

# Leap

Word of the Week – May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

“Leap” is a verb. It has two similar meanings. Both are about moving. Let’s leap in and have a look.

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The first meaning of the verb “leap” is to jump a long way, a great height or with force.

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- + His heart **leapt** excitedly when he spotted her.
- + It is spring, and the lambs are **leaping** in the field.
- + She had to **leap** from the window to escape the fire.
- + As if he were a spring released, he **leapt** into the air when he heard the news.

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With an object “leap” means jump over.

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- + You can’t **leap** the gap if you don’t have enough speed.
- + Is it only superman who can **leap** tall buildings?!
- + He **leapt** the fence to escape the dog.

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The second meaning of “leap” is similar, it means to move quickly.

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- + She **leapt** to her feet at the noise.
- + He was woken by the earthquake and **leapt** from the bed.
- + Suddenly he **leapt** forward and hugged her.
- + She **leapt** into bed and pretended to be asleep.

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There a few other similar meanings of “leap” but a useful one is, increase dramatically or suddenly.

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- + Food prices have **leapt** in the last few months.
- + Further shortages could cause another **leap** in prices.
- + The company’s sales **leapt** dramatically in the second half of the year.
- + Temperatures are expected to **leap** significantly by the end of the month.

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The pronunciation is /li:p/.

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**Note**-British people say “leapt” while Americans will say “leaped”.

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This word is in the New General Service List, a list of the 3,000 most common words in English communication. [You can get the full list on our website by clicking here.](#)