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suspend

verb

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sus·pend | \ sə-ˈspend \
suspended; suspending; suspends

Definition of *suspend*

transitive verb

1 **:** to debar temporarily especially from a privilege, office, or function suspend a student from school
2a **:** to cause to stop temporarily suspend bus service
b **:** to set aside or make temporarily inoperative suspend the rules
3 **:** to defer to a later time on specified conditions suspend sentence

4 **:** to hold in an undetermined or undecided state awaiting further information suspend judgment suspend disbelief
5a **:** hang especially **:** to hang so as to be free on all sides except at the point of support suspend a ball by a thread
b **:** to keep from falling or sinking by some invisible support (such as buoyancy) dust suspended in the air
c **:** to put or hold in suspension suspended sediment
6a **:** to keep fixed or lost (as in wonder or contemplation)
b **:** to keep waiting in suspense or indecision
7 **:** to hold (a musical note) over into the following chord

intransitive verb

1 **:** to cease operation temporarily
2 **:** to stop payment or fail to meet obligations
3 **:** hang

Synonyms Choose the Right Synonym Did You Know? More Example Sentences Learn More about *suspend*

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Synonyms for *suspend*

Synonyms

- adjourn,
- prorogate,
- prorogue,
- recess

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Choose the Right Synonym for *suspend*

defer, postpone, suspend, stay mean to delay an action or proceeding. defer implies a deliberate putting off to a later time. *deferred* buying a car until spring postpone implies an intentional deferring usually to a definite time. the game is *postponed* until Saturday suspend implies temporary stoppage with an added suggestion of waiting until some condition is satisfied. business will be *suspended* while repairs are underway stay often suggests the stopping or checking by an intervening agency or authority. the governor *stayed* the execution

Did You Know?

When something is suspended, it is "left hanging;" it is neither in full operation nor permanently ended. *Suspense* is a state of uncertainty and maybe anxiety. When we watch a play or movie, we enjoy experiencing a "suspension of disbelief;" that is, we allow ourselves to believe we're watching reality, even though we aren't truly fooled.*Suspension* can also mean physical hanging; thus, in a suspension bridge, the roadway actually hangs from huge cables. When some substance is "in suspension", its particles are "hanging" in another substance, mixed into it but not actually dissolved, like fine sand in water, or sea spray in the air at the seashore.

Examples of *suspend* in a Sentence

He was *suspended* from the team for missing too many practices. The police officers were *suspended* without pay for their conduct. The principal *suspended* the student from school for fighting. The city *suspended* bus service during the storm. The company was forced to *suspend* operations. They have *suspended* the peace talks. I advise *suspending* judgment until the investigation is over. Her license to practice law was *suspended*. We can *suspend* the rules just this once. He's driving with a *suspended* license.
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Recent Examples on the Web Health Secretary Alex Azar said federal officials had spoken with local and state counterparts in those areas about mitigation strategies, including the potential of *suspending* school. — Lev Facher, *STAT*, "Trump's tone toward pharma shifts, as he looks to drug makers to help with coronavirus response," 2 Mar. 2020 The driver was arrested on driving while license *suspended* and Houston warrants. — *Houston Chronicle*, "Bellaire Police Department weekly report," 2 Mar. 2020 Just Sunday, Twitter announced the company would not be sending his employees to the event and was *suspending* all non-critical business travel and events. — Taylor Goldenstein, *ExpressNews.com*, "SXSW is still on, volunteers advised of health precautions amid coronavirus scare," 2 Mar. 2020 However, concerns over the illness have prompted some to take extreme measures or *suspend* logic. — *Fox News*, "Coronavirus: 5 unusual ways people reacted," 1 Mar. 2020 Tom Steyer also was in town despite *suspending* his campaign after a poor showing in South Carolina. — *BostonGlobe.com*, "Biden warmly welcomed in Selma as Democrats court Black voters," 1 Mar. 2020 Colloidal silver is made up of silver particles *suspended* in a liquid. — *Anchorage Daily News*, "FactCheck: An outbreak of virus-

related misinformation," 1 Mar. 2020 Constant crisis mode, and the sudden loss of all household logistics expertise, meant that bills went unpaid, accounts were *suspended*, electricity turned off. — *Scientific American*, "The Married Researchers Racing to Stop Prion Disease," 29 Feb. 2020 The Gilbert preschool specifically ended up *suspending* and ultimately firing the two teachers involved in the incident. — Brieanna J. Frank, *azcentral*, "Gilbert preschool 'extremely sorry' after being cited 5 times in connection to escape of unsupervised toddlers," 29 Feb. 2020

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First Known Use of *suspend*

14th century, in the meaning defined at transitive sense 1

History and Etymology for *suspend*

Middle English, from Anglo-French *suspendre*, from Latin *suspendere*, from *sub-, sus-* up + *pendere* to cause to hang, weigh

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Time Traveler for *suspend*

Time Traveler

The first known use of *suspend* was in the 14th century

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suspect

suspectable

suspecter

suspend

suspend between

suspended animation

suspended cadence

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suspend (one's) disbelief

suspend between

suspend one's disbelief

suspended sentence

Statistics for *suspend*

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More Definitions for *suspend*

suspend

verb

English Language Learners Definition of *suspend*

: to force (someone) to leave a job, position, or place for a usually short period of time as a form of punishment
: to stop (something) for a usually short period of time
: to make (something) happen later **:** to delay (something)

See the full definition for *suspend* in the English Language Learners Dictionary

suspend

verb
sus·pend | \ sə-ˈspend \
suspended; suspending

Kids Definition of *suspend*

1 **:** to force to give up some right or office for a time The cheater was *suspended* from school.
2 **:** to hang especially so as to be free except at one point A light bulb was *suspended* from the ceiling.
3 **:** to stop or do away with for a time The principal is *suspending* a rule.
4 **:** to stop operation or action for a time All business *suspended* during the storm.

suspend

transitive verb
sus·pend

Legal Definition of *suspend*

1 **:** to debar temporarily from a privilege, office, or function
2a **:** to stop temporarily suspend trading
b **:** to make temporarily ineffective suspend a license
c **:** stay suspend a hearing
d **:** to defer until a later time — see also suspended sentence at sentence

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  Words from the week of 3/13/2020

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  The vocabulary of keeping distance

- **'Pandemic' vs 'Epidemic'**

  How they overlap and where they differ

- **'Dogfishing': A Word in the Chase**

  Watch out for that doggy in the profile

ASK THE EDITORS

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  How we chose 'they'

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