

**switch****1. [switʃ] n**

1. прут; хлыст
2. фальшивая коса; накладка (*из волос*)
3. кисточка хвоста (*животного*)
4. резкое движение; взмах  
the switch of a cane - взмах розги *или* палки
5. 1) переключение; включение; выключение  
2) поворот, изменение, перемена (*темы разговора и т. п.*)  
that is a switch - (теперь) поговорим о другом
6. *эл.*
- 1) выключатель; переключатель  
main [plug] switch - главный [штепсельный] выключатель  
knife switch - рубильник  
change-tune switch - *радио* переключатель диапазонов
- 2) коммутатор (*тж.* group switch)
- 3) ключ
7. *ж.-д.*
- 1) стрелка
- 2) запасный путь
8. сбивалка (*для яиц, сливок*)
9. *воен. жарг.* обмен военнопленными
10. *сл.* валютная операция на разнице курсов
11. торговые операции между двумя странами при посредстве третьей  
switch dealer - торговый посредник между двумя странами  
◇ switch and spurs - очень быстро, во весь дух

**2. [switʃ] v**

1. ударять, стегать прутом *или* хлыстом
2. 1) махать, размахивать  
to switch one's whip - помахать хлыстом  
2) делать резкие движения  
to switch one's head round - быстро /резко/ поворачивать голову  
to switch smth. out of smb.'s hand - выхватить что-л. у кого-л. из рук  
she switched the cloth off the table - она сдёрнула скатерть со стола
3. 1) менять (*тему разговора и т. п.*; *тж.* switch off)  
to switch the conversation (from one subject to another) - перевести беседу (с одного предмета на другой)  
he switched the conversation off to their future - он завёл разговор об их будущем  
to switch one's attention to ... - переключить внимание на ...  
if the demand for refrigerators fell off, the factory could be switched to the production of washing-machines - если спрос на холодильники упадёт, фабрика может переключиться на выпуск стиральных машин
- 2) *воен.* менять направление  
to switch one's forces - перебрасывать войска (*с одного направления на другое*)  
to switch fire - переносить огонь
4. *амер. разг.*
- 1) (по)менять
- 2) (по)меняться  
to switch places - поменяться местами
5. подстригать (*деревья, живую изгородь*)
6. *эл.* переключать, коммутировать
7. *ж.-д.*
- 1) переводить на другой путь  
to switch a train on to a branch line - перевести поезд на боковой путь
- 2) *амер.* ответвляться разветвляться (*у стрелки*)
8. сбивать, взбивать (*яйца, сливки*)

**switch**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**switch** [switch switches switched switching] noun, verb BrE [switʃ] <sup>1</sup> NAmE[switʃ] <sup>2</sup>

noun

1. a small device that you press or move up and down in order to turn a light or piece of electrical equipment on and off
  - a light switch
  - an on-off switch
  - That was in the days before electricity was available **at the flick of a switch** .
  - Which switch do I press to turn it off?
  - to throw a switch (= to move a large switch)
2. a change from one thing to another, especially when this is sudden and complete
  - ~ **(in/of sth)** a switch of priorities
  - ~ **(from A to B)** She made the switch from full-time to part-time work when her first child was born.
  - a policy switch

3. (NAme) the ↑points on a railway/railroad line

4. a thin stick that bends easily

- a riding switch

Word Origin:

late 16th cent. (denoting a thin tapering riding whip): probably from Low German.

Example Bank:

- I couldn't find the off switch on the remote control.
- Someone threw a switch and the electricity went off.
- The heater is on a timer switch.
- The light operates by a timer switch.
- The mains switch is in the cupboard under the stairs.
- The master switch is under the stairs.
- The pilot reached across to the huge bank of switches on his right and flicked a couple.
- The team's manager made a shrewd tactical switch in defence.
- There will be no overnight switch away from old voting habits.
- This switch controls the heating system.
- We fitted dimmer switches in all the bedrooms.
- her switch from full-time to part-time work
- in the days before electricity was available at the flick of a switch
- the recent switches between direct and indirect taxation
- the switch for the air conditioning
- theatre directors who make the switch over to films
- their abrupt switch in allegiance
- He has vehemently opposed the policy switch.
- to throw a switch

Derived ↑switch off ▪ ↑switch on ▪ ↑switch over ▪ ↑switch something on ▪ ↑switch something over

verb

1. intransitive, transitive to change or make sth change from one thing to another

- ~ (over) (from sth) (to sth) We're in the process of switching over to a new system of invoicing.
- ~ between A and B Press these two keys to switch between documents on screen.
- ~ sth (over) (from sth) (to sth) The meeting has been switched to next week.
- When did you switch jobs?

