

fool

I

1. [fu:l] *n*
1. дурак, глупец
arrant fool - набитый дурак
what a fool I was to believe him - как глупо, что я ему поверил
he is no fool - он вовсе не дурак
he isn't such a fool as he looks - он не так глуп, как кажется
to make a fool of smb. - одурачить /провести/ кого-л.
to make a fool of oneself - поставить себя в глупое положение; свалить дурака
to be a fool for one's pains - остаться в дураках, напрасно стараться; ничего не получить за свои труды
I believed her. - The more fool you are! - я ей поверил. - Ну и дурак!
 2. *ист.* шут (при дворе и т. п.)
 3. *амер. разг.* мастер, умелец
a dancing [diving] fool - опытный танцор [ныряльщик]
he is a letter-writing fool - он превосходно пишет письма
 4. посмешище, игрушка
a fool of circumstances - игрушка судьбы, жертва обстоятельств
 5. *редк.* слабоумный
◇ nobody's fool - осмотрительный, проницательный человек
he's nobody's fool - его не проведёшь
to be a fool for smth. - иметь слабость /пристрастие/ к чему-л.
to be a fool to ... - быть ничем в сравнении с ...; в подметки не годиться
to play the fool - валять дурака
to play the fool with - а) дурачить, обманывать; б) портить, уничтожать
a fool and his money are soon parted - у дурака деньги не задерживаются
every man has a fool in his sleeve - *посл.* ≅ на всякого мудреца довольно простоты
a fool's bolt may sometimes hit the mark - *посл.* ≅ иной раз и дурак правду скажет
fools have fortune - *посл.* дуракам счастье
fools rush in where angels fear to tread - ≅ дуракам закон не писан
one fool praises another - *посл.* дурак дурака хвалит
there is no fool like an old fool - *посл.* ≅ седина в бороду, бес в ребро
2. [fu:l] *a амер. разг.*
глупый, безрассудный
a fool idea - нелепая мысль
the dog was barking his fool head off - глупый пёс надрывался от лая
3. [fu:l] *v разг.*
1. дурачиться, баловаться
to fool with smth. - баловаться /играть/ с чем-л.
to fool away time - бесцельно тратить время
 2. дурачить, обманывать (кого-л.), водить (кого-л.) за нос
you won't fool me - вы меня не проведёте
it didn't fool him - он не попался на удочку, это его не обмануло
to be fooled into doing smth. - быть вовлечённым во что-л. обманным путём
I have been fooled out of my money - у меня выманили деньги

II

[fu:l] *n*

фруктовое или ягодное пюре со сбитыми сливками

fool

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

fool [fool fools fooled fooling] noun, verb, adjective BrE [fu:l] NAmE [fu:l]

noun

1. **countable** a person who you think behaves or speaks in a way that lacks intelligence or good judgement
Syn: †idiot
• Don't be such a fool!
• I **felt a fool** when I realized my mistake.
• He told me he was an actor and I **was fool enough to** believe him.
2. **countable** (in the past) a man employed by a king or queen to entertain people by telling jokes, singing songs, etc.
Syn: †jester
3. **uncountable, countable** (BrE) (usually in compounds) a cold light †**dessert** (= a sweet dish) made from fruit that is cooked and crushed and mixed with cream or †**custard**
• rhubarb fool
more at not suffer fools gladly **at** †**suffer**

Word Origin:

n. senses 1 to 2 and *v. adj.* Middle English Old French **fol** 'fool, foolish' Latin **follicis** 'bellows, windbag' 'empty-headed person'
n. sense 3 late 16th cent. †**fool** 'foolish'

Theaurus:

fool noun C (sometimes offensive)

- Don't be such a fool!

sometimes offensive **idiot** • |BrE, informal, sometimes offensive **prat** • |especially AmE, informal, sometimes offensive **dork** •

|offensive **moron** • |especially AmE, informal, offensive **jerk** •

a **complete** fool/idiot/prat/dork/moron/jerk

feel/look like a/an fool/idiot/prat/dork/moron/jerk

make a fool/idiot/prat/dork **of yourself**

Synonyms:

cheat

fool • deceive • betray • take in • trick • con

These words all mean to make sb believe sth that is not true, especially in order to get what you want.

cheat • to make sb believe sth that is not true, in order to get money or sth else from them: ▫ She is accused of attempting to cheat the taxman. ◇ ▫ He cheated his way into the job.

