

**jail**1. [dʒeɪl] *n*

1. тюрьма

to break jail - бежать из тюрьмы

2. тюремное заключение

2. [dʒeɪl] *v*

заключать в тюрьму

**jail****jail** [jail jails jailed jailing] (BrE also **gaol**) *noun, verb* BrE [dʒeɪl] <sup>4</sup> NAmE

[dʒeɪl]

*noun* uncountable, countable

a prison

- She spent a year in jail.
- He has been released from jail.
- a ten-year jail sentence
- Britain's overcrowded jails

Word Origin:

Middle English: based on Latin *cavea*. The word came into English in two forms, *jaiole* from Old French and *gayole* from Anglo-Norman French *gaole* (surviving in the spelling *gaol*), originally pronounced with a hard *g*, as in *goat*.

Culture:**prisons**

Britain's system of justice relies heavily on **imprisonment** as a form of **↑punishment**. Until the late 18th century conditions in prisons such as **↑Newgate** were dirty and violent. In the 19th century conditions improved, thanks to the work of reformers like Elizabeth Fry. New prisons were built, in which most prisoners had their own **cell** facing into a large central area. Many of these prisons, such as **↑Pentonville** and **↑Strangeways**, still exist today, although Strangeways had to be rebuilt after most of the building was destroyed in riots in the 1990s.

The type of prison in which criminals **serve their sentence** depends on their **category**. Category A prisoners are considered dangerous and are held in **high-security** closed prisons, such as **↑Wormwood Scrubs**. Prisoners may be kept in **solitary confinement** if they are likely to harm others. Category B and C prisoners are also held in closed prisons. Category D prisoners are trusted not to escape and are sent to **low-security open prisons**. Prisoners **on remand** (= waiting for their trial) are held in **remand centres**, but problems of overcrowding have resulted in many of them being kept in prisons or police stations. Young people aged 15–20 are normally sent to **↑young offender institutions**, sometimes called detention centres or youth custody centres. These have replaced the old **Borstals**. However, if space is not available young people are sometimes sent to adult prisons. A prison is run by a **governor** who is responsible to the **↑Home Office**, and the prisoners are guarded by **warders**. There is not enough space available in prisons for the number of people being given **custodial sentences**. In the 1990s there were **riots** at several prisons because of poor conditions. Cells intended for one person often contain two or three. Despite this, some people think life in Britain's prisons is not hard enough. Some prisons are described as 'universities of crime', where prisoners gain new skills in breaking the law and have access to drugs.

There are many British **↑slang** expressions connected with prison. To **do time** is to serve a prison sentence and to have been **inside** means to have been in prison. Time spent in prison is **porridge**. Prison itself is **the nick**, **the slammer** or **choky**, warders are **screws** and the prisoners are **lags**.

In the US the **federal** and state governments have **prisons**, sometimes called **penitentiaries** or **correctional facilities**. Counties and cities have **jails**. Federal prisons are classified as minimum, low, medium or high security. All **inmates** (= prisoners) who can work must do so. People are sent to a **prison** if their sentence is for several years. If the sentence is a year or less they are sent to **jail**. Some prisoners on **work release** are allowed to leave jail during the day to go to a job. Prisoners often spend the last few months of their sentence in a **halfway house** where they are helped to prepare for life outside prison.

The number of people in prisons and jails in the US is higher as a proportion of the population than in any other country. In 2002 it went above two million for the first time, twice what it was in 1990. Problems include overcrowding and the use of drugs. The fact that over 10% of African American men aged between 25 and 29 are in prison compared to 1% of white men is seen as evidence that African Americans are treated unfairly by the justice system and are more likely to be sent to prison than white Americans. In the US people who are awaiting trial often do not go to prison but instead **make bail** (= pay money to the court) as a guarantee that they will return for the trial. People sent to prison as punishment rarely serve their full sentence but after some time are released **on parole**, which means they must report regularly to a government official. It is possible that two people who have committed the same crime may receive different punishments. To stop this happening some states have introduced **mandatory sentencing**, which means that the punishment for a crime is fixed by law, not decided by a judge.

Thesaurus:**jail** (BrE also **gaol**) *noun* U, C

- She faces jail for child cruelty.