2. transitive to exchange one thing for another

Syn: ↑swap

- ~ sth The dates of the last two exams have been switched.
- ~ sth over/around/round I see you've switched the furniture around (= changed its position) .
- ~ sth with sth Do you think she'll notice if I switch my glass with hers?

3. intransitive, transitive to do sb else's job for a short time or work during different hours so that they can do your job or work during your usual hours

Syn: ↑swap

- ~ (with sb) I can't work next weekend— will you switch with me?
- ~ sth (with sb) Have you been able to switch your shift with anyone?
- ~ (sth) (over/around/round) Can we switch our shifts around?

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we /they	switch
	BrE /swɪtʃ/
	NAme /swɪtʃ/
he / she /it	switches
	BrE /swɪtʃɪz/
	NAme /swɪtʃɪz/
past simple, past participle	switched
	BrE /swɪtʃt/
	NAme /swɪtʃt/
-ing form	switching
	BrE /swɪtʃɪŋ/
	NAme /swɪtʃɪŋ/

Word Origin:

late 16th cent. (denoting a thin tapering riding whip): probably from Low German.

Example Bank:

- He decided to switch tactics.
- He switched his allegiance from the British to the French.
- My mind suddenly switched back to my conversation with Jeremy.
- The remote control allows you to switch easily between TV channels.
- We asked them if they would switch places with us.
- Do you think she'll notice if I switch my glass with hers?

- I see you've switched the furniture around.
- We're in the process of switching over to a new system of invoicing.

## switch

I. **switch**<sup>1</sup> **S2 W3** /swɪtʃ/ *BrE* <sup>ˈ</sup> *AmE* <sup>ˈ</sup> *verb*

1. [intransitive and transitive] to change from doing or using one thing to doing or using another

**switch to**

• She worked as a librarian before switching to journalism.

**switch from something to something**

• Duval could switch easily from French to English.

**switch between something and something**

• He switches between TV and theatre work.

• The terrorists will switch tactics.

**switch sides/allegiance** (=start supporting a different person, party etc)

• He switched sides just days before the election.

**switch attention/focus/emphasis**

• We want to switch focus away from criticism.

2. [transitive] to replace one thing with another, or exchange things **SYN change**

**switch something for something**

• Tim may switch his BMW for something else.

**switch something from something to something**

• We've switched the meeting from Tuesday to Thursday.

**switch something around**

• It's not easy to switch clerical workers around.

3. [intransitive and transitive] *American English* if you switch with someone who does the same job as you, you exchange your working times with theirs for a short time **SYN swap**

**switch with**

• Tom said he'd switch with me on Saturday.

• He asked if we could switch shifts.

4. [transitive always + adverb/preposition] to change the way a machine operates, using a switch

**switch something to something**

• Switch the freezer to 'defrost'.

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## COLLOCATIONS

### ■ nouns

- **switch sides** (=start supporting someone or something else) Three senators switched sides and voted for the ban.
- **switch (your) allegiance** (=start supporting someone else) Most of his supporters had switched their allegiance to his rival.
- **switch channels** (=start watching a different TV channel) Rod switched channels with the remote control.
- **switch tactics** Sensing that his victim was going to escape him, he switched tactics.
- **switch your attention/focus to something** Laura wasn't interested so he switched his attention to Tessa.
- **switch brands** 46% of consumers surveyed were likely to switch brands to support companies they saw as socially responsible.
- **the emphasis switches/is switched to something** The emphasis has switched to defence.