Cheat also means to act in a dishonest way in order to gain an advantage, especially in a game, competition or exam: ▫ You're not allowed to look at the answers— ▫ that's cheating ▫.

fool • to make sb believe sth that is not true, especially in order to laugh at them or to get what you want: ▫ Just don't be fooled into investing any money with them.

deceive • to make sb believe sth that is not true, especially sb who trusts you, in order to get what you want: ▫ She deceived him into handing over all his savings.

betray • to hurt sb who trusts you, especially by deceiving them or not being loyal to them: ▫ She felt betrayed when she found out the truth about him.

take sb in • [often passive] to deceive sb, usually in order to get what you want: ▫ I was taken in by her story.

trick • to deceive sb, especially in a clever way, in order to get what you want.

con • (informal) to deceive sb, especially in order to get money from them or get them to do sth for you: ▫ They had been conned out of £100 000.

which word?

Many of these words involve making sb believe sth that is not true, but some of them are more disapproving than others. **Deceive** is probably the worst because people typically deceive friends, relations and others who know and trust them. People may **feel cheated/betrayed** by sb in authority who they trusted to look after their interests. If sb **takes you in**, they may do it by acting a part and using words and charm effectively. If sb **cheats/fools/tricks/cons** you, they may get sth from you and make you feel stupid. However, sb might **fool** you just as a joke; and to **trick** sb is sometimes seen as a clever thing to do, if the person being tricked is seen as a bad person who deserves it.

to cheat/fool/trick/con sb **out of** sth

to cheat/fool/deceive/betray/trick/con sb **into doing** sth

to **feel** cheated/fooled/deceived/betrayed/tricked/conned

to fool/deceive **yourself**

to cheat/trick/con **your way** into sth

Example Bank:

- He thought that being an actor only involved tap dancing and playing the fool.
- I felt like a fool when I realized what I'd done.
- I thought it was safe to leave my suitcase there. More fool me.
- Like a fool, I told her everything.
- She doesn't suffer fools gladly.
- She was angry at having been made a fool of.
- She's nobody's fool. She had the car checked by a mechanic before buying it.
- Stop acting the fool and be serious!
- Stop behaving like a fool!
- That fool of a doctor has prescribed me the wrong medicine!
- The poor old fool was imprisoned on my account.
- They had left me looking like a fool.
- You silly little fool!
- You're an even bigger fool than I thought.
- court fools who used to provide entertainment in the royal court
- Don't be such a fool!
- I made a complete fool of myself in front of everyone.
- You must take me for a fool!

Idioms: ↑ **act the fool** ▫ any fool can ▫ ↑ **fool and his money are soon parted** ▫ ↑ **fools rush in** ▫ ↑ **make a fool of somebody** ▫ ↑ **make a fool of yourself** ▫ ↑ **more fool somebody** ▫ ↑ **no fool** ▫ ↑ **no fool like an old fool** ▫ ↑ **you could have fooled me**

Derived ↑ **fool around**

verb

1. transitive to trick sb into believing sth that is not true

- ~ **sb** You don't fool me!
- She certainly **had me fooled** — I really believed her!
- ~ **yourself** You're fooling yourself if you think none of this will affect you.
- ~ **sb into doing** sth Don't be fooled into thinking they're going to change anything.

2. **intransitive** to say or do stupid or silly things, often in order to make people laugh
- ~ **(about/around)** Stop fooling around and sit down!
 - ~ **(about/around) with sth** If you fool about with matches, you'll end up getting burned.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	fool
	BrE /fʊ:l/
	NAme /fʊ:l/
he / she / it	fools
	BrE /fʊ:lz/
	NAme /fʊ:lz/
past simple, past participle	fooled
	BrE /fʊ:ld/
	NAme /fʊ:ld/
-ing form	fooling
	BrE /fʊ:lɪŋ/
	NAme /fʊ:lɪŋ/

Word Origin:

- n. senses 1 to 2 and v. adj. Middle English Old French **fol** 'fool, foolish' Latin **follis** 'bellows, windbag' 'empty-headed person'
- n. sense 3 late 16th cent. ↑fool 'foolish'

Example Bank:

- He fooled them into thinking he was a detective.
- I'm not easily fooled by anyone, least of all you.
- She had me completely fooled for a moment.
- She's not easily fooled.
- You can't fool me with all that nonsense!
- Ha! Fooled you! You really thought I was going to jump, didn't you?
- Just don't be fooled into investing any money with them.
- You're fooling yourself if you think none of this will affect you.

adjective only before noun (informal)

showing a lack of intelligence or good judgement

Syn: ↑silly, Syn: ↑stupid, Syn: ↑foolish

- That was a damn fool thing to do!
- That fool husband of mine locked us out of the house.

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See also: ↑fool about

fool

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **fool**¹ /fʊl/ BrE ¹ AmE ¹ noun

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: fol, from Latin follis 'bag for blowing air']

1. **STUPID PERSON** [countable] a stupid person or someone who has done something stupid **SYN** idiot:

- What a fool she had been to think that he would stay.
- Like a fool, I accepted straight away.
- You silly old fool!

