

Sign or Signature

When Sophia applied for my driver's license, she needed to fill out the application form. Then, she brought the document to the window. The clerk said he needed my signature at the bottom of the form. So she had to sign her name. Then he gave her a second document to sign. She didn't realize they needed her signature in so many places!

The words sign and signature can be confusing sometimes. Do you know how to use these words? Read the paragraph above once more and then check today's lesson:

Signature is a noun, and generally means your name written in cursive script. You can **write your signature**, **give your signature**, or **put your signature**, like this:

- Please **write your signature** on this form.
- Can you please **give me your signature** here?
- You need to **put your signature** on every document you approve in this office.

Sign is used a verb and means to write your signature. We general use **sign** with name, as in **sign your name**. Here are some examples:

- Please **sign** this form.
- Can you please **sign** your name here?
- You need to **sign** ever document you approve in this office.

We also have a slang way of asking for your signature. Someone might ask you, "Can I have your John Hancock?" John Hancock was one of the founding fathers of the USA, and was famous for his large, signature. So your "John Hancock" is your signature!

So, **sign is the verb** and **signature is the noun**. Keep in mind too that as a noun, sign means placard or public notice, like a stop sign, or road sign, or a sign in a shop window.