billion

[ˈbɪljən] *n*
  1) *амер.* миллиард
  2) триллион, число 10¹²

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billion

bil·lion [**billion billions**] *BrE* [ˈbɪljən]   *NAmE* [ˈbɪljən]   number
  (plural verb)
  1. (abbr. bn) 1 000 000 000; one thousand million
  • Worldwide sales reached 2.5 billion.
  • half a billion dollars
  • They have spent billions on the problem (= billions of dollars, etc.) . You say **a, one, two, several, etc. billion** without a final 's' on 'billion'. **Billions (of…)** can be used if there is no number or quantity before it. Always use a plural verb with **billion** or **billions**, except when an amount of money is mentioned
  • Two billion (people) worldwide are expected to watch the game.
  • Two billion (dollars) was withdrawn from the account. There are more examples of how to use numbers at the entry for **hundred**.
  2. **a billion** or **billions (of…)** (informal) a very large amount
  • Our immune systems are killing billions of germs right now.
  3. (old-fashioned, BrE) 1 000 000 000 000; one million million
  Syn: ↑trillion

  Word Origin:
  late 17th cent.: from French, from million, by substitution of the prefix bi- **'two'** for the initial letters.

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billion

bil‧lion /ˈbɪljən/ *BrE*   *AmE*   number (*plural* **billion** or **billions**)
  [Date: 1600-1700; Language: French; Origin: bi- + -illion (as in million)]
  1. the number 1,000,000,000:
      The final cost could be as much as one billion dollars.
  two/three/four etc billion
      3.5 billion years ago
      Overseas debt is a staggering £16 billion.
  billions of pounds/dollars etc
      Airlines have lost billions of dollars.
  2. an extremely large number of things or people
  a billion
      A billion stars shone in the night sky.
  billions of something
      There are billions of things I want to say.
  3. *British English old use* the number 1,000,000,000,000
  —billionth *adjective*
  —billionth *noun* [countable]

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billion

  12500**586**^MCW
  15000**688**^COCA
  RANGE: **4k** BILLION 68377
    billion 61243
    billions 7134
  COCA 500k Unlemmatized
    15036**886**45381 *m*
    5674**2688**15862 *m1*