

SIGN VS SIGNAL

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SIGN

NOUN - COUNTABLE/UNCOUNTABLE

a piece of evidence that something is happening or that something exists

- The fact that they didn't say 'no' immediately is a good sign.

sure sign :

- He raised an eyebrow, a sure sign of disapproval.



sign that:

- He had somehow missed the signs that she was upset.

no/little/few/every etc sign:

- There were few signs of an upturn in the economy.
- Interest rates show no sign of falling.

sign of:

- I couldn't see any sign of progress.

see/take something as a sign of sth:

- Ann took his silence as a sign of rejection.
- This move will be seen as a sign of weakness.

SIGNAL

NOUN - COUNTABLE

a movement or sound made by someone that has a special meaning to another person

give (someone) a signal to do something:



- The police officer gave us the signal to stop.
- He gave a signal to his driver to carry on.

at a signal:

- At the prearranged signal, we all jumped up and shouted 'Surprise!'

do something as a signal (of something)

- They waved a flag as a signal of distress.

mixed/conflicting signals

(=signals that have different meanings):

- She knew she was sending him mixed signals.