**prison** • |BrE **detention centre** • |AmE **detention center** • • **penitentiary** • • **jailhouse** • • **correctional facility** •  
in jail/prison

in a jail/prison/detention centre/penitentiary/jailhouse/correctional facility

go to/be sent to/be released from/get out of jail/prison

**Jail or prison?** In British English there is little difference between these words. **Prison** can be used to describe the system, as well as the buildings or institution:

- the prison service/system

✗ the jail service/system In American English a **jail** is usually smaller than a **prison**.

### Collocations:

#### **Criminal justice**

##### *Breaking the law*

break/violate/obey/uphold the law

be investigated/arrested/tried for a crime/a robbery/fraud

be arrested/ (*especially NAmE*) indicted/convicted on charges of rape/fraud/ (*especially US*) felony charges

be arrested on suspicion of arson/robbery/shoplifting

be accused of/be charged with murder/ (*especially NAmE*) homicide/four counts of fraud

face two charges of indecent assault

admit your guilt/liability/responsibility (for sth)

deny the allegations/claims/charges

confess to a crime

grant/be refused/be released on/skip/jump bail

##### *The legal process*

stand/await /bring sb to/come to/be on trial

take sb to/come to/settle sth out of court

face/avoid/escape prosecution

seek/retain/have the right to/be denied access to legal counsel

hold/conduct/attend/adjourn a hearing/trial

sit on/influence /persuade/convince the jury

sit/stand/appear /be put/place sb in the dock

plead guilty/not guilty to a crime

be called to/enter (*BrE*) the witness box

take/put sb on the stand/ (*NAmE*) the witness stand

call/subpoena/question/cross-examine a witness

give/hear the evidence against/on behalf of sb

raise/withdraw /overrule an objection

reach a unanimous/majority verdict

return/deliver /record a verdict of not guilty/unlawful killing/accidental death

convict/acquit the defendant of the crime

secure a conviction/your acquittal

lodge/file an appeal

appeal (against)/challenge /uphold/overturn a conviction/verdict

##### *Sentencing and punishment*

pass sentence on sb

carry/face/serve a seven-year/life sentence

receive /be given the death penalty

be sentenced to ten years (in prison/jail)

carry/impose/pay a fine (of \$3 000)/a penalty (of 14 years imprisonment)

be imprisoned/jailed for drug possession/fraud/murder

do/serve time/ten years

be sent to/put sb in/be released from jail/prison

be/put sb/spend X years on death row

be granted/be denied /break (your) parole

more collocations at ↑[crime](#)

### Grammar Point:

#### **school**

When a **school** is being referred to as an institution, you do not need to use the: ▪ When do the children finish school? When you are talking about a particular building, **the** is used: ▪ I'll meet you outside the school. Prison, jail, court, and church work in the same way: ▪ Her husband spent three years in prison.

note at ↑[college](#), ↑[hospital](#)

### Example Bank:

- He's gone to jail for fraud.
- His lawyer worked hard to keep him out of jail.
- How long has she been in jail?
- She avoided jail by pleading insanity.
- She could be out of jail in two years.
- There was a fire in the jail last night.
- riots at Strangeways jail
- He was held overnight at the county jail.
- He will be freed from jail automatically after serving half the term.
- Woman faces jail for animal cruelty.

verb usually passive ~ sb (for sth)

to put sb in prison

## Syn: †imprison

- He **was jailed for life** for murder.

### Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	jaɪl
	BrE /dʒeɪl/
	NAme /dʒeɪl/
he / she / it	jaɪls
	BrE /dʒeɪlz/
	NAme /dʒeɪlz/
past simple, past participle	jaɪld
	BrE /dʒeɪld/
	NAme /dʒeɪld/
-ing form	jaɪlɪŋ
	BrE /dʒeɪlɪŋ/
	NAme /dʒeɪlɪŋ/

### Word Origin:

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### Thesaurus:

**jaɪl** verb T, usually passive

- He was jailed for two months.

**send sb to prison** • • **hold** • • **intern** • • **imprison** • • **detain** • |informal **lock sb up/away** • |formal **incarcerate** •

jaɪl sb/send sb to prison/hold sb/intern sb/imprison sb/detain sb/lock sb up **for** sth

jaɪl/hold/detain/imprison sb **without** trial/charge

### Example Bank:

- He was jailed for murder in 1996.
- She was jailed for ten years.
- The men were convicted and jailed for life.
- One man was arrested and jailed for biting a police officer.

