applaud  ap · plaud

Advanced Definition

intransitive verb

1. to clap the hands in approval.

   The audience applauded loudly at the end of the concert.

transitive verb

1. give approval to by clapping the hands.

   The audience applauded the speaker enthusiastically.

2. to give approval to; praise.

   The principal applauded the teachers for all their hard work.

   We applaud these endeavors on the part of the government, but we feel that more needs to be done.

These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:

1. At this, at least 50 students stand up and applaud.
2. The students start to applaud, and Roger watches the Harrison brothers sneak out the back door.
3. She sees Jake smile and start to applaud, and she’s down in the grass again. THUD!
4. Her music teacher applauded. “Alana, you’ve been working hard to become a better singer, and it shows.
5. Sixty-four percent of those surveyed now applauded Mrs. Ford. Louis Harris proclaimed her “one of the most popular” first ladies.