

**sharp****1. [ʃɑ:p] n**

1. **разг.** жулик, мошенник, шулер  
sharps and flats - жулики и простакы [см. тж. 3]
2. **разг.** знаток  
business sharp - ловкий делец
3. **муз.** диез  
double sharp - дубль-диез  
sharp key - диезная тональность  
sharps and flats - чёрные клавиши (рояля) [см. тж. 1]  
to repeat smth. in all sharps and flats - твердить что-л. на все лады
4. **остриё**  
the sharp of the hand - ребро ладони
5. **длинная с очень острым концом швейная игла**
6. **р/ с.-х.** высевки, мелкие отруби

**2. [ʃɑ:p] а**

1. **острый, отточенный, отточенный, остроконечный**  
sharp angle [knife] - острый угол [нож]  
sharp pencil - отточенный карандаш  
sharp sand - песчинки, режущие лицо
2. **крутой; резкий**  
sharp slope [descent, ascent] - крутой скат [спуск, подъём]  
sharp drop - резкое падение  
sharp turn /turning, corner, bend/ - крутой поворот  
the road made a sharp turn to the right - дорога круто свернула направо  
sharp features - резкие черты лица  
the sharp features of his emaciated face - заострившиеся черты его измождённого лица
3. **отчётливый, определённый**  
sharp outline - отчётливый/чёткий/ контур  
sharp contrast [distinctions] - резкий контраст [-ие различия]  
sharp image - чёткое изображение  
I caught a sharp view of them - я их ясно увидел  
her figure was sharp against the light - её фигура резко /чётко/ выделялась на свету
4. **сильный, резкий**  
sharp frost - сильный мороз  
sharp air - морозный воздух  
sharp wind - резкий /пронизывающий/ ветер  
sharp pain, sharp twinge (of pain) - резкая /острая/ боль  
sharp hunger [thirst] - сильный /мучительный, острый/ голод [-ая жажда]  
sharp envy - жгучая зависть  
sharp desire - острое /непреодолимое/ желание  
sharp flash - внезапная вспышка яркого света
5. 1) **умный, сообразительный**  
sharp wits /intelligence/ - острый ум  
sharp lad - сообразительный/сметливый/ парень  
as sharp as a needle - очень сообразительный [ср. тж. 10]  
the child is as sharp as a needle - ребёнок развит не по летам  
so sharp as to cut himself - **неодобр.** слишком уж большой умник
- 2) **остроумный**  
sharp answer [epigram] - остроумный ответ [-ая эпиграмма]
- 3) **проницательный, наблюдательный**  
sharp eyes - а) проницательный взгляд /взор/; б) колючие глаза; [ср. тж. 9]  
he gave me a sharp look - он внимательно посмотрел на меня  
he made some very sharp remarks /observations/ - он сделал /высказал/ несколько очень верных замечаний
- 4) **бдительный**  
to keep /to be on/ a sharp lookout for smb., smth. - быть бдительным в отношении кого-л., чего-л., внимательно следить за кем-л., чем-л.
6. 1) **ловкий, искусный**  
sharp tactics - искусная /тонкая/ тактика  
sharp trader - ловкий коммерсант  
he's sharp at making a bargain - он умеет с выгодой продать и купить
- 2) **хитрый, продувной**  
sharp practice - мошенничество, надувательство, неблагоприятные дела  
sharp lawyer - **разг.** ловкий адвокат  
he is a sharp customer - **разг.** он хитрая бестия /штучка/, с ним не шути  
he was too sharp for me - он меня перехитрил
7. **едкий, острый (о вкусе, запахе)**  
sharp cheese - острый сыр  
sharp wine - кислое /терпкое/ вино

