

background['bækgraʊnd] *n*

1. 1) задний план; фон

red spots on a white background - красные крапинки на белом фоне /поле/

to melt into the background - сливаться с фоном

the white house stood out against the background of the dark forest - белый дом выделялся на фоне тёмного леса

the shed stood in the background - сарай стоял в глубине

2) незаметное положение

to stay in the background - оставаться в тени /на заднем плане/

to cultivate a background manner - стараться держаться незаметно

the question has fallen into the background - вопрос утратил остроту

2. 1) предпосылка; подоплёка

the background of the war - причины войны; предвоенная обстановка

the background of the deal was easy to explain - подоплёка этой сделки была легко объяснима

2) история вопроса; сведения общего характера; исходные данные

give me the background of the problem - расскажите мне, как возник этот вопрос

3. 1) подготовка, образование; квалификация

he has the right background for the job - у него хорошая подготовка для этой работы

2) (биографические или анкетные) данные; происхождение; общественный и моральный облик; связи и окружение (человека)

to look up smb.'s background - наводить справки о ком-л. /о чьём-л. происхождении и связях, моральном облике *и т. п.* /

what is his background? - что он собой представляет?

4. *КИНО*

1) обстановка; место действия

2) предметы или действующие лица, расположенные в глубине кадра

background projection - рирпроекция

3) второстепенное действие

5. *театр.*, *кино* фон, музыкальное сопровождение, шумовое оформление *и т. п.*6. *физ.* послесвечение

background radiation - фоновое излучение

background

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

back-ground [background backgrounds] *BrE* ['bækgraʊnd] ^u *NAmE*['bækgraʊnd] ^u **noun****FAMILY/EDUCATION, ETC.****1. countable** the details of a person's family, education, experience, etc• a person's **family/social/cultural/educational/class background**

• The job would suit someone with a business background.

• In spite of their very different backgrounds, they immediately became friends.

PAST**2. countable, usually singular, uncountable** the circumstances or past events that help explain why sth is how it is; information about these

• the historical background to the war

• **background information/knowledge**• The elections are taking place **against a background** of violence.

• Can you give me more background on the company?

OF PICTURE/PHOTO**3. countable, usually singular** the part of a picture, photograph or view behind the main objects, people, etc• a photograph with trees **in the background****compare** ↑foreground**LESS IMPORTANT POSITION****4. singular** a position in which people are not paying attention to sb/sth or not as much attention as they are paying to sb/sth else• He prefers to remain **in the background** and let his assistant talk to the press.• A piano tinkled gently **in the background** .• **background music**• There was a lot of **background noise** (= that you could hear, but were not listening to) .**compare** ↑foreground**COLOUR UNDER STH****5. countable, usually singular** a colour or design on which sth is painted, drawn, etc

• The name of the company is written in red on a white background.

more at merge into the background **at** ↑merge**Idiom:** ↑in the backgroundThesaurus:

background noun

1. C

- The job would suit sb with a design background.

record • **past** • **history** • **upbringing** • **origin/origins** • **roots** • **parentage** • **track record** • **life history** •

sb has a background/history/record/track record of sth

sb has a/their background/record/track record/origins/roots in sth

(a) **working class/middle class** background/upbringing/origins/roots

sb's **ethnic/social/cultural** background/origin/roots

2. C, usually sing., U

- the complex historical background to the war

context • **setting** • **written backdrop** • **formal milieu** •

against a background/backdrop

the **cultural/historical/economic/political** background/context/setting/milieu

describe the background/context/setting

Background or backdrop? **Background** has a much wider range than **backdrop**, which is used especially in more literary texts and in the phrase **against a backdrop of sth**

- background information

- Can you give me some more background?

- It was against this background/backdrop of racial tension that the civil war began.

3. C, usually sing.

- snow-capped mountains in the background

setting • **surroundings** • **written backdrop** •

Opp: the foreground

against a/the background/backdrop of sth

a **dramatic** background/setting/backdrop

provide/create (a) background/setting/surroundings/backdrop

Synonyms:

environment

setting • surroundings • background

These are all words for the type of place in which sb/sth exists or is situated.

environment • the conditions in a place that affect the behaviour and development of sb/sth: ▪ An unhappy ▪ home environment ▪ can affect children's behaviour ◊ ▪ a pleasant ▪ working environment

setting • a place or situation or a particular type, in which sth happens or exists: ▪ The island provided an idyllic setting for the concert.

surroundings • everything that is around or near sb/sth: ▪ The huts blend in perfectly with their surroundings.

background • the things or area behind or around the main objects or people that are in a place or picture: ▪ The mountains in the background were capped with snow.

in (a/an) environment/setting/surroundings

(a/an) **new/unfamiliar** environment/setting/surroundings

sb/sth's **immediate** environment/surroundings

(a) **dramatic** setting/background

Example Bank:

- Against that general background, let me give you a more detailed view of current practice.
- Can you tell me something about your family background?
- Children from a military background often move around a lot.
- Even people with a technical background will struggle to understand some of the jargon.
- He came from a very privileged background.
- He had learned how to melt invisibly into the background.
- He prefers to remain in the background and let his assistant deal with the press.
- Her academic background includes a degree in education.
- Her background was in biology and medicine.
- I could see my secretary hovering in the background.
- I think we get on well because we're from similar backgrounds.
- In the future, we will require background checks on airport employees.
- It is important to have a broad educational background.
- Most paintings look good against a neutral background colour/color.
- She has a good solid background in management.
- She wanted to know about his criminal background.
- The areas of water stood out against the dark background.
- The book provides the background to the revolution.
- The dispute over the new contract allowed her other problems to fade into the background.
- The mountains in the background were capped with snow.
- The signal was very clear, with no background hiss or distortion.
- The students are drawn from very mixed social backgrounds.
- The wolves' coats turn white to match their snowy background.
- There was a radio on in the background.
- Those discussions formed the background to the decision.

