

# VERBS

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## TO INCREASE SOMETHING

### PHRASAL VERBS

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#### **Ratchet something up :**

to increase something over a period of time.

- The debate should **ratchet up** awareness of the problem among members of the general public.
- The government was accused of **ratcheting up** pressure on the health services.

#### **Step something up:**

to increase something.

- The president has **stepped up** the pressure on the groups to come to an agreement.
- The police are **stepping up** their efforts to fight crime.
- Security has been **stepped up** at the airport.

#### **Scale something up :**

to increase the size, amount, or importance of something, usually an organization or process:

- My company is **scaling up** its operations in Western Asia.
- An order this size means **scaling up** our production capacity.

#### **Raise something:** to increase a number, amount, or level

- The aim is to modernize production methods and **raise** safety standards.
- They had **raised** their prices to unreasonable levels.

#### **Rise** (*Intransitive, i.e. no object*):

to increase in size, amount, quality, or strength

- Salaries will continue to **rise** in line with inflation.
- Temperatures will **rise** to 25°C on Friday and Saturday.

#### **Shoot up** (*informal*):

to grow in size, or increase in number or level, very quickly:

- David has really **shot up** since I saw him last.
- Prices **shot up** by 25 percent.

#### **Go up** : to increase in price, amount, level etc

- Train fares have **gone up**.
- Blood-sugar levels **go up** as you digest food.

#### **Soar** : to quickly increase to a high level

- Temperatures will **soar** over the weekend, say the weather forecasters.
- House prices **soared** a further 20 percent.

#### **Put something up:** to increase the price or value of sth.

- They've **put the price of fuel up** again.
- Most big stores admit they daren't **put prices up** for fear of losing their customers.

#### **Build up** : to increase in quantity, or to add more of something so it increases in quantity:

- At this time of year, stores are **building up** stock for Christmas.
- The regime **built up** the largest army in Africa.

#### **Grow:** to increase in amount, size, number, or strength

- Sales of new cars **grew** by 10% last year.
- Opposition **grew** and the government agreed to negotiate.