

Date visited: December 17, 2015

occasional

[play](#)*adjective* oc·ca·sion·al \-'kāzh-nəl, -'kā-zhə-n'əl\

Simple Definition of *occasional*

Popularity: Bottom 50% of words

- : happening or done sometimes but not often : not happening or done in a regular or frequent way
- : sometimes doing a particular job or activity

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Full Definition of *occasional*

1. *a* : of or relating to a particular [occasion](#) <a budget able to meet occasional demands as well as regular ones> *b* : created for a particular occasion <occasional verse>
2. 2 : acting as the occasion or contributing cause of something
3. 3 : encountered, occurring, appearing, or taken at irregular or infrequent intervals <occasional visitors> <an occasional vacation>
4. 4 : acting in a specified capacity from time to time <an occasional lecturer>
5. 5 : designed or constructed to be used as the occasion demands <occasional furniture>

See [occasional](#) defined for English-language learnersSee [occasional](#) defined for kids

Examples of *occasional*

1. She receives *occasional* phone calls from her mother.
2. There will be *occasional* showers during the morning.
3. Most mornings, we'll see deer or the *occasional* bear walking past our house.
4. He tells an *occasional* joke to keep his students interested.
5. I need to take *occasional* breaks from work.
6. Sure, I drink an *occasional* glass of wine from time to time.
7. She's an *occasional* lecturer at the university.

Circa 1631

First Known Use of *occasional*

circa 1631

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Related to *occasional*

Synonyms

[aperiodic](#), [casual](#), [catchy](#), [choppy](#), [discontinuous](#), [episodic](#) (*also* [episodical](#)), [erratic](#), [intermittent](#), [irregular](#), [fitful](#), [spasmodic](#), [spastic](#), [sporadic](#), [spotty](#), [unsteady](#)

Antonyms

[constant](#), [continuous](#), [habitual](#), [periodic](#), [regular](#), [repeated](#), [steady](#)

Related Words

[convulsive](#), [sudden](#), [violent](#); [broken](#), [disconnected](#), [fragmentary](#), [interrupted](#); [aimless](#), [arbitrary](#), [desultory](#), [haphazard](#), [hit-and-miss](#), [hit-or-miss](#), [odd](#), [random](#), [scattered](#), [slapdash](#), [stray](#); [capricious](#), [changeful](#), [changing](#), [flickery](#), [fluctuating](#), [fluid](#), [inconstant](#), [mercurial](#), [mutable](#), [temperamental](#), [uncertain](#), [unpredictable](#), [unsettled](#), [unstable](#), [varying](#), [wavering](#); [changeable](#), [fickle](#), [variable](#), [volatile](#)

Near Antonyms

[changeless](#), [equable](#), [even](#), [stable](#), [stationary](#), [uniform](#); [unchanging](#), [unvarying](#), [unwavering](#); [methodical](#) (*also* [methodic](#)), [orderly](#), [systematic](#); [unrelenting](#), [unremitting](#)

Rhymes with *occasional*

[equational](#)

OCCASIONAL Defined for Kids

occasional

[play](#)

adjective oc·ca·sion·al \ə-ˈkā-zhə-nəl\

Definition of *occasional*

1. : happening or met with now and then <*They went to an occasional movie.*>

oc·ca·sion·al·ly *adverb*

Learn More about *occasional*

1. Thesaurus: [All synonyms and antonyms for "occasional"](#)Spanish Central: [Translation of "occasional"](#)Nglish: [Translation of "occasional" for Spanish speakers](#)Britannica English: [Translation of "occasional" for Arabic speakers](#)

Seen and Heard

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