- this sauce is too sharp for me - этот соус слишком острый для меня
8. **резкий, пронзительный** (о звуке и т. п.)  
 sharp voice - резкий голос  
 sharp cry - пронзительный крик  
 his voice took on a sharp note of alarm - в его голосе послышались резкие нотки беспокойства
9. **тонкий, острый** (о слухе и т. п.)  
 sharp eyes /sight/ - острое зрение [ср. тж. 5, 3])  
 sharp ears /hearing/ - тонкий слух  
 sharp nose /sense of smell/ - тонкое обоняние  
 to have a sharp eye /ear, nose/ for smth. - иметь тонкий нюх на что-л.
10. **колкий, язвительный** (о замечании и т. п.)  
 sharp rebuke - гневный /резкий/ упрёк  
 sharp satire [criticism] - острая /резкая/ сатира [критика]  
 sharp words - колкие /язвительные, резкие/ слова /речи/; резкости  
 to have sharp words with smb. - крупно поговорить с кем-л.  
 she has a sharp tongue - она остра на язык  
 his words were as sharp as a razor /as a needle/ - ≅ его слова жалили как осы [ср. тж. 5, 1])
11. **раздражительный, легко выходящий из себя**  
 sharp reaction - резкая реакция, раздражение  
 sharp temper - раздражительность
12. **быстрый, энергичный**  
 sharp walk - прогулка быстрым шагом  
 sharp game - **спорт.** острая игра, жаркая схватка  
 sharp work - а) горячая /быстрая/ работа that was sharp work! - быстро управились!; б) жаркий бой  
 to be sharp at reckoning - уметь быстро считать  
 sharp's the word! - скорей, живей!, пошевеливайтесь!
13. **суровый, жестокий**  
 sharp battle [struggle] - жестокая битва [схватка, борьба]  
 to be sharp upon smb. - сурово судить кого-л.
14. **амер. сл. элегантный, шикарный**  
 sharp dresser - модник; модница; ≅ одевается с шиком  
 sharp jacket - элегантный жакет
15. **фон. глухой (о согласном)**
16. **муз.**
- 1) **диезный**  
 F sharp - фа-диез
- 2) **взятый на полтона выше (о ноте)**  
 ◇ as sharp as the corner of a round table - набитый дурак; ≅ звёзд с неба не хватает  
 a sharp stomach makes short devotion - **посл.** на голодный желудок много не помолишься  
 all things that are sharp are short - **посл.** ≅ яркий огонь быстро горит
3. [[ɑ:p] **adv**
1. **ровно, точно, пунктуально**  
 at ten o'clock sharp - точно в 10  
 the train left sharp to time - поезд отошёл точно по расписанию
2. **круто**  
 to turn sharp round - круто повернуть  
 the road turns sharp to the left - дорога круто сворачивает налево
3. **муз. на полтона выше**  
 to sing sharp - петь на полтона выше (чем нужно)  
 ◇ look sharp! - а) живее!, быстрее!; б) смотри(те) в оба!
4. [[ɑ:p] **v**
1. **жульничать, плутовать**  
 he sharps at cards - он плутоват в картах
2. 1) **муз. ставить диэз**  
 to sharp a tone - поставить диэз, поднять на полтона
- 2) **петь или играть на полтона выше (чем нужно)**

**sharp**  
**sharp** [sharp sharps sharpened sharpening] **adjective, adverb, noun** BrE [ʃɑːp̩]  
 NAmE [ʃɑːr̩p̩]  
**adjective** (sharp-er, sharp-est)

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

## EDGE/POINT

1. having a fine edge or point, especially of sth that can cut or make a hole in sth
- a sharp knife
  - sharp teeth
- Opp:** †blunt

## RISE/DROP/CHANGE

2. **usually before noun** sudden and rapid, especially of a change in sth

- a sharp drop in prices
- a sharp rise in crime
- a sharp increase in unemployment
- He heard a **sharp intake of breath** .
- We need to give young criminals a **short, sharp shock** (= a punishment that is very unpleasant for a short time) .

