

cue, prompt, impetus, stimulus

informal go-ahead

[View synonyms](#)

1.3 An [apparatus](#) on a [railroad](#), typically a [colored light](#) or a [semaphore](#), giving [indications](#) to [train engineers](#) of whether or not the line is [clear](#).

Example sentences

- At one point, we had to stop at an interlocking and the dispatcher couldn't clear the signal because of the train ahead.
- At the Hayward's Heath accident in 1973 the driver misread the signals and drove his loopline train on to the main line and it was struck from behind by an express.
- Mitchell said police had yet to determine whether the railway signals and gates were working at the time of the crash.
- [Get more examples](#)

1.4 *Bridge* A [prearranged convention](#) of [bidding](#) or [play intended](#) to [convey](#) information to one's [partner](#).

Example sentences

- Make an agreement with your partner to look for the signal after each time that the cards are swept away.
- When playing against a trump contract this can be achieved by a simple system of discard signals.
- Naturally they will try to do this while the opponents are not looking, but as the signals do not need to be true, you can also try to confuse the opponents by passing misleading signals, at the risk of confusing your partner as well.
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2 An electrical [impulse](#) or [radio wave transmitted](#) or [received](#): *equipment for receiving TV signals*

More example sentences

- Each cell has a base station that transmits and receives signals over just a small fraction of the frequencies to which the network operator has access.
- These chips feature an antenna to transmit and receive radio signals.
- The development of the electromagnet about 1837 provided the American Samuel F. B. Morse with a way to transmit and receive electric signals.
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verb (signals, signaling, signaled ; chiefly *British* signals, signalling, signalled)

[no object] [Back to top](#)

1 [Transmit](#) information or [instructions](#) by means of a [gesture](#), [action](#), or sound: *hold your [fire](#) until I signal*

More example sentences

- Madoka's father must have handed the parking attendant a tip ahead of time with instructions to signal when Madoka and her mother arrived.
- Claire no sooner had entered the EMS station that the bell sounded, signaling that they were needed somewhere to help somebody.
- After what seemed like an eternity to Jalen, the hunting horn sounded, signaling in the hunt's end.
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1.1 [with object and infinitive] [Instruct](#) (someone) to do something by means of [gestures](#) or signs rather than [explicit](#) orders: *she signaled [Charlotte](#) to be [silent](#)*

More example sentences

- I made motions with my hand signaling Elizabeth to keep it down.
- She gave the thumbs-up sign to her mechanic, signaling him to get out of the way.
- He leaned back and waved his hand signalling Andrea to go over to him.

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Synonyms

gesture, **sign**, give a sign to, direct, **motion**;

wave, **beckon**, **nod**

[View synonyms](#)

1.2(Of a **cyclist**, **motorist**, or **vehicle**) indicate an **intention** to **turn** in a specified **direction using** an **extended** arm or **flashing indicator**: *[with complement]: Stone signaled **right** [with infinitive]: the **truck** signaled to **turn** left*

More example sentences

- His report also states that the defendant vehicle signaled and turned left onto Orenda.
- That may lead to the issue of whether he was simply following this tractor trailer too closely or whether, in fact, if the tractor trailer wasn't signaling.
- It may be a split second of indecision at a roundabout, a moment's inattention while pulling out of a parking space, a failure to spot another driver signalling.
- [Get more examples](#)

1.3Indicate the **existence** or **occurrence** of (something) by **actions** or sounds: *[with object]: they could signal **displeasure** by **refusing** to **cooperate** [with clause]: she gave a **glance** that signaled that her **father** was being **secretive***

More example sentences

- Counselors need to understand that the sound of sirens may signal danger to them.
- She recognized the sound - it signalled a weapons lock-on.
- For the best part of a century, that clanging sound signalled the abrupt end of an English night out.
- [Get more examples](#)

Synonyms

indicate, show, **express**, communicate, proclaim, declare

[View synonyms](#)

Derivatives

signaler

1

Pronunciation: /'sɪgnələr/

noun

Example sentences

- The event on Saturday was aimed at highlighting the 15,000 jobs in more than 140 trades which the Army has to offer, with engineers, signallers, guardsmen and mechanics among those on hand to talk to young people and their families.
- About 300 engineers and 700 signallers will be recruited from school leavers, graduates, those who took early retirement, people returning from a career break and professional engineers.
- Thousands of drivers, signallers and maintenance workers walked out from 6.30 pm yesterday causing the worst travel disruption in the capital for two years.
- [Get more examples](#)

Origin

Late Middle English: from **Old French**, from **medieval Latin** *signale*, neuter of **late Latin** *signalis*, from **Latin** *signum* 'mark, token' (see [sign](#)). The verb dates from the early 19th century.