### See also: †gaol

## jaɪl

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

1. **jaɪl** <sup>1</sup> BrE <sup>2</sup> AmE <sup>3</sup> (also **gaol** *British English*) /dʒeɪl/ **noun** [uncountable and countable]

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: **jaiole**, from Latin **caveola**, from **cavea** 'cage']

a place where criminals are kept as part of their punishment, or where people who have been charged with a crime are kept before they are judged in a law court **SYN** **prison**:

He's been in jail for three months already.

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### COLLOCATIONS

#### ■ verbs

- **go to jail** They're going to jail for a long time.
- **send somebody to jail** The judge sent Meyer to jail for six years.
- **put somebody in jail** The government would put him in jail if he stayed in the country.
- **throw somebody in jail** (=put somebody in jail) Drunks were thrown in jail for a few days.
- **spend time/three months/six years etc in jail** Griffiths spent three days in jail after pushing a policeman.
- **serve time/five years etc in jail** (=spend time in jail) He was finally released after serving 27 years in jail.
- **get out of jail** He got out of jail after five years for armed robbery.
- **release somebody from jail** More than 30 of those arrested were released from jail for lack of evidence.
- **escape from jail** The killer has escaped from jail.

#### ■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + jail

- **the local jail** The suspects were taken to the local jail.
- **a town/city/county jail** He was held without bail for thirty days in the county jail.
- **a high-/top-/maximum-security jail** Some inmates at the high-security jail had been wrongfully imprisoned.

#### ■ jail + NOUN

- **a jail sentence** He's serving a 7-year jail sentence.
- **a jail term** (=period of time in jail) He served only half of his three-month jail term.
- **a jail cell** The suspect was found dead in his jail cell.

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### THESAURUS

- **prison** a large building where people are kept as a punishment for a crime or while they are waiting to go to court for their trial:

He was sentenced to five years in prison. | Wandsworth Prison

- **jail** a prison, or a similar smaller building where prisoners are kept for a short time: This old building is the jail that Butch Cassidy escaped from in 1887. | He was taken to a cell in the Los Angeles County Jail. | 58% of prisoners are in jail for non-violent crimes. | The strikers were harassed, beaten and put in jail for trespassing. | Grover got caught for not paying his taxes and was sent to jail.

- **gaol** /dʒeɪl/ *British English* another way of spelling **jail**: He spent the night in gaol.

- **penitentiary** /ˌpenɪˈtɛnʃəri, ˌpenɪˈtɛnʃəri/ *American English* a large prison for people who are guilty of serious crimes: the Ohio State Penitentiary | The murderer served 10 years at the penitentiary in Stillwater. | the abandoned federal penitentiary on Alcatraz Island

- **correctional facility** *American English formal* an official word for a prison: 1,000 prisoners rioted at the North County Correctional Facility.

- **detention centre** *British English*, **detention center** *American English* a place where young people who have done something illegal are kept, because they are too young to go to prison. Also used about a place where people who have entered a country illegally are kept: Kevin, who had been abandoned by his mother, had been in and out of detention centres all his life. | a juvenile detention center | Harmondsworth detention centre, near Heathrow airport

- **open prison** *British English* a prison in which prisoners have more freedom than in an ordinary prison, usually because their crimes were less serious: In some open prisons, prisoners are allowed to go home at weekends.

- **cell** a small room in a prison or police station, where someone is kept as a punishment: a prison cell | Conditions were poor, and there were several prisoners to one cell.

## II. jail <sup>2</sup> *BrE* <sup>\*</sup> *AmE* <sup>\*</sup> (also *gaol* *British English*) verb [transitive]

to put someone in jail **SYN** imprison

jail somebody for something

\* Watson was jailed for tax evasion.

jail somebody for two months/six years/life etc

\* They ought to jail her killer for life.

## jail

Freakuency Pack

12500 **5470**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **1930**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **4k** JAIL <sup>18812</sup>

jail <sup>15854</sup>

jails <sup>1084</sup>

jailed <sup>1366</sup>

jailing <sup>143</sup>

jailer <sup>190</sup>

jailers <sup>175</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

6939 **3260**<sup>12784</sup> *nn1*

2144 **10332**<sup>2938</sup> *vvi*

81 **82552**<sup>85</sup> *vv0*

33 **120730**<sup>41</sup> *nnu*

6 **341995**<sup>6</sup> *jj*