## CLEAR/DEFINITE

3. **usually before noun** clear and definite

- a sharp outline
- The photograph is not very sharp (= there are no clear contrasts between areas of light and shade) .
- She drew a **sharp distinction** between domestic and international politics .
- In **sharp contrast** to her mood, the clouds were breaking up to reveal a blue sky .
- The issue must be brought into sharper focus .

## MIND/EYES

4. *(of people or their minds, eyes, etc.)* quick to notice or understand things or to react

- to have sharp eyes
- a girl of sharp intelligence
- a sharp sense of humour
- He kept a sharp lookout for any strangers .
- It was very sharp of you to see that!

## CRITICAL

5. *(of a person or what they say)* critical or severe

- sharp criticism
- Emma has a **sharp tongue** (= she often speaks in an unpleasant or unkind way) .
- ~ **with sb** He was very sharp with me when I was late .

## SOUNDS

6. **usually before noun** loud, sudden and often high in tone

- She read out the list in sharp, clipped tones .
- There was a sharp knock on the door .

## FEELING

7. *(of a physical feeling or an emotion)* very strong and sudden, often like being cut or wounded

**Syn:** †intense

- He winced as a sharp pain shot through his leg .
- Polly felt a sharp pang of jealousy .

## CURVES

8. changing direction suddenly

- a sharp bend in the road
- a sharp turn to the left

## FLAVOUR/SMELL

9. strong and slightly bitter

- The cheese has a distinctively sharp taste .

## FROST/WIND

10. used to describe a very cold or very severe †frost or wind

**see also** †razor-sharp

## CLEVER AND DISHONEST

11. *(disapproving)* *(of a person or their way of doing business)* clever but possibly dishonest

- His lawyer's a **sharp operator** .
- The firm had to face some **sharp practice** from competing companies .

## CLOTHES

12. **usually before noun** *(of clothes or the way sb dresses)* fashionable and new

- The consultants were a group of men in **sharp suits** .
- Todd is a **sharp dresser** .

## FACE/FEATURES

13. not full or round in shape

- a man with a thin face and sharp features (= a pointed nose and chin)

## IN MUSIC

14. used after the name of a note to mean a note a **semitone/half tone** higher

• the Piano Sonata in C sharp minor

**Opp:** ↑flat

**compare** ↑natural

15. above the correct ↑pitch (= how high or low a note sounds)

• That note sounded sharp.

**Opp:** ↑flat

#### Word Origin:

Old English sc(e)arp, of Germanic origin; related to Dutch **scherp** and German **scharf**.

#### Thesaurus:

**sharp** *adj.*

1.

• Use a really sharp knife.

**jagged** • • **serrated** •

**Opp:** blunt

a sharp/jagged/serrated **edge**

a sharp/serrated **blade/knife**

(a) sharp/jagged **rock/teeth**

2. **usually before noun**

• There has been a sharp rise in crime.

**sudden** • • **dramatic** • • **abrupt** •

**Opp:** gradual

a/an sharp/sudden/dramatic/abrupt **increase/rise** (in sth)

a sharp/sudden/dramatic **drop/fall/change/improvement/deterioration** (in sth)

3. **usually before noun**

• In sharp contrast to her mood, the sun shone in a clear blue sky.

**striking** • • **distinct** • • **definite** • • **clear** • | **especially written marked** • • **pronounced** •

a sharp/striking/distinct/definite/clear/marked/pronounced **difference**

a sharp/striking/distinct/definite/clear/marked **improvement**

a sharp/striking/distinct/clear/marked **contrast**

a sharp/striking/definite/marked/pronounced **increase**

4. (usually disapproving)

• He was sharp with me when I was late.

**usually disapproving curt** • • **brusque** • | **sometimes disapproving short** • • **abrupt** • • **terse** • • **clipped** •

sharp/curt/brusque/short/abrupt **with sb**

a sharp/curt/brusque/terse/clipped **voice**

a sharp/curt/brusque/clipped **tone**

5.

