

impossible**1. [ɪmˈpɒsəb(ə)] n (the impossible)**

невозможное, неосуществимое, невыполнимое

don't ask me to do the impossible - не проси меня о невозможном

2. [ɪmˈpɒsəb(ə)] a**1. невозможный, невыполнимый, неосуществимый**

impossible ambitions - несбыточные/неосуществимые/ желания

impossible task - невыполнимая/нереальная/ задача, невыполнимое задание

it is impossible for me to do such a thing - я не могу этого сделать

2. невероятный неправдоподобный

impossible circumstance - невероятный случай

impossible rumour [story] - неправдоподобный слух [рассказ]

3. неприемлемый, невыносимый

impossible situation - нетерпимое/невыносимое/ положение

impossible person - несносный человек

utterly impossible costume - совершенно невыносимый костюм

impossible

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

im-pos-sible BrE [ɪmˈpɒsəbəl] ^u NAmE [ɪmˈpɑːsəbəl] ^u adjective**1. that cannot exist or be done; not possible**• **almost/virtually impossible**• **It's impossible for me to be there before eight.**

• It's impossible to prove

• I **find it impossible** to lie to her.• an **impossible dream/goal****Opp:** ↑possible**2. very difficult to deal with**• I've been placed in an **impossible position** .

• Honestly, you're impossible at times!

3. the impossible noun singular a thing that is or seems impossible

• to attempt the impossible

Derived Words ↑impossibility ▪ ↑impossiblyWord Origin:Middle English: from Old French, or from Latin *impossibilis*, from *in-* 'not' + *possibilis*, from *posse* 'be able' .Thesaurus:**impossible** adj.

• It was an impossible dream.

out of the question • |especially written **unthinkable** • • **inconceivable** • • **unattainable** •**Opp:** possiblebe impossible/unthinkable/inconceivable **to sb**be impossible/out of the question/unthinkable/inconceivable **for sb to do sth**be impossible/out of the question/unthinkable/inconceivable **that...**Example Bank:

- Carrying a wardrobe up our narrow staircase would be a physical impossibility .
- For insects to have evolved by chance seems an impossibility .
- In theory, the new laws make institutional racism an impossibility .
- The play tries to demonstrate the impossibility of human communication .
- They argued the impossibility of the capitalist system .
- They recognized the impossibility of continuing the struggle against superior forces.

Example Bank:

- Cooking for forty would be frankly impossible without my new assistant .
- Darkness made it impossible to continue .
- I find her impossible .
- I found his offer impossible to resist .
- I'm really sorry . It's just impossible .
- It was well-nigh impossible for him to convince her that he was right .
- It's impossible for me to say .
- The high cost of childcare made returning to work economically impossible .
- The situation is just impossible for us .
- They are setting a standard that it is humanly impossible to meet .
- With the new equipment we will be able to accomplish hitherto impossible tasks .
- You can be absolutely impossible at times!
- a desirable and far from impossible objective to achieve

- I realized it was an impossible dream.
- It's impossible for me to be there before eight.
- That's impossible!

impossible

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **impossible** ¹ **S2 W2** /ɪmˈpɒsəbəl, ɪmˈpɒsɪbəl \$ ɪmˈpɑː-BrE ^ˈ AmE ^ˈ adjective

[Word Family: noun: ↑possibility ≠ ↑impossibility, the impossible, ↑possible; adverb ↑possibly ≠ ↑impossibly; adjective: ↑possible ≠ ↑impossible]

1. something that is impossible cannot happen or be done **OPP possible**:

- 'I want to speak to Mr Franks.' 'I'm afraid that's impossible.'
- It's impossible to be accurate about these things.
- The noise made sleep impossible.
- Members with young children often found it impossible to attend evening meetings.
- It is difficult to find work these days, but for blind people it is virtually impossible.
- He was faced with a seemingly impossible task.
- It was physically impossible to get the fridge through the door.
- Six months ago, peace seemed an impossible dream.
- Such mental attitudes are difficult, if not impossible, to change.

