

defy[dɪ'faɪ] *v*

1. **вызывать, бросать вызов**
I defy you to do it - ручаюсь, что вам этого не сделать
2. **открыто не повиноваться; игнорировать, пренебрегать; презирать; ни во что не ставить**
to defy the law - игнорировать закон, действовать без оглядки на закон
to defy public opinion - презирать общественное мнение
3. **не поддаваться, представлять непреодолимые трудности**
the door defies all attempts to open it - открыть дверь совершенно невозможно
it defies description [definition] - это не поддаётся описанию [определению]
the problem defies solution - проблема неразрешима
it defies all the bounds of crime - ≅ перед этим меркнет любое преступление
the fortress defies every attack - крепость совершенно неприступна
goods that defy competition - товары, которым не страшна конкуренция

defy

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

defy [defy defies defied defying] *BrE* [dɪ'faɪ] ^u *NAmE* [dɪ'faɪ] ^u *verb* (**de-fies**, **defy-ing**, **de-fied**, **de-fied**)

1. ~ **sb/sth** to refuse to obey or show respect for sb in authority, a law, a rule, etc
 - I wouldn't have dared to defy my teachers.
 - Hundreds of people today defied the ban on political gatherings.
2. ~ **belief, explanation, description, etc.** to be impossible or almost impossible to believe, explain, describe, etc
 - a political move that defies explanation
 - The beauty of the scene defies description.
3. ~ **sth** to successfully resist sth to a very unusual degree
 - The baby boy **defied all the odds** and survived (= stayed alive when it seemed certain that he would die).

Idiom: ↑ **defy you to do something**

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	defy
	<i>BrE</i> /dɪ'faɪ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /dɪ'faɪ/
he / she / it	defies
	<i>BrE</i> /dɪ'faɪz/
	<i>NAmE</i> /dɪ'faɪz/
past simple, past participle	defied
	<i>BrE</i> /dɪ'faɪd/
	<i>NAmE</i> /dɪ'faɪd/
-ing form	defying
	<i>BrE</i> /dɪ'faɪɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /dɪ'faɪɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English (in the senses 'renounce an allegiance' and 'challenge to combat'): from Old French *desfier*, based on Latin *dis-* (expressing reversal) + *fidus* 'faithful'.

Word Family:

defy *verb*
defiance *noun*
defiant *adjective*

Example Bank:

- He is willing to defy his own party.
- Journalists were openly defying the authorities.
- The protesters continued to defy a court injunction.
- I wouldn't have dared to defy my teachers.

defy

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

de-fy /dɪ'faɪ/ *BrE* ^u *AmE* ^u *verb* (past tense and past participle **defied**, present participle **defying**, third person singular **defies**) [*transitive*]

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Old French; Origin: *desfier*, from Latin *fidere* 'to trust']

1. to refuse to obey a law or rule, or refuse to do what someone in authority tells you to do ⇒ **defiance**:
 " people who openly defy the law
2. **defy description/analysis/belief etc** to be almost impossible to describe or understand:
 " The beauty of the scene defies description.
3. **defy logic/the odds etc** to not happen according to the principles you would expect:
 " a 16-week premature baby who defied the odds and survived
4. **I defy somebody to do something** *spoken formal* used when you ask someone to do something that you think is impossible:
 " I defy anyone to prove otherwise.
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THESAURUS

- **disobey** to not obey a person, order, rule, or law: In the army, it is a crime to disobey a superior officer. | He had disobeyed the school rules.
- **break a law/rule** to not obey a law or rule: Anyone who breaks the law must expect to be punished.
- **defy** *formal* to deliberately refuse to obey a rule or law, or what someone in authority tells you to do: The police arrested the youth for defying a court order.
- **flout** /flaʊt/ *formal* to deliberately disobey a rule or law in a very public way: Timber companies are continuing to flout environmental laws.
- **violate** *formal* to disobey a law, or do something that is against an agreement or principle: Both countries have accused each other of violating the treaty. | Technically he had violated the law.
- **contravene** *formal* to be against a law, rule, or agreement, or to do something that is against a law, rule, or agreement: The British government's actions contravened the European Convention on Human Rights.

defy

Freakuency Pack

12500 **7027**^{MCW}

15000 **4403**^{COCA}

RANGE: **6k** DEFY 4094

defy 1390

defies 851

defied 1040

defying 813

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

783 **23687**⁸²⁸ *vvi*

539 **29803**⁵⁶² *vv0*