!
- The policeman asked me to blow into the breathalyser.
- ~ sth + adv./prep. He drew on his cigarette and blew out a stream of smoke.

OF WIND

2. intransitive, transitive (+ adv./prep.) when the wind or a current of air blows, it is moving, when it blows, the wind is **blowing**

- A cold wind blew from the east.
- It was blowing hard.
- It was **blowing a gale** (= there was a strong wind) .

MOVE WITH WIND/BREATH

3. intransitive, transitive to be moved by the wind, sb's breath, etc; to move sth in this way

- + adv./prep. My hat blew off.
- + adj. The door blew open.
- ~ sth + adv./prep. I was almost blown over by the wind.
- She blew the dust off the book.
- The ship was blown onto the rocks.
- The bomb blast blew two passers-by across the street.
- ~ sth + adj. The wind blew the door shut.

WHISTLE/INSTRUMENT

4. transitive, intransitive ~ (sth) if you blow a whistle, musical instrument, etc. or if a whistle, etc. blows, you produce a sound by **blowing** into the whistle, etc

- The referee blew his whistle.
- the sound of trumpets blowing

YOUR NOSE

5. transitive ~ **your nose** to clear your nose by **blowing** strongly through it into a ↑tissue or ↑handkerchief

A KISS

6. transitive ~ (sb) a kiss to kiss your hand and then pretend to **blow** the kiss towards sb

SHAPE STH

7. transitive ~ sth to make or shape sth by **blowing**

- to blow smoke rings
- to **blow bubbles** (= for example, by blowing onto a thin layer of water mixed with soap)
- to **blow glass** (= to send a current of air into melted glass to shape it)

ELECTRICITY

8. intransitive, transitive ~ (sth) if a ↑fuse blows or you blow a ↑fuse, the electricity stops flowing suddenly because the ↑fuse (= a thin wire) has melted because the current was too strong

TYRE

9. intransitive, transitive to break open or apart, especially because of pressure from inside; to make a tyre break in this way

- The car spun out of control when a tyre blew.
- The truck blew a tyre and lurched off the road.

WITH EXPLOSIVES

10. transitive ~ sth to break sth open with ↑explosives

- The safe had been blown by the thieves.

SECRET

11. transitive ~ sth (informal) to make known sth that was secret

- One mistake could **blow your cover** (= make your real name, job, intentions, etc. known) .
- We're going to blow his operation wide open.

MONEY

12. **transitive ~ sth (on sth) (informal)** to spend or waste a lot of money on sth
 • He inherited over a million dollars and blew it all on drink and gambling.

OPPORTUNITY

13. **transitive ~ sth (informal)** to waste an opportunity
 • She **blew her chances** by arriving late for the interview.
 • You had your chance and you **blew it**.

EXCLAMATION

14. **transitive ~ sb/sth (BrE, informal)** used to show that you are annoyed, surprised or do not care about sth
 • Blow it! We've missed the bus.
 • Well, blow me down! I never thought I'd see you again.
 • **I'm blown if** I'm going to (= I certainly will not) let him treat you like that.
 • Let's take a taxi and blow (= nevermind) the expense.

LEAVE SUDDENLY

15. **transitive, intransitive ~ (sth) (NAmE, slang)** to leave a place suddenly
 • Let's blow this joint.

see also ↑whistle-blower, **see** blow/clear the cobwebs away **at** ↑cobweb, it's an ill wind (that blows nobody any good) **at** ↑ill_{adj.},
 blow sb/sth to kingdom come **at** ↑kingdom, blow/sod that for a lark **at** ↑lark_{n.}, take/blow the lid off sth **at** ↑lid, puff and blow **at** ↑puff_{v.},
 blow/knock sb's socks off **at** ↑sock_{n.}, see which way the wind is blowing **at** ↑way_{n.}

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	blow
	BrE /bloʊ/
	NAmE /blɔː/
he / she / it	blows
	BrE /bloʊz/
	NAmE /bloʊz/
past simple	blew
	BrE /bluː/
	NAmE /bluː/
past participle	blown
	BrE /blɔːn/
	NAmE /blɔːn/
-ing form	blowing
	BrE /blɔːɪŋ/
	NAmE /blɔːɪŋ/

Word Origin:

- v. Old English blāwan Germanic German blāhen 'blow up, swell' Indo-European Latin flare 'blow'
 n. late Middle English

Thesaurus:

blow verb

1. I, T

- You're not blowing hard enough.
- puff** • • **breathe out** • |formal **exhale** •
- Opp:** suck
- blow out/puff/breathe out/exhale **smoke**
- blow/puff **hard**