• The fruit had a sharp taste.

**sour** • • **acid** • • **bitter** • • **pungent** • • **acid** •

**Opp:** sweet

a/an sharp/sour/acid/bitter/pungent/acid **taste/flavour/smell/odour**

a/an sharp/sour/acid/bitter **fruit**

a/an sharp/bitter/pungent/acid **scent**

**Which word?** A **bitter** taste is usually unpleasant, but some people enjoy the bitter flavour of coffee or chocolate; no other word can describe this flavour. A **sharp** or **pungent** flavour is more strong than unpleasant, especially when describing cheese.

**Sharp**, **sour** and **acid** all describe the taste of a lemon or a fruit that is not ripe. An **acid** smell is strong and unpleasant, especially the smell of smoke or burning, but not the smell of food.

#### Synonyms:

**bitter**

**pungent** • **sour** • **acid** • **sharp** • **acid**

These words all describe a strong, unpleasant taste or smell.

**bitter** • (of a taste or smell) strong and usually unpleasant; (of food or drink) having a bitter taste.

**pungent** • (of a smell or taste) strong and usually unpleasant; (of food or smoke) having a pungent smell or taste: ▫ the pungent smell of burning rubber

**sour** • (of a taste) bitter like the taste of a lemon or of fruit that is not ripe; (of food or drink) having a sour taste: ▫ Too much pulp produces a sour wine.

**acid** • (of a smell or taste) strong and unpleasant; (of smoke) having an acid smell: ▫ acid smoke from burning tyres

**sharp** • (of a taste or smell) strong and slightly bitter; (of food or drink) having a sharp taste: ▫ The cheese has a distinctively sharp taste.

**acid** • (of a taste or smell) bitter, like the taste of a lemon or of fruit that is not ripe; (of food or drink) having an acid taste.

**which word?**

A **bitter** taste is usually unpleasant, but some people enjoy the bitter flavour of coffee or chocolate. No other word can describe this flavour. A **sharp** or **pungent** flavour is more strong than unpleasant, especially when describing cheese. **Sharp**, **sour** and **acid** all describe the taste of a lemon or a fruit that is not ripe. An **acid** smell is strong and unpleasant, especially the smell of smoke or burning, but not the smell of food.

a(n) bitter/pungent/sour/acid/sharp/acid **taste/flavour**

a(n) bitter/pungent/acrid/sharp/acid **smell/odour**  
 a(n) bitter/sour/sharp/acid **fruit**  
 pungent/sharp **cheese**  
 pungent/acrid **smoke**

Example Bank:

- Her voice sounded rather sharp.
- Raw cranberries are extremely sharp and must always be cooked with a little sugar.
- She was quite sharp with me when I talked during her lecture.
- That note was slightly sharp.
- The picture is surprisingly sharp and clear.
- This cheese has a slightly sharp flavour.
- a display of wickedly sharp teeth
- a fairly sharp rise in the cost of living
- a razor sharp mind
- Careful— the kittens have razor-sharp teeth
- Emma has a sharp tongue.
- He has been exchanging sharp words with his architect.
- He heard a sharp intake of breath.
- His lawyer's a sharp operator.
- Take a sheet of paper and a sharp pencil.
- The air had a sharp sooty smell.
- The dog bared his long sharp teeth.
- The photograph is not very sharp.
- The sky was dark, with only the outlines of dockside warehouses standing sharp on the skyline.
- There has been a sharp drop in prices.
- We need to give young criminals a short, sharp shock.
- You'll need a really sharp knife for this job.

Idioms: ↑look sharp ▪ ↑not the sharpest knife in the drawer ▪ ↑not the sharpest tool in the box ▪ ↑sharp end

Derived Word ↑sharpness

adverb

**EXACTLY**

1. used after an expression for a time of day to mean 'exactly'
  - Please be here at seven o'clock sharp.

