

clutch

I

1. [kɫʌtʃ] *n*1) *pl* когти; лапа с выпущенными когтями

in the bear's clutches - в лапах у медведя, в медвежьих когтях

2) рука, лапа

2. 1) сжатие, захват, хватка

to make a clutch (at) - схватить захватить (*что-л.*)

he lost his clutch on the rope and fell - у него разжались пальцы, и он упал /сорвался/ с каната

2) власть; тиски; лапы, руки

in the clutch of poverty - в тисках нищеты

to get /to fall/ into smb.'s clutches - попасть в чьи-л. когти

to get out of smb.'s clutches - вырваться из чьих-л. когтей

the thief was in the clutches of the police - вор попался в руки полиции

in the clutch - в критическом положении

he seems to be at his best in the clutch - в острые моменты он всегда показывает себя с наилучшей стороны

3. *тех.*

1) сцепление, муфта

friction clutch - фрикционное сцепление

to throw in [out] the clutch - включить /выключить/ сцепление /муфту/

clutch case - *авт.* картер сцепления

clutch facing - накладка /фрикционная облицовка/ сцепления

clutch slip - *авт.* пробуксовка сцепления

2) зажимное устройство; сцепка; захват

3) кулачок

2. [kɫʌtʃ] *a*

1. без ручки, без ремня

clutch bag /purse/ - сумочка, которую нужно держать в руке *или* подмышкой

2. без застёжек

clutch coat - пальто без пуговиц

3. *амер. разг.* надёжный; ≅ выручит в трудную минуту

a clutch player - игрок, на которого можно положиться

3. [kɫʌtʃ] *v*

1) схватить, стиснуть; зажать

the mother clutched her baby in her arms - мать крепко прижимала ребёнка

2) схватиться, ухватиться

to clutch at a branch - ухватиться за сук

◇ a drowning man will clutch at a straw - утопающий (и) за соломинку хватается

II

1. [kɫʌtʃ] *n*

1. 1) гнездо с яйцами

2) выводок

2. 1) группа людей

a clutch of chattering women - кучка болтающих женщин

2) скопление животных, скопище однородных предметов

2. [kɫʌtʃ] *v*высиживать (*цыплят и т. п.*)

II

[kɫʌtʃ] *n сл.*

подонок, мерзавец

IV

[kɫʌtʃ] *v прост.*оцепенеть (*от страха, волнения*); перестать соображать (*обыкн.* clutch up)**clutch****clutch** [clutch clutches clutched clutching] **verb, noun** BrE [kɫʌtʃ] ^m NAmE

[kɫʌtʃ]

verb1. **transitive, intransitive** to hold sb/sth tightly**Syn:** ↑grip• ~ **sth** (+ **adv./prep.**) He clutched the child to him.

• She stood there, the flowers still clutched in her hand.

• + **adv./prep.** I clutched on to the chair for support2. **transitive, intransitive** to take hold of sth suddenly, because you are afraid or in pain• ~ **sth** He gasped and clutched his stomach.• ~ **at sb/sth** (*figurative*) Fear clutched at her heart.**see** clutch/grasp at straws **at** ↑straw

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	clutch
	BrE /kʌtʃ/
	NAmE /kʌtʃ/
he / she / it	clutches
	BrE /kʌtʃɪz/
	NAmE /kʌtʃɪz/
past simple, past participle	clutched
	BrE /kʌtʃt/
	NAmE /kʌtʃt/
-ing form	clutching
	BrE /kʌtʃɪŋ/
	NAmE /kʌtʃɪŋ/

Word Origin:

n. senses 1 to 2 and n. senses 4 to 5 n. sense 7 and v. Middle English 'bend, crook' clitch 'close the hand' Old English clyccan 'crook, clench' Germanic

n. sense 3 and n. sense 6 early 18th cent. northern English cletch Middle English cleck 'to hatch' Old Norse klekja

Synonyms:

hold

hold on • cling • clutch • grip • grasp • clasp • hang on

These words all mean to have sb/sth in your hands or arms.

hold • to have sb/sth in your hand or arms: ▪ She was holding a large box. ◇▪ I held the baby gently in my arms.

hold on (to sb/sth) • to continue to hold sb/sth; to put your hand on sb/sth and not take your hand away: ▪ Hold on and don't let go until I say so.

cling • to hold on to sb/sth tightly, especially with your whole body: ▪ Survivors ▪ clung to ▪ pieces of floating debris.

clutch • to hold sb/sth tightly, especially in your hand; to take hold of sth suddenly: ▪ She stood there, the flowers still clutched in her hand. ◇▪ He felt himself slipping and ▪ clutched at ▪ a branch.

grip • to hold on to sth very tightly with your hand: ▪ Grip the rope as tightly as you can.

grasp • to take hold of sth firmly: ▪ He grasped my hand and shook it warmly.