2. I, T

- My hat blew away in the wind.
- drift** • • **flutter** • • **fly** • • **flap** • • **waft** • • **wave** •
- blow/drift/flutter/flap/waft/wave **gently**
- blow/drift/flutter/fly/flap/wave **in the wind/breeze**
- a **flag** flutters/flies/flaps/waves

3. T, I

- The referee blew his whistle.
- sound** • • **play** • • **blast** • • **blare** • • **honk** • • **toot** •
- blow/sound/blast/blare/honk/toot a **horn**
- a **horn** blows/sounds/blasts/blareshonks/toots
- blow/sound/play/blast a **trumpet**
- a **trumpet** blows/sounds/plays/blasts/blareshonks/toots
- blow/sound a **whistle**
- a **whistle** blows/sounds

Synonyms:

explode

blow up • go off • burst • erupt • detonate

These are all words that can be used when sth bursts apart violently, causing damage or injury.

- explode** • to burst loudly and violently, causing damage; to make sth burst in this way: ▪ The jet smashed into a hillside and exploded. ◇▪ The bomb was exploded under controlled conditions.

blow (sth) up • to be destroyed by an explosion; to destroy sth by an explosion: ▪ A police officer was killed when his car blew up.
go off • (of a bomb) to explode; (of a gun) to be fired: ▪ The bomb went off in a crowded street.

When used about guns, the choice of **go off** (instead of 'be fired') can suggest that the gun was fired by accident.

burst • to break open or apart, especially because of pressure from inside; to make sth break in this way: ▪ That balloon's going to burst.

erupt • (of a volcano) to throw out burning rocks and smoke; (of burning rocks and smoke) to be thrown out of a volcano.

detonate • (rather formal) (of a bomb) to explode; to make a bomb explode: ▪ Two other bombs failed to detonate.

a **bomb** explodes/blows up/goes off/bursts/detonates

a **car/plane/vehicle** explodes/blows up

a **firework/rocket** explodes/goes off

Example Bank:

- It's blowing a gale out there!
- They won't commit themselves until they see which way the wind is blowing.
- a gale blowing from the west
- The sound of trumpets blowing grew louder.
- You're not blowing hard enough!

Idioms: ↑blow a fuse ▪ ↑blow chunks ▪ ↑blow hot and cold ▪ ↑blow smoke ▪ ↑blow somebody out of the water ▪ ↑blow the gaff ▪ ↑blow the whistle on somebody ▪ ↑blow up in somebody's face ▪ ↑blow your brains out ▪ ↑blow your mind ▪ ↑blow your own trumpet ▪ ↑blow your top ▪ blow-by-blow account/description ▪ ↑come to blows ▪ ↑soften the blow

Derived ↑blow in ▪ ↑blow into something ▪ ↑blow itself out ▪ ↑blow off ▪ ↑blow out ▪ ↑blow over ▪ ↑blow somebody away ▪ ↑blow somebody off ▪ ↑blow somebody out ▪ ↑blow something apart ▪ ↑blow something off ▪ ↑blow something out ▪ ↑blow something up ▪ ↑blow up

noun

1. a hard hit with the hand, a weapon, etc

- She received a severe blow on the head.
- He was knocked out by a single blow to the head.
- The two men were **exchanging blows** .
- He **landed a blow** on Hill's nose.

2. ~ (to sb/sth) a sudden event which has damaging effects on sb/sth, causing sadness or disappointment

- Losing his job **came as a** terrible **blow** to him.
- It was a shattering blow to her pride.
- The new cuts will be seen as a crippling blow for people on low incomes.
- The recent bomb attacks are a serious blow for the peace process.

see also ↑body blow

3. the action of blowing

- Give your nose a good blow (= clear it completely) .
- Try to put the candles out in one blow.
- I'll give three blows on the whistle as a signal.

more at deal sb/sth a blow/deal a blow to sb/sth **at** ↑deal _{v.}, strike a blow for/against sth **at** ↑strike _{v.}

Word Origin:

v. Old English blāwan Germanic German blāhen 'blow up, swell' Indo-European Latin flare 'blow'

n. late Middle English

Thesaurus:

blow noun **C**

- Losing his job was a terrible blow.

shock • • **disaster** • • **catastrophe** • • **calamity** • • **setback** • • **knock** • • **disappointment** •

a blow/shock/disaster/catastrophe/calamity/setback/disappointment **for** sb

a blow/shock/setback/disappointment **to** sb

suffer a blow/shock/disaster/catastrophe/calamity/setback/knock/disappointment

Example Bank:

- Give your nose a blow.
- He felt a stinging blow across the side of his face.
- He killed the man with a single blow of his cricket bat.
- He rained heavy blows on the old woman.
- He suffered a severe blow to the head.
- Her decision to leave home was a terrible blow to her parents.
- His defeat dealt a crushing blow to the party.
- It was the gardener who delivered the fatal blow.
- Jack caught him a glancing blow on the jaw.
- She aimed a blow at Lucy.
- She landed a nasty blow on his nose.
- The blow came at a meeting on Saturday.
- The blow knocked him to the ground.

- The blow landed on my right shoulder.
- The boys exchanged blows with the police.
- The children came to blows over the new toy.
- The force of the blow knocked him out.
- The man went down in a hail of blows.
- The news came as a bitter blow to the staff.
- a blow to the victim's chest
- a mortal blow to British industry
- a nasty blow on the head
- to soften the blow of tax increases
- two blows of the axe
- Can you stay with Cathy tonight? She's had a bit of a blow.
- Try to put the candles out on one blow.

exclamation (old-fashioned, BrE) used to show that you are annoyed about sth

- Blow! I completely forgot it.

Word Origin:

v. Old English blāwan Germanic German blāhen 'blow up, swell' Indo-European Latin flare 'blow'

n. late Middle English

See also: ↑blow your own horn ▪ ↑blow your stack

blow

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **blow**¹ **S2 W3** /bləʊ \$ blou/ BrE " AmE " verb (past tense **blew** /bluː, past participle

blown /bləʊn \$ bloun/)

[Language: Old English; Origin: blawan]

1. **WIND MOVING** [intransitive and transitive] if the wind or a current of air blows, it moves:

- " A cold breeze was blowing hard.
- " It was blowing from an easterly direction.
- " Outside, the weather was blowing a gale.

2. **WIND MOVING SOMETHING** [intransitive, transitive usually + adverb/preposition] to move, or to move something, by the force of the wind or a current of air:

- " Her hair was blowing in the breeze.
- " The wind blew the rain into our faces.
- " My ticket blew away.

blow (something) open/shut

- " A sudden draught blew the door shut.

3. **AIR FROM YOUR MOUTH** [intransitive, transitive always + adverb/preposition] to send air out from your mouth

blow (something) into/onto/out etc

- " She blew onto her coffee to cool it down.
- " He blew the smoke right in my face.

4. **MAKE A NOISE** [intransitive and transitive] to make a sound by passing air through a whistle, horn etc:

- " The whistle blew for half time.
- " A truck went by and blew its horn at her.

5. **VIOLENCE** [transitive always + adverb/preposition] to damage or destroy something violently with an explosion or by shooting

blow something away/out/off something

- " Part of his leg had been blown off.

blow somebody/something to pieces/bits/smithereens

- " A bomb like that could blow you to bits.

6. **LOSE AN OPPORTUNITY** [transitive] *informal* to lose a good opportunity by making a mistake or by being careless:

- " We've blown our chances of getting that contract.
- " You've got a great future ahead of you. Don't blow it.

7. **WASTE MONEY** [transitive] *informal* to spend a lot of money in a careless way, especially on one thing:

- " I blew all the money I won on a trip to Hawaii.

8. **blow your nose** to clean your nose by forcing air through it into a cloth or a piece of soft paper

9. **blow somebody a kiss** to kiss your hand and then pretend to blow the kiss towards someone:

- " She leant out of the window and blew him a kiss.

10. **ELECTRICITY STOPS** [intransitive and transitive] if an electrical ↑fuse blows, or a piece of electrical equipment blows a fuse, the electricity suddenly stops working because a thin wire has melted:

- " The floodlights blew a fuse.

11. **TYRE** [intransitive and transitive] if a tyre blows, or if a car blows a tyre, it bursts

12. **MAKE A SHAPE** [transitive] to make or shape something by sending air out from your mouth:

- " The kids were blowing bubbles in the backyard.

blow glass (=shape glass by blowing into it when it is very hot and soft)

13. **SURPRISE/ANNOYANCE blow/blow me/blow it etc** *British English spoken* said to show annoyance or surprise:

- " Blow it! I forgot to phone Jane.
- " Blow me down if she didn't just run off!
- " Well, I'm blowed!

