

confess[kənˈfes] *v*

- 1) признавать
to confess a fault [a debt] - признать ошибку [долг]
 - 2) признаваться, сознаваться
the prisoner refused to confess - заключённый не сознавался
to confess that one has done smth. amiss - сознаться в дурном поступке
I confess I was surprised to hear it - *разг.* признаюсь, я был удивлён, услышав это
2. *церк.*
- 1) исповедовать
 - 2) исповедоваться

confess

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

con·fess [confess confesses confessed confessing] *BrE* [kənˈfes] ^u *NAmE*[kənˈfes] *verb*

1. **intransitive, transitive** to admit, especially formally or to the police, that you have done sth wrong or illegal
 - After hours of questioning, the suspect confessed.
 - ~ **to sth/to doing sth** She confessed to the murder.
 - ~ **(that)**... He confessed that he had stolen the money.
 - ~ **sth** We persuaded her to confess her crime.
 2. **intransitive, transitive** to admit sth that you feel ashamed or embarrassed about
 - ~ **sth** She was reluctant to confess her ignorance.
 - ~ **to sth/to doing sth** I **must confess** to knowing nothing about computers.
 - ~ **(that)**... I confess (that) I know nothing about computers.
 - **+ speech** 'I know nothing about them,' he confessed.
 - ~ **yourself + adj.** (*formal*) I confess myself bewildered by their explanation.
- see also** ↑self-confessed
3. **intransitive, transitive ~ (sth) (to sb)** (especially in the Roman Catholic Church) to tell God or a priest about the bad things you have done so that you can say that you are sorry and be forgiven
 4. **transitive ~ sb (of a priest)** to hear sb **confess** their ↑sins (= the bad things they have done)

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we /they	confess
	<i>BrE</i> /kənˈfes/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kənˈfes/
he / she /it	confesses
	<i>BrE</i> /kənˈfesɪz/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kənˈfesɪz/
past simple, past participle	confessed
	<i>BrE</i> /kənˈfest/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kənˈfest/
-ing form	confessing
	<i>BrE</i> /kənˈfesɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /kənˈfesɪŋ/

Word Origin:

late Middle English: from Old French **confesser**, from Latin **confessus**, past participle of **confiteri** 'acknowledge', from **con-** (expressing intensive force) + **fateri** 'declare, avow'.

Synonyms:**admit**

acknowledge • recognize • concede • confess

These words all mean to agree, often unwillingly, that sth is true.

admit • to agree, often unwillingly, that sth is true: ▫ It was a stupid thing to do, I admit.

acknowledge • (*rather formal*) to accept that sth exists, is true or has happened: ▫ She refuses to acknowledge the need for reform.

recognize • to admit or be aware that sth exists or is true: ▫ They recognized the need to take the problem seriously.

concede • (*rather formal*) to admit, often unwillingly, that sth is true or logical: ▫ He was forced to concede (that) there might be difficulties.

admit or concede?

When sb **admits** sth, they are usually agreeing that sth which is generally considered bad or wrong is true or has happened, especially when it relates to their own actions. When sb **concedes** sth, they are usually accepting, unwillingly, that a particular fact or statement is true or logical.

confess • (*rather formal*) to admit sth that you feel ashamed or embarrassed about: ▫ She was reluctant to confess her ignorance. to admit/acknowledge/recognize/concede/confess **that**...

to admit/confess **to sth**to admit/concede/confess sth **to sb**to admit/acknowledge/recognize **the truth**to admit/confess your **mistakes/ignorance**Example Bank:

- I must confess that I didn't have much faith in her ideas.
- She confessed to me that she had known his true identity for some time.
- I must confess to knowing nothing about computers.
- They had confessed their sins and done their penance.

confess

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

conˌfɛs /kənˈfes/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *verb* [intransitive and transitive]

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Old French; Origin: confesser, from Latin confiteri 'to confess', from com- (⇒ COM-) + fateri 'to confess']

1. to admit, especially to the police, that you have done something wrong or illegal ⇒ **confession**

confess to (doing) something

- ˈ Edwards confessed to being a spy for the KGB.
- ˈ Occasionally people confess to crimes they haven't committed just to get attention.

confess (that)

- ˈ My husband confessed he'd been having an affair with a woman in his office.
- ˈ Torture was used and Fian confessed.

2. to admit something that you feel embarrassed about ⇒ **confession**

confess (that)

- ˈ Marsha confessed that she didn't really know how to work the computer.

confess to (doing) something

- ˈ He confessed to having a secret admiration for his opponent.

I (have to/must) confess (=used when admitting something you feel slightly embarrassed about)

- ˈ I must confess I don't visit my parents as often as I should.

REGISTER

In everyday English, people usually say **admit** rather than **confess**:

- ˈ I know it was him – he admitted it.
- ˈ I admit I'm not very good with money.

3. to tell a priest or God about the wrong things you have done so that you can be forgiven ⇒ **confession**:

- ˈ He knelt and confessed his sin.

confess

Freakuency Pack

12500 **4185**^{MCW}

15000 **2304**^{COCA}

RANGE: **3k** CONFESS 13771

confess 2636

confessing 597

confesses 938

confessed 3007

confession 3804

confessions 1525

confessor 280

confessors 105

confessional 879

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

1343 **15527**¹⁶¹³ *vvi*

902 **20796**¹⁰²³ *vv0*