

sparkle

1. [ˈspɑ:k(ə)] *n*

- 1) искорка
- 2) блёстка
- 3) проблеск
- not a sparkle of wit - ни капли остроумия
- 2. блеск, сверкание
- 3. 1) живость, оживлённость
- 2) «игра» (в вине)
- the wine has lost its sparkle - вино перестало играть
- 4. остроумие

2. [ˈspɑ:k(ə)] *v*

- 1. искриться, сверкать; переливаться
- her eyes sparkled with joy - её глаза сияли радостью
- the tables sparkled with silver and crystal - столы сверкали серебром и хрусталём
- 2. 1) быть оживлённым; блистать
- 2) играть, искриться (о вине)
- 3. отличаться, блистать
- his aphorisms sparkle with wit - его афоризмыблещут остроумием

sparkle

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

sparkle [sparkle sparkles sparkled sparkling] **verb, noun** BrE [ˈspɑ:kɪ] **NAme**

[ˈspɑ:rkɪ]

verb

- 1. **intransitive** ~ (with sth) to shine brightly with small flashes of light
 - sparkling eyes
 - Her jewellery sparkled in the candlelight.
 - The sky sparkled with brilliant stars.
- 2. **intransitive** ~ (with sth) to be full of life, enthusiasm or humour
 - He always sparkles at parties.
 - She sparkled with cheerfulness and good humour.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	sparkle
	BrE / ˈspɑ:kɪ/
	NAme / ˈspɑ:rkɪ/
he / she / it	sparkles
	BrE / ˈspɑ:kɪz/
	NAme / ˈspɑ:rkɪz/
past simple, past participle	sparkled
	BrE / ˈspɑ:kɪd/
	NAme / ˈspɑ:rkɪd/
-ing form	sparkling
	BrE / ˈspɑ:kɪŋ/
	NAme / ˈspɑ:rkɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English: frequentative (verb) or diminutive (noun) of ↑spark.

Synonyms:

shine

gleam • glow • sparkle • glisten • shimmer • glitter • twinkle • glint

These words all mean to produce or reflect light.

shine • to produce or reflect light, especially brightly: ▪ The sun was shining and the sky was blue.

gleam • to shine with a clear bright or pale light, especially a reflected light: ▪ Moonlight gleamed on the water.

glow • (often of sth hot or warm) to produce a dull steady light: ▪ The end of his cigarette glowed red.

sparkle • to shine brightly with small flashes of light: ▪ The diamonds sparkled in the light.

glisten • (of sth wet) to shine: ▪ The road glistened wet after the rain.

shimmer • to shine with a soft light that seems to shake slightly: ▪ Everything seemed to shimmer in the heat.

glitter • to shine brightly with small flashes of reflected light: ▪ The ceiling of the cathedral glittered with gold.

sparkle or glitter?

There is very little difference in meaning between these two words. **Glitter** can sometimes suggest a lack of depth, but this is more frequent in the figurative use of **glitter** as a noun: ▪ the superficial glitter of show business . **Sparkle** is also often used to talk about light reflected off a surface, but things that produce light can also sparkle: ▪ Stars sparkled in the sky.

twinkle • to shine with a light that changes rapidly from bright to faint to bright again: ▪ Stars twinkled in the sky.

glint • to give small bright flashes of reflected light: ▪ The blade of the knife glinted in the darkness.

to shine/gleam/sparkle/glisten/shimmer/glitter/glint **on** sth

to shine/gleam/glow/sparkle/glisten/shimmer/glitter/twinkle/glint **with** sth

to shine/gleam/sparkle/glisten/shimmer/glitter/glint **in the sunlight**

to shine/gleam/glisten/shimmer/glitter/glint **in the moonlight**

the **stars** shine/sparkle/glitter/twinkle
sb's **eyes** shine/gleam/glow/sparkle/glisten/glitter/twinkle/glint
to shine/gleam/glow/glitter **brightly**
to shine/gleam/glow/shimmer **softly**

Example Bank:

- Her eyes sparkled with excitement.
- Her necklace sparkled in the candlelight.
- The grass was sparkling with frost.
- The river sparkled in the sunlight.

noun countable, uncountable

1. a series of flashes of light produced by light hitting a shiny surface
 - the sparkle of glass
 - the sparkles of light on water
 - The sky went dark and the sea lost its sparkle.
 - (figurative) There was a sparkle of excitement in her eyes.
2. the quality of being lively and original
 - The performance lacked sparkle.
 - Do something to add a sparkle to your life!

Word Origin:

Middle English: frequentative (verb) or diminutive (noun) of †spark.

Example Bank:

- She has lost none of her old sparkle as a jazz singer.
- Do something to add a sparkle to your life.
- the sparkle of light on the water

sparkle

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **sparkle**¹ /'spɑːkl̩/ \$ 'spɑːkl̩r- *BrE* " *AmE* " verb [intransitive]

[Date: 1100-1200; Origin: spark]

1. to shine in small bright flashes ⇒ **sparkling**:

- " The sea sparkled in the sun.
- " The crystal chandelier sparkled.

2. if someone's eyes sparkle, they seem to shine brightly, especially because the person is happy or excited ⇒ **sparkling**

sparkle with

- " Ron's eyes sparkled with excitement.

• • •

THESAURUS

■ to shine by reflecting light

- **sparkle/glitter** if something sparkles, it shines with many small bright points when light is on it: The sea sparkled in the sunlight. | Jewels glittered around her neck.
- **gleam** to shine by reflecting the light – used especially about smooth clean surfaces, or about someone's eyes or teeth: The sword's blade gleamed. | a gleaming sports car | His blue eyes gleamed with amusement.
- **glint** to shine with quick flashes of light: The knife glinted in the sunlight.
- **glisten** *literary* to shine – used about wet or oily surfaces. Used especially when saying that someone's eyes are full of tears, or someone's skin is covered in sweat: As they were leaving, her eyes glistened with tears. | His forehead was glistening with sweat. | The wet chairs glistened in the afternoon sun.
- **catch the light** if something catches the light, it shines because it is reflecting light: Her diamond ring caught the light.

II. **sparkle**² *BrE* " *AmE* " noun [uncountable and countable]

1. a bright shiny appearance, with small points of flashing light:

- " the sparkle of the diamonds

2. a quality that makes something or someone seem interesting and full of life:

- " the sparkle and zest of a live performance

3. if someone has a sparkle in their eyes, their eyes seem to shine, and you can see a feeling in them, especially happiness or excitement:

- " There was a sparkle of fun in her brown eyes.

sparkle

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RANGE: **5k SPARKLE** 4802

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