

ORIGIN

TWO WORDS. ONE SPELLING.



BEAR
(the animal)

Old English *bera*
A Germanic word
related to German *Bär*
and Dutch *beer*.

Two different historical origins,
but the same modern spelling.



BEAR
(the verb)

Old English *beran*
Originally meaning
"to carry, bring".

BEAR

More than an animal.

CARRY • SUPPORT • ENDURE • PRODUCE • REMEMBER

Strong words
build stronger
futures.

Same
spelling.
Different
stories.
Same word.
A bigger
world.

THE VERB (main meanings)

- CARRY**
The truck bears a heavy load.
- SUPPORT WEIGHT**
This bridge can bear the weight of heavy vehicles.
- ACCEPT / ENDURE**
I can't bear the noise.
- HAVE / TAKE**
She bears responsibility for the project.
- PRODUCE**
These trees bear fruit every summer.

Strength
comes in
many forms.

CARRY
SUPPORT
ENDURE
PRODUCE
REMEMBER

THE ANIMAL

BEAR a large, powerful mammal



polar bear



brown bear



black bear



bear cub



teddy bear

BEAR vs BARE

Don't confuse these!

bear

the animal / the verb

She saw a bear
in the forest.



bare

uncovered; without
clothes or other things

The trees were
bare in winter.



WORD FORMS

base form	bear
3rd person	bears
past simple	bore
past participle	borne
gerund	bearing

"She bore the responsibility well."



BORN ≠ BORNE

born

used for birth
She was **born**
in Paris.



borne

used for other
meanings
The cost is **borne**
by the company.



THE BEAR FAMILY

bearable able to be endured
The heat was **bearable**.

unbearable impossible to tolerate
The noise was **unbearable**.

bearer a person who carries something
I hate to be the **bearer**
of bad news.



bearing the way something affects
a situation; a person's manner
or direction
The news had a big **bearing**
on the decision.



HIGH-VALUE EXPRESSIONS

- bear in mind** remember / consider
Bear in mind that prices may change.
- bear with me** please be patient
Bear with me for a moment.
- bear out** show that something is true
The evidence bears out his story.
- bear fruit** produce a successful result
Their hard work finally bore fruit.
- bring to bear** use pressure, influence or resources
We brought all our resources to bear.

COMMON CONTEXTS

BUSINESS	WORK	ENGINEERING	NATURE	CONVERSATION	PERSONAL
bear the cost	bear responsibility	bear the weight	bear fruit	bear with me	endure a situation
The company will bear the cost.	She bears a lot of responsibility.	The structure must bear the weight.	The apple trees bear fruit in autumn.	Please bear with me for a moment.	I can't bear waiting in long queues.

EXAMPLES IN CONTEXT



"The truck bears
a heavy load."



"I can't bear
the noise."



"Bear in mind that
the deadline is Friday."



"These trees bear
fruit every summer."



"Please bear with me
while I check."

Patience
today,
progress
tomorrow.