The object of **grasp** is often sb's **hand** or **wrist**.

clasp • (formal) to hold sb/sth tightly in your hand or in your arms: ▪ They clasped hands ▪ (= held each other's hands) ▪. ◇▪ She clasped the children in her arms.

The object of **clasp** is often your **hands**, sb else's **hand** or another person.

hang on (to sth) • to hold on to sth very tightly, especially in order to support yourself or stop yourself from falling: ▪ Hang on tight. We're off!

to hold/clutch/grip/clasp sth **in your hand/hands**

to hold/catch/clasp sb/sth **in your arms**

to hold/clutch/grip/grasp/clasp/hang on to sth

to hold/cling/hang on

to hold/clutch/clasp sb/sth **to** you

to hold/hold on to/cling to/clutch/grip/grasp/clasp/hang on to sb/sth **tightly**

to hold/hold on to/cling to/clutch/grip/grasp/clasp sb/sth **firmly**

to hold/hold on to/clutch/grip/clasp/hang on to sb/sth **tight**

Example Bank:

- He fell back, clutching his chest in agony.
- He felt himself slipping and clutched at a branch.
- Her hands clutched the railing.
- She clutched her handbag tightly in one hand.
- She clutched the letter to her chest.
- He gasped, and clutched his stomach.
- I clutched onto the chair for support.

Derived ↑catch at somebody

Syn: grab at

noun

1. **countable** the ↑pedal in a car or other vehicle that you press with your foot so that you can change gear

- Put your foot on the clutch.



2. **countable** a device in a machine that connects and ↑disconnects working parts, especially the engine and the gears

• The car needs a new clutch.

3. **a ~ of sth singular** (BrE) a group of people, animals or things

• He's won a whole clutch of awards.

4. **clutches plural** (informal) power or control

• He managed to escape **from** their **clutches** .

• Now that she had him **in** her **clutches** , she wasn't going to let go.

5. **countable, usually singular** a tight hold on sb/sth

Syn: ↑grip: (figurative) She felt the sudden clutch of fear.

6. **countable** a group of eggs that a bird lays at one time; the young birds that come out of a group of eggs at the same time

7. **countable** (NAme) = ↑clutch bag

Word Origin:

n. senses 1 to 2 and n. senses 4 to 5 n. sense 7 and v. Middle English 'bend, crook' clitch 'close the hand' Old English clyccan 'crook, clench' Germanic

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Collocations:

Driving

Having a car

have/own/ (BrE) run a car

ride a motorcycle/motorbike

drive/prefer/use an automatic/a manual/(NAme, informal) a stick shift

have/get your car serviced/fixed/repaired

buy/sell a used car/(especially BrE) a second-hand car

take/pass/fail a (BrE) driving test/(both NAme) driver's test/road test

get/obtain/have/lose/carry a/your (BrE) driving licence/(NAme) driver's license

Driving

put on/fasten/ (NAme) buckle/wear/undo your seat belt/safety belt

put/turn/leave the key in the ignition

start the car/engine

(BrE) change/ (NAme) shift/put sth into gear

press/put your foot on the brake pedal/clutch/accelerator

release the clutch/(especially BrE) the handbrake/(both NAme) the emergency brake/the parking brake

drive/park/reverse the car

(BrE) indicate left/right

(especially NAme) signal that you are turning left/right

take/miss (BrE) the turning/(especially NAme) the turn

apply/hit/slam on the brake(s)

beep/honk/ (especially BrE) toot/ (BrE) sound your horn

Problems and accidents

a car skids/crashes (into sth)/collides (with sth)

swerve to avoid an oncoming car/a pedestrian

crash/lose control of the car

have/be in/be killed in/survive a car crash/a car accident/(NAme) a car wreck/a hit-and-run