• • •

## THESAURUS

- **exchange** to give something to someone, and receive a similar thing from them at the same time. **Exchange** is often used about people telling each other about their ideas, phone numbers, addresses etc: They exchanged photographs before they met. | a place where people can exchange ideas | We exchanged email addresses. | if you are unhappy with the jacket, you can always take it back and exchange it for another one. | These coupons can be exchanged for meals and accommodation.
- **change** to exchange something, especially money. Also used in British English about exchanging something you have bought for something different: I need to change some dollars. | She changed all her money into euros. | We thought it was time we changed our car for something more modern.
- **swap** (also **do a swap** *British English*) *informal* to give something to someone, who gives you something similar: The two schools use the Internet to swap pictures, stories, and jokes. | I like your room better – do you want to do a swap?
- **trade** (also **do a trade** *American English*) to exchange something that you have for something that someone else has: The stolen phones are being traded for drugs. | The boys trade sports cards on the playground. | We've got lots of plants we don't need – do you want to do a trade?
- **switch** to change the places of two or more people or things, so that each one is in the place the other was before: Can I switch seats with you?
- **reciprocate** to do or give something, because someone has done or given something similar to you – a rather formal use: They invited us to dinner a while ago, and I'd like to reciprocate.
- **in exchange /return (for something)** if you give something in exchange or in return for something else, you give it in order to get something else back: Williams will plead guilty in exchange for a reduced sentence.

## switch off *phrasal verb*

1. to turn off a machine, light, radio etc using a switch

**switch something ↔ off**

• The burglar alarm was switched off.

• Don't forget to switch off before you go.

2. *informal* to stop listening to someone:

He just switches off and ignores me.

3. to relax for a short time:

Switch off by listening to music.

**switch on** *phrasal verb*

to turn on a machine, light, radio etc using a switch

**switch something ↔ on**

He switched the torch on.

When a tape is put in the VCR, it switches on automatically.

**switch over** *phrasal verb*

1. to change from one method, product etc to another

**switch over to**

We've switched over to telephone banking.

2. to change the television ↑channel you are watching or the radio station you are listening to

**switch over to**

Switch over to BBC 2.

**II. switch**<sup>2</sup> **S3** *BrE* <sup>2</sup> *AmE* <sup>2</sup> *noun* [countable]

[Date: 1500-1600; Origin: Perhaps from Middle Dutch *swijch* 'small thin stick']

1. **ON/OFF** a piece of equipment that starts or stops the flow of electricity to a machine, light etc when you push it:

Where's the light switch?

an on-off switch

**press/flick/throw etc a switch**

Tom flicked the switch, but nothing happened.

She claims she is willing to throw the switch of the electric chair.

**at the flick of a switch** (=very quickly and easily, by pressing a switch)

Petrol can be chosen at the flick of a switch.

2. **CHANGE** [usually singular] a complete change from one thing to another:

an important policy switch

**switch from/to**

the switch from agriculture to dairy production

**switch in**

a switch in emphasis

More shoppers are making the switch to organic food.

**that's a switch** *American English spoken informal* (=used to say that someone's behaviour is different from usual)

'Ed's the only one who's not eating.' 'That's a switch!'

3. **RAILWAY** *American English* a piece of railway track that can be moved to allow a train to cross over from one track to another

4. **STICK** *old-fashioned* a thin stick that bends easily

...

**COLLOCATIONS**

■ **verbs**

▪ **press a switch** He pressed a switch on the wall and the door opened.

▪ **flick/flip a switch** (=move it so something starts or stops) You start the fan by just flipping this switch.

▪ **throw a switch** (=move it so something starts or stops, especially something big) Could a nuclear war really be started by someone just throwing a switch?

■ **ADJECTIVES/NOUN + switch**

▪ **a light switch** He reached for the light switch.

▪ **a dimmer switch** (=a switch that can change the brightness of a light)

▪ **an on-off switch** I couldn't find the on-off switch.

▪ **the power switch** They have reverted to placing the mains power switch at the back of the unit.

▪ **the mains switch** (=one that controls the supply of electricity to a house) The mains switch is located inside a cupboard near the front door.

■ **phrases**

▪ **at the flick/touch of a switch** (=very quickly and easily, with a switch) The advantages of having electricity available at the flick of a switch are obvious.

**switch**

12500 **1967**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **1792**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k SWITCH**<sup>21439</sup>

switch 11070

switched 5006

switches 2488

switching 2875

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

3899 **6344**<sup>5719</sup> *nn1*

2743 **9843**<sup>3143</sup> *vvi*

1802 **12707**<sup>2192</sup> *vv0*

5 **253219**<sup>11</sup> *np1*

5 **380643**<sup>5</sup> *jj*