14. **TELL A SECRET** [transitive] to make known something that was meant to be a secret:

Your coming here has blown the whole operation.

blow sb's cover (=make known what someone's real job or name is)

It would only take one phone call to blow his cover.

15. **blow sb's mind** *spoken* to make you feel very surprised and excited by something:

Seeing her again really blew my mind. ⇨ ↑mind-blowing

16. **blow your top/stack/cool** (also **blow a fuse/gasket**) *informal* to become extremely angry quickly or suddenly:

One day, I just blew my top and hit him.

17. **blow the whistle on somebody** *informal* to tell someone in authority about something wrong that someone is doing:

He blew the whistle on his colleagues. ⇨ ↑whistle-blower

18. **blow something (up) out of (all) proportion** to make something seem much more serious or important than it is

19. **blow your own trumpet** *especially BrE*, **blow your own horn** *American English informal* to talk a lot about your own achievements – used to show disapproval:

Dave spent the whole evening blowing his own trumpet.

20. **blow somebody/something out of the water** to defeat someone or something that you are competing with, or to achieve much more than they do:

Motown had blown all the other record companies out of the water.

21. **blow hot and cold** *British English informal* to keep changing your attitude towards someone or something

22. **blow something sky-high** *British English* to destroy an idea, plan etc by showing that it cannot be true or effective:

This new information blows his theory sky-high.

blow sb↔away *phrasal verb especially American English informal*

1. to make someone feel very surprised, especially about something they like or admire:

It just blows me away, the way everyone's so friendly round here.

2. to kill someone by shooting them with a gun

3. to defeat someone completely, especially in a game:

Nancy blew away the rest of the skaters.

blow down *phrasal verb*

if the wind blows something down, or if something blows down, the wind makes it fall:

The garden gate has blown down.

blow something ↔down

Several trees were blown down in the night.

blow in *phrasal verb*

1. (also **blow into something**) *informal* to arrive in a place, especially suddenly:

Jim blew in about an hour ago.

Guess who's just blown into town?

2. if a storm or bad weather blows in, it arrives and begins to affect a particular area:

The first snowstorm blew in from the north.

blow somebody/something ↔off *phrasal verb American English informal*

1. to treat someone or something as unimportant, for example by not meeting someone or not going to an event:

Bud got into trouble for blowing off the meeting.

2. **blow the lid off something** to make known something that was secret, especially something involving important or famous people:

Her book blew the lid off the Reagan years.

3. **blow sb's head off** to kill someone by shooting them in the head

4. **blow off steam** *American English* to get rid of anger or energy by doing something **SYN let off steam** *British English*:

I went jogging to blow off some steam.

blow out *phrasal verb*

1. if you blow a flame or a fire out, or if it blows out, it stops burning:

The match blew out in the wind.

blow something ↔out

Blow out all the candles.

2. if a tyre blows out, it bursts

3. **blow itself out** if a storm blows itself out, it ends

4. **blow your/sb's brains out** to kill yourself, or someone else, with a shot to the head

5. **blow somebody ↔out** *American English spoken* to easily defeat someone:

We blew them out 28–0.

6. *American English* if you blow out your knee or another joint in your body, or if it blows out, you injure it badly

7. if an oil or gas ↑well blows out, oil or gas suddenly escapes from it

8. **blow somebody ↔out** to stop having a friendship or relationship with someone

blow over *phrasal verb*

1. if the wind blows something over, or if something blows over, the wind makes it fall:

Our fence blew over in the storm.

blow something ↔over

The hurricane blew some palm trees over.

2. if an argument or unpleasant situation blows over, it ends or is forgotten:

They weren't speaking to each other, but I think it's blown over now.

3. if a storm blows over, it goes away

blow up *phrasal verb*

1. to destroy something, or to be destroyed, by an explosion:

" The plane blew up in midair.

blow something ↔up

" Rebels attempted to blow up the bridge.

2. **blow something ↔up** to fill something with air or gas:

" Can you blow up this balloon?

" We'll blow the tyres up.

3. if a situation, argument etc blows up, it suddenly becomes important or dangerous:

" A crisis had blown up over the peace talks.

4. **blow something ↔up** if you blow up a photograph, you make it larger **SYN enlarge**

5. **informal** to become very angry with someone:

" Jenny's father blew up when she didn't come home last night.

blow up at

" I was surprised at the way he blew up at Hardy.

6. if bad weather blows up, it suddenly arrives:

" It looks as if there's a storm blowing up.