be run over/knocked down by a car/bus/truck

dent/hit (BrE) the bonnet/(NAme) the hood

break/crack/shatter (BrE) the windscreen/(NAme) the windshield

blow/ (especially BrE) burst/puncture (BrE) a tyre/(NAme) a tire

get/have (BrE) a flat tyre/a flat tire/a puncture

inflate/change/fit/replace/check a tyre/tire

Traffic and driving regulations

be caught in/get stuck in/sit in a traffic jam

cause congestion/tailbacks/traffic jams/gridlock

experience /face lengthy delays

beat/avoid the traffic/the rush hour

break/observe/ (NAme) drive the speed limit

be caught on (BrE) a speed camera

stop sb for/pull sb over for/ (BrE, informal) be done for speeding

(both informal) run/ (BrE) jump a red light/the lights

be arrested for/charged with (BrE) drink-driving(both US) driving under the influence (DUI)/driving while intoxicated (DWI)

be banned/ (BrE) disqualified from driving

Example Bank:

• Put it into first gear and let the clutch out slowly.

• She fell into the clutches of the rebel forces.

• The driver at the traffic lights was riding his clutch.

• They had him in their clutches.

• The female lays a clutch of about seven eggs, laying one egg each day.

clutchI. **clutch**¹ /klʌtʃ/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *verb*[*Language*: Old English; *Origin*: clyccan]1. [*transitive*] to hold something tightly because you do not want to lose it **SYN** grip, grasp:

She was clutching a bottle of champagne.

2. [*intransitive and transitive*] (also **clutch at somebody/something**)a) to suddenly take hold of someone or something because you are frightened, in pain, or in danger **SYN** grab:

He clutched at a pillar for support.

Tom fell to the ground clutching his stomach.

b) **clutch at sb's heart** if something clutches at your heart, you suddenly feel fear or nervousness3. **be clutching at straws** *especially British English* to be trying everything possible to find a solution or hope in a difficult situation, even though it will probably be unsuccessful:

I knew that trying the alternative medicine was just clutching at straws.

...

THESAURUS

- **hold** to have something in your hand, hands, or arms: Maria came in holding a letter. | Can I hold the baby?
- **grip** to hold something very tightly and not let it go: He gripped her arm so she couldn't walk away. | Jenny gripped the side of the boat to steady herself.
- **clutch** to hold something tightly, especially because you do not want to drop or lose it: A businessman hurried past, clutching his briefcase. | The little girl clutched onto his hand.
- **clasp** *written* to hold someone or something tightly, closing your fingers or arms around them: She was clasping a bunch of small summer flowers. | He clasped her in his arms and kissed her.
- **get/take hold of something** to take something in your hand or hands and hold it: I took hold of the handle and pulled as hard as I could. | Quickly – try and get hold of that frog!
- **grasp** *written* to take hold of something firmly, especially in a determined way: She grasped the lowest branch and pulled herself up into the tree.
- **grab** to take hold of something suddenly and often violently: He grabbed my bag and ran off with it. | The other man grabbed hold of (=suddenly took hold of) my arms and threatened me with a knife.
- **seize** /siːz *written* to take hold of something suddenly and often violently: A police officer ran after him and seized the gun.
- **hang on (to something)** to hold on to something or someone tightly to support yourself: He hung on to the rail at the back of the motorbike. | Hang on tight!
- **keep hold of something** to continue to hold something: Greg was struggling to keep hold of the dog. | She tried to take her hand away but he kept hold of it.

II. **clutch**² *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *noun*[*Sense 1-2,4*: *Date*: 1600-1700; *Origin*: ⇨ ↑clutch¹][*Sense 3*: *Date*: 1700-1800; *Origin*: cletch 'clutch' (17-19 centuries), from cleck 'to hatch' (15-19 centuries), from Old Norse klekja]1. [*countable*] the ↑pedal that you press with your foot when driving a vehicle in order to change ↑gear, or the part of the vehicle that this controls2. **sb's clutches** [*plural*] the power, influence, or control that someone has:

a small boy trying to escape from his mother's clutches

in sb's clutches

She'll have him in her clutches soon enough.

3. **clutch of something** a small group of similar things:

a clutch of eggs (=the number of eggs laid by a bird at one time)

a clutch of young mothers

4. [*singular*] a tight hold that someone has on something **SYN** grip, grasp:

I shook myself free of her clutch.

clutch

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12500 **5195**^{MCW}15000 **3256**^{COCA}RANGE: **3k** CLUTCH ⁷⁴⁰⁵clutch ²⁰⁷⁶clutches ⁹⁴¹clutched ¹⁷⁷³clutching ²⁶¹⁵

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

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