2. **make a fool of yourself** to do something stupid that you feel embarrassed about afterwards and that makes you seem silly:

- Sorry I made such a fool of myself last night. I must have been drunk.

3. **make a fool of somebody** to deliberately do something to make someone else seem stupid:

- I suddenly realised that I was being made a fool of.

4. **any fool can do something** *spoken* used to say that it is very easy to do something or to see that something is true:

- Any fool could have seen what would happen.

5. **be no/nobody's fool** to be difficult to trick or deceive, because you have a lot of experience and knowledge about something:

- Katherine was nobody's fool when it came to money.

6. **gooseberry/strawberry etc fool** *British English* a sweet food made of soft cooked fruit mixed with cream

7. **more fool you/him etc** *British English spoken* used to say that you think someone was stupid to do something, and it is their own fault if this causes trouble:

- 'Jim smashed up my car.' 'More fool you for letting him borrow it!'

8. **not suffer fools gladly** if you say that someone doesn't suffer fools gladly, they do not have any patience with people who they think are stupid

9. **be living in a fool's paradise** to feel happy and satisfied, and believe there are no problems, when in fact this is not true

10. **play/act the fool** to behave in a silly way, especially in order to make people laugh:

- Stop playing the fool! You'll fall.

11. **(send somebody on) a fool's errand** to make someone go somewhere or do something for no good reason

12. **fools rush in (where angels fear to tread)** used to say that people are stupid if they do something immediately without thinking about it first

13. **a fool and his money are soon parted** used to say that stupid people spend money quickly without thinking about it
14. **ENTERTAINER** [countable] a man whose job was to entertain a king or other powerful people in the past, by doing tricks, singing funny songs etc **SYN jester**

⇒ ↑April fool

II. **fool**² *BrE* *AmE* verb

1. [transitive] to trick someone into believing something that is not true:

Even art experts were fooled.

you don't/can't fool me

You can't fool me with that old excuse.

be fooled by something

Don't be fooled by appearances.

fool somebody into doing something

I was fooled into believing their promises.

2. **fool yourself** to try to make yourself believe something that you know is not really true:

It's no good fooling yourself. He's not coming back.

3. **you could have fooled me** *spoken* used to show that you do not believe what someone has told you:

'Look, we're doing our best to fix it.' 'Well, you could have fooled me.'

4. **somebody is just fooling** *spoken* used to say that someone is not serious and is only pretending that something is true **SYN somebody is just kidding**:

Don't pay any attention to Henry. He's just fooling.

fool around (also **fool about** *British English*) *phrasal verb*

1. to waste time behaving in a silly way or doing things that are not important **SYN mess around**:

He always used to fool around in class.

2. to behave in a way which is careless and not responsible **SYN mess around**

fool around with

Some idiot's been fooling around with the electricity supply!

3. *American English* to spend time doing something that you enjoy, but that does not have a particular purpose **SYN mess around**:

The boys were out in the yard, just fooling around.

4. to have a sexual relationship with someone else's wife, boyfriend etc **SYN mess around**:

She found out that he'd been fooling around behind her back.

fool with something *phrasal verb* *American English informal*

1. to touch or play with something, especially when you should not **SYN mess with something**:

Who's been fooling with the radio dial?

2. to become involved in something which could cause damage or be dangerous **SYN mess with something**

• • •

THESAURUS

- **deceive** *especially written* to make someone who trusts you believe something that is not true: This was a deliberate attempt to deceive the public.
- **trick** to make someone believe something that is not true, in order to get something from them or make them do something: A man posing as an insurance agent had tricked her out of thousands of dollars.
- **fool** to make someone believe something that is not true by using a clever but simple trick: His hairpiece doesn't fool anyone.
- **mislead** to make people believe something that is not true, by deliberately not giving them all the facts, or by saying something that is only partly true: The company was accused of misleading customers about the nutritional value of the product.
- **dupe** *informal* to trick or deceive someone, especially so that they become involved in someone else's dishonest activity without realizing it: The spies duped government and military officials alike.
- **con** *informal* to trick someone, especially by telling them something that is not true: I'm pretty good at judging people; I didn't think he was trying to con me.

III. **fool**³ *BrE* *AmE* adjective [only before noun] *American English informal*

silly or stupid **SYN foolish**:

What did you say a fool thing like that for?

fool

Frequency Pack

12500 **3638**^{MCW}

15000 **2011**^{COCA}

RANGE: **2k** **FOOL** 17427

fool 7723

fools 1849

foolishness 672

foolishly 482

foolish 4061

fooling 1032

fooled 1608

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

3456 **6612**⁵⁴²⁹ *nn1*

1346 **16301**¹⁴⁹⁸ *vvi*

656 **25115**⁷⁵¹ *vv0*

38 **121973**⁴⁰ *jj*

4 **399621**⁵ *np1*