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be·have  (bĭ-hāv)

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v. **be·haved**, **be·hav·ing**, **be·haves**

v. *intr.*

1.

a. To conduct oneself or act in a specified way: *One of the guests behaved badly at the party. Our old dog sometimes behaves like a puppy.*

b. To conduct oneself or act in a proper way: *I told the child to behave.*

2. To act, react, function, or perform in a particular way: *This fabric behaves well even in hot weather.*

v. *tr.*

1. To conduct (oneself) properly: *Did you behave yourself at the party?*

2. To conduct (oneself) in a specified way: *The witness behaved herself with great calmness.*

[Middle English *behaven* : *be-*, *be-* + *haven*, to have; see [HAVE](#).]

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