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bar·gain  (bär gĭn)

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n.

1. An agreement between parties fixing obligations that each promises to carry out. See Synonyms at [agreement](#).

2.

a. An agreement establishing the terms of a sale or exchange of goods or services: *reached a bargain with the antique dealer over the lamp.*

b. Property acquired or services rendered as a result of such an agreement.

3. Something offered or acquired at a price advantageous to the buyer: *That silk dress is a bargain at that price.*

v. **bar·gained**, **bar·gain·ing**, **bar·gains**

v.intr.

1. To negotiate the terms of an agreement, as to sell or exchange.

2. To engage in collective bargaining.

3. To arrive at an agreement.

v.tr.

To exchange; trade: *bargained my watch for a meal.*

Phrasal Verb:

bargain for (or on)

To count on; expect: *"I never bargained for this tearing feeling inside me" (Anne Tyler).*

Idiom:

into/in the bargain

Over and above what is expected; in addition.

[Middle English, from Old French *bargaigne*, haggling, from *bargaignier*, to haggle, of Germanic origin; see **bhergh**-¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

bar gain·er *n.*

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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