

possess

[pə'zes] *v*

1. 1) обладать, владеть
to possess property [wealth] - владеть имуществом [богатством]
to possess courage [good qualities] - обладать мужеством [хорошими качествами]
to possess sprinting ability - *спорт.* обладать сильным рывком
- 2) *арх.* брать; овладевать
to possess oneself of smth. - приобретать что-л.; овладевать чем-л.
2. сохранять (*спокойствие, терпение, самообладание и т. п.*); владеть (*собой*)
to possess oneself /one's soul, one's mind/ - владеть собой, сохранять хладнокровие /спокойствие/
to possess one's soul in patience - запастись /обладать/ терпением
he possesses his soul in peace - душа у него спокойна
3. овладевать, захватывать (*о чувстве, настроении и т. п.*)
melancholy possesses him - он погружён в меланхолию
a demon possessed her - в неё бес вселился
what possessed him to act so? - что дёрнуло /заставило/ его поступить таким образом?
4. *редк.* владеть (*языком*); знать, уметь
to possess Greek poetry - знать греческую поэзию
5. (of, with) *уст.* сообщать, извещать
he possessed them of the facts - он сообщил /представил/ им факты
6. овладеть женщиной

possess

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

pos·sess [possess possesses possessed possessing] *BrE* [pə'zes] ^m *NAmE*

[pə'zes] ^m *verb*

(not used in the progressive tenses)

1. ~ **sth** (*formal*) to have or own sth
• He was charged with possessing a shotgun without a licence.
• I'm afraid this is the only suitcase I possess.
• The gallery possesses a number of the artist's early works.
• Belgium was the first European country to possess a fully fledged rail network.
2. ~ **sth** (*formal*) to have a particular quality or feature
• I'm afraid he doesn't possess a sense of humour.
• He credited her with a maturity she did not possess.
3. *usually passive* ~ **sb** (*literary*) (*of a feeling, an emotion, etc.*) to have a powerful effect on sb and control the way that they think, behave etc
• A terrible fear possessed her.
4. ~ **sb to do sth** (used in negative sentences and questions) to make sb do sth that seems strange or unreasonable
• What possessed him to say such a thing?

Verb forms: *verb forms*

present simple	
I / you / we /they	possess
	<i>BrE</i> /pə'zes/
	<i>NAmE</i> /pə'zes/
he / she /it	possesses
	<i>BrE</i> /pə'zesɪz/
	<i>NAmE</i> /pə'zesɪz/
past simple, past participle	possessed
	<i>BrE</i> /pə'zest/
	<i>NAmE</i> /pə'zest/

Word Origin:

late Middle English: from Old French *possesser*, from Latin *possess-* 'occupied, held', from the verb *possidere*, from *potis* 'able, capable' + *sedere* 'sit'.

Thesaurus:

possess *verb*

1. **T** (not used in the progressive tenses) (*formal*)
• This is the only coat I possess.
have • • **own** • |especially *BrE, especially spoken* **have got** • |*formal* **hold** •
possess/have/own/have got a **car/house**
have/own/have got a **company**
have/have got/hold a **driving licence/passport**
2. **T** (not used in the progressive tenses) (*formal*)
• He doesn't possess a sense of humour.
have • |especially *BrE, especially spoken* **have got** • |*formal* **enjoy** • • **be endowed with sth** • |especially written **be blessed with sth** •
possess/have/have got/be blessed with **charm/talent/charisma**
possess/have/have got/enjoy/be endowed with/be blessed with an/the **ability to do sth**

possess/have/have got/be endowed with/be blessed with a **talent** (for sth)

Example Bank:

- I'm afraid he doesn't possess a sense of humour.
- I'm afraid this is the only suitcase I possess.
- The gallery possesses a number of the artist's early works.

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Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

posˌsɛs **W3** /peˈzɛs/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *verb* [transitive not in progressive]

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Old French; Origin: possessor, from Latin possidere]

1. **formal** to have a particular quality or ability:
 - Different workers possess different skills.
 - He no longer possessed the power to frighten her.

REGISTER

In everyday English, people usually say that someone **has** or **has got** something rather than **possesses** it:

- They all have different skills.

2. **formal** or **law** to have or own something:
 - Neither of them possessed a credit card.
 - Campbell was found guilty of possessing heroin.

3. **what possessed somebody (to do something)?** *spoken* used to say that you cannot understand why someone did something stupid:

- What on earth possessed her to do it?

4. **literary** if a feeling possesses you, you suddenly feel it very strongly and it affects your behaviour:

- A mad rage possessed her.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **own** if you own something, it legally belongs to you: They live in a flat but they don't own it. | The land is owned by farmers. | a privately owned plane
- **have** [not in passive] to own something – used when focussing on the fact that someone has the use of something, rather than the fact that they legally own it: How many students have a cell phone? | I wish I had a sports car.
- **possess** [not in passive] *formal* to own something: It is illegal to possess a firearm in Britain. | I don't even possess a smart suit!
- **belong to somebody/something** [not in passive] if something belongs to you, you own it: The ring belonged to my grandmother.
- **hold** to own shares in a company: One man holds a third of the company's shares.
- **be the property of somebody/something** *formal* to be owned by someone – written on signs, labels etc: This camera is the property of the BBC.

possess

Freakuency Pack

12500 **2223**^{MCW}

15000 **1768**^{COCA}

RANGE: **3k** POSSESS 21713

- possess 4985
- possessed 4193
- possesses 1607
- possessing 1359
- possessive 376
- possession 6104
- possessions 2571
- possessor 147
- possessors 79
- repossess 53
- repossesses 5
- repossessed 160
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- repossession 35
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COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2141 **11508**²⁵³² *vvi*

2092 **11784**²⁴⁴⁷ *vv0*

6 **34769**⁷⁶ *nnu*