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charge  (chärj)

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v. charged, charg-ing, charg-es

v. tr.

1.

a. To impose a duty, responsibility, or obligation on: *charged him with the task of watching the young swimmers.*

b. To instruct or urge authoritatively; command: *charged her not to reveal the source of information.*

c. Law To instruct (a jury) about the law, its application, and the weighing of evidence.

2. To set or ask (a given amount) as a price: *charges ten dollars for a haircut.*

3. To hold financially liable; demand payment from: *charged her for the balance due.*

4. To purchase on credit: *paid cash for the stockings but charged the new coat.*

5.

a. To load to capacity; fill: *charge a furnace with coal.*

b. To load (a gun or other firearm) with a quantity of explosive: *charged the musket with powder.*

c. To pervade or fill, as with a feeling or quality: *The atmosphere was charged with tension.*

6.

a. To make a claim of wrongdoing against; accuse or blame: *The prosecutors charged him with car theft. Critics charged the writer with a lack of originality.*

b. To put the blame for; attribute or impute: *charged the accident to the driver's inexperience.*

7. To rush against in an attack: *The troops charged the enemy line.*

8.

a. Basketball To bump or run into (a defender) illegally while in possession of the ball or having just made a pass or shot.

b. Sports To bump (an opponent) so as to knock off balance or gain control of the ball, as in soccer.

c. Sports To body-check (an opponent) illegally, from behind or after taking more than two strides, especially in ice hockey.

9. Electricity

a. To cause formation of a net electric charge on or in (a conductor, for example).

b. To energize (a storage battery) by passing current through it in the direction opposite to discharge.

10. To excite; rouse: *a speaker who knows how to charge up a crowd.*

11. To direct or put (a weapon) into position for use; level or direct.

12. Heraldry To place a charge on (an escutcheon).

v. intr.

1.

a. To rush forward in an attack: *The dog charged at the intruder.*

b. To rush forward; run: *children charging around the house.*

2. To demand or ask payment: *did not charge for the second cup of coffee.*

3. To make a purchase or purchases on credit.

4. Accounting To consider or record as a loss. Often used with *off*.

5. To become energized: *The battery is still charging.*

n.

1.

a. Expense; cost: *added to the bill a charge for replacing the thermostat.*

b. The price asked for something: *What's the charge for a new tire?*

c. A debt or an entry in an account recording a debt: *Are you paying cash or is this a charge?*

d. A financial burden, such as a tax or lien.

2.
 - a. A weight or burden; a load: *a freighter relieved of its charge of cargo*.
 - b. The quantity that a container or apparatus can hold.
 3. A quantity of explosive to be set off at one time.
 4.
 - a. An assigned duty or task; a responsibility: *The commission's charge was to determine the facts*.
 - b. Care; custody: *a child put in my charge*.
 - c. Supervision; management: *the scientist who had overall charge of the research project*. See Synonyms at [care](#).
 - d. One that is entrusted to another's care or management: *the baby sitter's three young charges*.
 5.
 - a. An order, command, or injunction.
 - b. Instruction given by a judge to a jury about the law, its application, and the weighing of evidence.
 6. A claim of wrongdoing; an accusation: *a charge of murder; pleaded not guilty to the charges*.
 7.
 - a. A rushing, forceful attack: *repelled the charge of enemy troops; the charge of a herd of elephants*.
 - b. The command to attack: *The bugler sounded the charge*.
 8. **Symbol** **q** **Physics**
 - a. The intrinsic property of matter responsible for all electric phenomena, in particular for the electromagnetic force, occurring in two forms arbitrarily designated *negative* and *positive*.
 - b. The net measure of this property possessed by a body or contained in a bounded region of space, measured in coulombs, ampere-hours, or units of elementary charge. Also called *electric charge*.
 9. **Physics**
 - a. See [magnetic charge](#).
 - b. See [color charge](#).
 10. **Informal** A feeling of pleasant excitement; a thrill: *got a real charge out of the movie*.
 11. **Heraldry** A figure or device represented on the field of an escutcheon.
- Idioms:**
- in charge**
1. In a position of leadership or supervision: *the security agent in charge at the airport*.
 2. *Chiefly British* Under arrest.
- in charge of**
- Having control over or responsibility for: *You're in charge of making the salad*.

[Middle English *chargen*, to load, from Old French *chargier*, from Late Latin *carricāre*, from Latin *carrus*, Gallic type of wagon, of Celtic origin; see **kers-** in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

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