7. **blow up in sb's face** if something you have done or planned to do blows up in your face, it suddenly goes wrong:

" One of his deals had just blown up in his face.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **spend** to use money to buy things: I bought two skirts and a T-shirt and I only spent \$50. | How much do you spend a week on food?
- **go through something** (also **get through something** *British English*) to spend all of an amount of money over a period of time – used especially when saying that someone spends a lot of money: I got through all my money in less than a month, and had to get my parents to send me more.
- **go to great expense** to spend a lot of money in order to do something, because you think it is important or special: The party was wonderful – they had obviously gone to great expense. | There's no need to go to great expense.
- **squander** /'skwɒndə \$ 'skwɑːndə/ to waste money on unnecessary things, instead of saving it or using it carefully: His son had squandered the family fortune on gambling and women.
- **splash out** *British English informal* to spend a lot of money on something you really want or will enjoy: Let's splash out on a bottle of champagne. | People often splash out for Christmas and then regret it later.
- **blow** *informal* to spend a lot of money on something, especially on something that you do not really need: Her husband blew all their savings on a new sports car.
- **economize** to spend less money: We're trying to economize by eating at home instead of going out for meals.

II. blow² S3 W3 BrE AmE noun [countable]

[Sense 1-2, 4-6: Date: 1400-1500; Origin: Origin unknown.]

[Sense 3: Date: 1600-1700; Origin: ⇨ 'blow¹]

1. **BAD EFFECT** an action or event that causes difficulty or sadness for someone:

" Joe resigned, which was a severe blow because we needed him desperately.

" His mother's death was a shattering blow.

" The election result dealt a further blow to the party.

" The factory closures came as a blow to the local economy.

" The final blow for many firms was the government's abolition of import duties.

2. **HARD HIT** a hard hit with someone's hand, a tool, or a weapon:

" She died from a heavy blow to the head.

" He struck a blow which threw her to the floor.

" Martin received a blow on the nose.

" He had been struck a glancing blow (=a blow that did not hit him directly) by the car.

blow to

" He gave her a violent blow to the head.

REGISTER

In everyday English, people usually say that someone **gets hit** or that something **hits** them, rather than using the noun **blow**:

▪ *He received a blow to the head.* → He got hit on the head.

3. **BLOWING** an action of blowing:

" One big blow and the candles were out.

4. **come to blows (with somebody)** if two people come to blows, they start arguing or hitting each other because they disagree about something

come to blows (with somebody) over

" They almost came to blows over the money.

5. **soften/cushion the blow** to make something unpleasant easier for someone to accept:

" A reduction in interest rates would soften the blow of tax increases.

6. **low blow** *American English informal* something unkind you say to deliberately embarrass or upset someone

⇨ **strike a blow for somebody/something** at ↑strike¹(13)

• • •

COLLOCATIONS

■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + blow

- **a big/major/serious/heavy blow** The earthquake was a serious blow to the area's tourism industry.
- **a severe/terrible/awful blow** The news was a terrible blow for his family.
- **a bitter blow** (=extremely disappointing) Their defeat was a bitter blow.

- **a cruel/devastating/crushing blow** (=extremely hard to bear) Her loss came as a devastating blow to her father.
- **a body blow** (=a very serious difficulty which could cause something to fail completely) A tax on books would be a body blow for education.
- **a mortal/fatal/death blow** (=causing something to end) When he quit it dealt a mortal blow to the show.

■ verbs

- **be a blow** I can't deny his leaving was a blow.
- **deal a blow to somebody/something** The 1982 drought dealt a devastating blow to the country.
- **come as a blow to somebody** His sudden death came as a huge blow to us all.
- **deliver a blow** Opinion polls delivered a nasty blow to the Tory leader.
- **suffer/receive a blow** Our team suffered a blow when Paul was sent off the field.
- **soften/cushion the blow** (=make it easier to deal with) There are various ways to soften the blow of redundancy among staff.

■ phrases

- **be a bit of a blow** *British English especially spoken* (=be disappointing or cause problems for you) The result was a bit of a blow for the team.

blow

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1868**^{MCW}
 15000 **1196**^{COCA}
 RANGE: **1k** BLOW 37504

blow 13326
 blew 7696
 blowing 5971
 blows 4370
 blown 5384
 blower 419
 blowers 338

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

4688 **6252**⁵⁸²⁹ *nn1*
 4265 **6917**⁵¹⁴³ *vvi*
 2022 **12159**²³³⁶ *vv0*
 10 **217580**¹⁴ *np1*
 4 **442782**⁴ *nnu*