**LEFT/RIGHT**

2. (BrE) ~ left/right turning suddenly to the left or right

**MUSIC**

3. (comparative **sharp-er**, no superlative) above the correct ↑pitch (= how high or low a note sounds)  
**Opp:** ↑flat

Word Origin:

Old English sc(e)arp, of Germanic origin; related to Dutch **scherp** and German **scharf**.

noun



1. (music) a note played a **semitone/half tone** higher than the note that is named. The written symbol is (♯)  
 • It's a difficult piece to play, full of sharps and flats.

**Opp:** ↑flat

**compare** ↑natural

2. **sharps plural** (medical) things with a sharp edge or point, such as needles and ↑syringes  
 • the safe disposal of sharps  
 • sharps injuries

Word Origin:

Old English sc(e)arp, of Germanic origin; related to Dutch **scherp** and German **scharf**.

**sharp**<sup>1</sup> **S3 W2** /ʃɑːp/\$ ʃɑːp *BrE* *AmE* *adjective* (comparative **sharper**, superlative **sharpest**)

[**Word Family**: noun: ↑sharpener, ↑sharpness, ↑sharp; **adverb**: ↑sharp, ↑sharply, ↑sharpish; **verb**: ↑sharpen; **adjective**: ↑sharp]

[**Language**: Old English; **Origin**: scearp]

**1. ABLE TO CUT EASILY** having a very thin edge or point that can cut things easily **OPP blunt**:

- Make sure you use a good sharp knife.
- Its teeth are razor sharp (=very sharp).

**2. TURN** a sharp turn or bend changes direction suddenly:

- We came to a sharp bend in the road.

**sharp left/right**

- Take a sharp left after the church.

**3. INCREASE/CHANGE** a sharp increase, rise, fall etc happens suddenly and is great in amount **SYN steep**:

- a sharp increase in prices
- a sharp fall in unemployment

**4. DIFFERENCE** sharp differences are very big and very noticeable:

- sharp differences of opinion
- There is a sharp distinction between domestic and international politics.
- His honesty is in sharp contrast to (=very different from) some other politicians.

**5. PAIN/FEELINGS** a sharp pain or feeling is sudden and severe **OPP dull**:

- I felt a sharp pain in my back.
- I was left with a sharp sense of disappointment.

**6. DISAPPROVING** speaking in a way that shows you disapprove of something or are annoyed **OPP mild**:

- a sharp rebuke
- John's tone was sharp.
- The boss can be very sharp with people when she's busy.

**somebody has a sharp tongue** (=they speak in a very disapproving way which often upsets people)

**7. INTELLIGENT** able to think and understand things very quickly, and not easily deceived **OPP dull, stupid**:

- a journalist with an extremely sharp mind

**8. keep a sharp eye on somebody** to watch someone very carefully, especially because you do not trust them:

- Keep a sharp eye on the kids at all times!

**9. PENCIL** having a very thin point that can draw an exact line **OPP blunt**:

- Make sure your pencils are sharp before we begin the test.

**10. SOUND** a sharp sound or cry is loud, short, and sudden:

- a sharp cry of pain
- a sharp intake of breath

**11. TASTE** having a slightly bitter taste **OPP mild**:

- sharp cheddar cheese
- Add mustard to give the dressing a sharper taste.

**12. CLOTHES** attractive and fashionable **SYN smart** *British English*:

- Tod looked really sharp in his tux.
- a sharp suit

**13. SHAPE** not rounded or curved:

- sharp features
- Her mother had a sharp little nose.

**14. IMAGE/PICTURE** if an image or picture is sharp, you can see all the details very clearly **OPP fuzzy**:

- The outlines of the trees were sharp and clear.

