

# Hanged vs. Hung

The word hang is a bit tricky in terms of its different tenses and some people gets confused with whether to use hanged or hung in their writing. Let us figure out how they differ and when to properly use them.

The word hung is the past tense and past participle form of the verb hang which means “to suspend or be suspended from above with the lower part dangling free.”

Lit Confederate flags hung in NYC windows mysteriously disappear

[Toronto Sun](#)

Now THAT’S raw beef! Slab of meat is still twitching as it’s hung in a shop

[Daily Mail](#)

Someone hung a massive ‘refugees welcome’ sign on the Statue of Liberty

[Metro](#)

It may also be used as an adjective meaning “unable to agree on a verdict,” pertaining to a jury.

Jury hung in attempted murder charges for War Machine; convicted on multiple other charges

[News3LV](#)

Lee’s urgent fix for SF’s 911 crisis remains hung up

[San Francisco Chronicle](#)

Hung jury in alleged rape of flight attendant at a hotel near Detroit Metro Airport

[WXYZ](#)

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Meanwhile, the term **hanged** can only be used as a past tense and past participle of the verb **hang** if it denotes “to kill someone by tying a rope attached from above around the neck and removing the support from beneath; used as a form of capital punishment.”

Wife of man who **hanged** himself in courthouse held on fentanyl charges

[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

Couple return home to find pet dogs beaten, stabbed and **hanged** in garden

[Evening Standard](#)

Scaramucci: Leakers Would Have Been **Hanged** 150 Years Ago

[Daily Beast](#)

It is important to remember that the use of **hanged** is very specific to the killing of a human being by suspending the person by the neck. For all other objects, such as ornaments, shelves, and paintings, the word **hung** should be used. Although at present, the two words may be used by some interchangeably, writing professionals and usage guides still prefer the traditional usage of the two words.

Keep in mind that people are **hanged** but objects are **hung**.