2. a situation that is impossible is one that you cannot deal with:

- We were in an impossible situation. Whatever we decided to do would upset someone.
- Helen's refusal to cooperate put me in an impossible position.
- His attitude is making life impossible for the rest of the team.
- He was facing impossible odds.

3. behaving in a very unreasonable and annoying way:

- Oh, you're just impossible!

—**impossibly** *adverb*:

- Some sales managers think selling abroad is impossibly difficult.

—**impossibility** /ɪmˌpɒsəˈbɪləti, ɪmˌpɒsɪˈbɪləti \$ -,pɑː- *noun* [uncountable and countable]:

- One hundred percent airline security is a practical impossibility.

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COLLOCATIONS

■ verbs

- **seem impossible** It seemed impossible that he would ever recover from the injury.
- **become impossible** As it became darker, it became impossible for the players to see the ball.
- **prove impossible** (=be impossible because you have tried but not succeeded) It proved impossible for the two sides to reach an agreement.
- **find something impossible** He found it impossible to sleep because of the noise coming from next door.
- **make something impossible** Heavy snow made travelling impossible.
- **render something impossible** *formal* (=make something impossible) The large number of prison guards rendered any escape impossible.

■ adverbs

- **absolutely impossible** (also **utterly impossible** *formal*) It is absolutely impossible to drive in these conditions.
- **almost/nearly impossible** He thought that winning would be almost impossible.
- **virtually/practically impossible** (=almost impossible) Getting tickets for the concert is practically impossible.
- **well-nigh impossible** *formal* (=almost impossible) Policing the entire coastline is well-nigh impossible.
- **seemingly impossible** (=seeming to be impossible) He managed to win the chess game from a seemingly impossible position.
- **physically impossible** It is physically impossible to survive for long in the desert without water.

■ nouns

- **an impossible job/task** He faced the impossible task of paying back huge debts.
- **an impossible feat** (=something that is impossible to do) She achieved the seemingly impossible feat of breaking the world record.
- **an impossible dream** (=something you want, but will never happen) For a small club, winning the cup final will always be the impossible dream.
- **impossible demands** She was growing tired of the company's impossible demands.

■ phrases

- **it is impossible to do something** It is impossible to know if this story is true.
- **difficult, if not impossible** (=difficult, and perhaps impossible) Obtaining funding for the film will be difficult, if not impossible.

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THESAURUS

- **impossible** something that is impossible cannot happen or be done: It's impossible to get a taxi around here. | At times, finding a job felt like an impossible task.
- **impractical** something that is impractical is too expensive, takes too much time, is too difficult etc and therefore it is not sensible to try to do it: It's a nice idea, but it's totally impractical. | We cannot all just stop using our cars - that would be completely impractical. | an impractical suggestion
- **out of the question** used when saying that something is completely impossible, especially because it is not allowed: It's out of the question for you to go alone.
- **there's no way** *informal* used when saying that you think something is completely impossible: There's no way we can get to the airport in less than an hour.

▪ **inconceivable** impossible to imagine or believe: It seemed inconceivable that there could be an end to the fighting in Northern Ireland.

▪ **unthinkable** impossible to imagine or believe - used especially about something that seems very shocking to people: In those days it was unthinkable for a lady to work outside the home.

▪ **unattainable** impossible to achieve: an unattainable goal | Victory seemed unattainable.

▪ **it can't be done** *spoken* used when saying very definitely that something is impossible: I'm afraid it can't be done.

II. **impossible**² *BrE* ¹ *AmE* ¹ *noun*

the impossible something that cannot be done

attempt/do/ask etc the impossible

¹ I just want to be able to buy healthy food at a reasonable price. Is that asking the impossible?

impossible

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1356**^{MCW}

15000 **271**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k** **POSSIBLE** 169977

possible 88846

possibles 54

possibilities 9142

possibility 24584

possibly 21927

impossible 23307

impossibly 1094

impossibility 960

impossibilities 63

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

17450 **1859**²³²⁶⁹ *jj*

34 **132665**³⁴ *nnu*

4 **450413**⁴ *pph1*