**15. GOOD AT NOTICING THINGS** able to see and notice details very well

**a sharp eye for detail** (=the ability to notice and deal with details)

**16. MUSIC**

**a) F sharp/D sharp/C sharp etc** a musical note that is sharp has been raised by one ↑**semitone** from the note F, D, C etc

**b)** if music or singing is sharp, it is played or sung at a slightly higher ↑**pitch** than it should be ⇒ ↑**flat**<sup>1</sup>(9), ↑**natural**<sup>1</sup>(10)

**17. WEATHER** **sharp wind/frost** a very cold wind or a severe ↑**frost**:

- A sharp wind blew across the lake.

**18. sharp practice** *British English* behaviour, especially in business, that is dishonest but not illegal:

- He's been guilty of sharp practice in the past.

**19. be on the sharp end (of something)** *British English informal* to experience the worst effects of something:

- We were always on the sharp end of clients' complaints.

—**sharpness** *noun* [uncountable]

⇒ ↑sharply

• • •

## THESAURUS

- **sharp** having a very thin edge or point that can cut things easily: a sharp knife | The dog's teeth were very sharp. | Be careful. That knife's very sharp. | You'll need some sharp scissors. | Puppies mean to be playful, but their sharp teeth can give you a nasty bite.
- **jagged** having an irregular edge with a lot of sharp points: a jagged rock | The floor was covered with jagged pieces of glass.
- **spiky** having a lot of thin sharp points: a spiky cactus plant | The hedgehog uses its spiky fur for protection. | Some corals are quite smooth, others are sharp and spiky.
- **prickly** covered in a lot of small sharp points – used mainly about plants: a prickly bush | prickly leaves | The hedge was all

- prickly.
- **serrated** a serrated edge on a saw or knife has a lot of sharp points on it: It's best to use a knife with a serrated edge.
- **razor-sharp** extremely sharp: The cat had razor-sharp claws.

■ **not sharp**

- **blunt** not sharp – used about tools, weapons, or pencils: All the kitchen knives were blunt. | a blunt pencil | The woman had been attacked with a blunt instrument.

II. **sharp**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* <sup>2</sup> *AmE* <sup>2</sup> *adverb*

[Word Family: noun: ↑sharpener, ↑sharpness, ↑sharp; *adverb*: ↑sharp, ↑sharply, ↑sharpish; *verb*: ↑sharpen; *adjective*: ↑sharp]

1. **at ten thirty/2 o'clock etc sharp** at exactly 10.30, 2.00 etc:  
 " We're meeting at one thirty sharp.
2. **sharp left/right** *British English* if you turn sharp left or right, you make a sudden change of direction to the left or right:  
 " You turn sharp right at the crossroads.
3. **look sharp** *British English old-fashioned* used to tell someone to do something quickly:  
 " If you look sharp, you might catch him before he leaves for London.
4. played or sung at a slightly higher ↑pitch than is correct ⇒ **flat**

III. **sharp**<sup>3</sup> *BrE* <sup>3</sup> *AmE* <sup>3</sup> *noun* [countable]

[Word Family: noun: ↑sharpener, ↑sharpness, ↑sharp; *adverb*: ↑sharp, ↑sharply, ↑sharpish; *verb*: ↑sharpen; *adjective*: ↑sharp]

1. a musical note that has been raised one ↑semitone above the note written
2. the sign (#) in a line of written music, used to show that a musical note should be raised  
 ⇒ ↑flat<sup>2</sup>(3)

**sharp**

12500 **2061**<sup>MCW</sup>  
 15000 **1441**<sup>COCA</sup>  
 RANGE: **2k SHARP** 30397  
 sharp 18093  
 sharpness 522  
 sharply 7202  
 sharpest 524  
 sharper 1321  
 sharpens 169  
 sharpening 573  
 sharpened 1013  
 sharpen 854  
 sharpener 107  
 sharpeners 19  
 COCA 500k Unlemmatized  
 11802 **2619**<sup>16269</sup> *jj*  
 710 **17935**<sup>1296</sup> *np1*  
 502 **30899**<sup>528</sup> *rr*