- We work with clients from diverse backgrounds.
- Who did the background vocals on that track?
- an economist with a background in business
- background information on the country
- bright blue on a red background
- children from deprived backgrounds
- the historical background of the project
- the technical background to the report
- Can you give me more background on the company's financial position?
- Discrimination on the basis of race, sex or social background will not be tolerated.
- Encyclopedias are a good source of background information.
- The book explains the complex historical background to the war.
- The classes are designed for students with a background in history or theology.
- We are from very different backgrounds but we get on very well.
- We were provided with soft lights and a tranquil background.
- sb's family/social/cultural/educational/class background

background

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

background **S2 W2** /'bækgraʊnd/ *BrE* " *AmE* " *noun*

1. [countable] someone's family, education, previous work etc:

" Students with a background in chemistry will probably find the course easier.

" It's important to understand other people, people from different backgrounds.

" Do you know anything about his background?

2. [uncountable and countable] the situation or past events that explain why something happens in the way that it does
background to

" Without knowing the background to the case, I couldn't possibly comment.

against a background of something

" The peace talks are being held against a background of increasing violence.

background information/details/data etc

" The author included a new chapter of background material for the second edition of the book.

3. [countable usually singular] the area that is behind the main thing that you are looking at, especially in a picture:
in the background

" The background looks out of focus.

" In the background, you can see my college friends.

4. [countable] the pattern or colour on top of which something has been drawn, printed etc:
red lettering on a white background

5. **in the background** someone who keeps or stays in the background tries not to be noticed:

" The president's advisors are content to remain in the background.

6. [uncountable and countable] the sounds that you can hear apart from the main thing that you are listening to
in the background

" In the background, I could hear the sound of traffic.

" All of the background noise made it difficult to have a phone conversation.

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COLLOCATIONS

■ adjectives

- **family background** Many kids lack a stable family background.
- **social background** Universities aim to attract students from varied social backgrounds.
- **cultural background** Some of his attitudes were due to his cultural background.
- **ethnic background** We do not discriminate against people because of their ethnic background or gender.
- **class background** Class background is an important factor in the level of schooling achieved.
- **socio-economic background** Smokers often come from poorer socio-economic backgrounds.
- **educational/academic background** The interviewer will ask you about your educational background and work experience. | Postgraduate students come from a wide range of academic backgrounds.
- **professional background** Managers can come from a wide range of professional backgrounds.
- **a working-class/middle-class background** I came from a very poor working-class background.
- **a deprived/disadvantaged background** The school has a high percentage of pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- **a poor background** His poor background prevented him from going to medical college.
- **a privileged/wealthy background** All the top jobs were taken by people from privileged backgrounds.

■ verbs

- **have a background (in something)** We are looking for someone who has a background in science.
- **come from a background** Mark and I came from very similar backgrounds.

■ phrases

- **a range of backgrounds** People from a wide range of backgrounds go to watch football.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **class** a group of students or schoolchildren who are taught together: There are twenty kids in the class. | She gets along well with the other children in her class. | I'm going out with some friends from my dance class. | 'I graduated in 1999.' 'What class were you in?'
- **background** the type of home and family you come from, and its social class: The school takes kids from all sorts of

backgrounds. | We come from the same town and share a similar background. | **working-class/middle-class etc background**: The organization helps children from working-class backgrounds to go to university.

- **middle-class** belonging to the class of people who are usually well educated, fairly rich, and who work in jobs which they have trained to do. For example, doctors, lawyers, and managers are middle-class: The newspaper's readers are mostly middle class. | They live in a middle-class neighbourhood on the edge of town.
- **white-collar** someone who works in an office, not a factory, mine etc: **white-collar worker/job/employee**: The economic recession has put many white-collar workers in danger of losing their jobs.
- **working-class** belonging to the class of people who do not have much money or power, and who have jobs where they do physical work. For example, factory workers, builders, and drivers are working-class: Most of the people who live round here are working class. | I come from a working-class family – I'm the first one to graduate from college.
- **blue-collar** someone who does physical work, for example in a factory or a mine, and does not work in an office: **blue-collar worker/job/employee**: His political support comes mainly from blue-collar workers.
- **upper-class** belonging to the class of people who originally had most of the money and power, especially families that own a lot of land: Most senior politicians in the UK are from upper-class families. | He spoke with an upper-class accent.
- **underclass** the lowest social class, who are very poor and may not have jobs, homes etc: The government has created an underclass who do not feel they have any rights in society.

background

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