

1. [nɜ:v] *n*1. *анат.* нерв

nerve plexus - нервное сплетение

nerve gas /poison/ - *воен.* отравляющее вещество нервно-паралитического действия; нервный газ

2. *pl*

## 1) нервная система, нервы

nerve specialist - врач по нервным болезням, невропатолог

iron nerves - железные нервы

nerves of steel - стальные нервы

to get on smb.'s. nerves - действовать кому-л. на нервы

## 2) нервность, нервозность

nerve storm - истерика; неудержимые рыдания

a fit /an attack/ of nerves - нервный припадок; рыдания

he does not know what nerves are - он не знает, что такое нервы

she is all nerves - у неё нервы никуда не годятся

to suffer from nerves - страдать расстройством нервной системы

to get on smb.'s nerves - действовать кому-л. на нервы; раздражать

## 3. 1) присутствие духа, мужество, хладнокровие

a man of nerve - стойкий /выдержанный/ человек, человек с большим самообладанием

failure of nerve - недостаток мужества; паническое состояние

war of nerves - война нервов

to lose one's nerve - оробеть, струсить, потерять самообладание

to live on one's nerve -  $\cong$  держаться на нервах

to have the nerve to do smth. - иметь мужество что-л. сделать [*см. тж. 2*]

2) *разг.* наглость, нахальство

you have a nerve! - ну и нахал же вы!, какая наглость!

the nerve! - *амер.* какое нахальство!

to have the nerve to do smth. - иметь наглость /набраться нахальства/ что-л. сделать [*см. тж. 1*]

## 4. 1) сила, энергия

to strain every nerve - напрягать все силы; приложить все усилия

above the nerve of mortal arm - *образн.* со сверхчеловеческой силой

## 2) источник силы

good laws are the nerves of a state - хорошие законы - основа государства

## 3) мускул, сухожилие

## 5. болезненное, чувствительное место; вопрос, вызывающий раздражение

to touch /to hit/ a nerve - задеть за живое

I hit a nerve when I mentioned her dead mother - она расстроилась, когда я упомянул о её покойной матери

6. нервный центр, мозг (*организации*)

to be the nerve and soul of smth. - быть мозгом и душой чего-л.

7. *поэт.* тетива8. *бот., зоол.* жилка (*листа растения или крыла насекомого*)9. *pl архит.* нервюры2. [nɜ:v] *v*

придавать силу, мужество, решимость

to nerve oneself to a task - собираться с силами для выполнения какой-л. задачи

he has nerved himself - он набрался мужества

she cannot nerve herself to accepting his offer - она не может заставить себя принять его предложение

## nerve

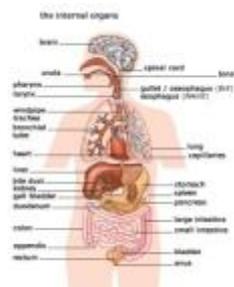
Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**nerve** [nerve nerves nerved nerving] **noun, verb** *BrE* [nɜːv] *NAmE* [nɜːr]

**noun**

**1. countable** any of the long threads that carry messages between the brain and parts of the body, enabling you to move, feel pain, etc

- the optic nerve
- He's off work with a trapped nerve in his neck.
- nerve cells
- nerve endings
- Every nerve in her body was tense.



**2. nerves plural** feelings of worry or anxiety

- Even after years as a singer, he still suffers from nerves before a performance.
- I need something to **calm/steady my nerves**.

- Everyone's **nerves were on edge** (= everyone felt **↑tense**).
- He **lives on his nerves** (= is always worried).
- By the end of the meal her nerves were completely frayed.

3. **uncountable** the courage to do sth difficult or dangerous

**Syn:** **↑guts**

- It took a lot of nerve to take the company to court.
- I was going to have a go at parachuting but **lost my nerve** at the last minute.
- He **kept his nerve** to win the final set 6–4.

4. **singular, uncountable (informal)** a way of behaving that other people think is rude or not appropriate

**Syn:** **↑cheek**

- I don't know how you **have the nerve** to show your face after what you said!
- He's **got a nerve** asking us for money!
- 'Then she demanded to see the manager!' ' **What a nerve!** '

**more at** brass neck/nerve **at** **↑brass**, strain every nerve/sinew **at** **↑strain** <sub>v.</sub>, a war of nerves **at** **↑war** <sub>n.</sub>

Word Origin:

late Middle English (also in the sense 'tendon, sinew'): from Latin **nervus**; related to Greek **neuron** 'nerve' (see **↑neuron**).

Example Bank:

- At the end of a day's teaching, her nerves were absolutely shattered.
- At the last minute she almost lost her nerve.
- By the time of the interview, I was a bundle of nerves.
- Caring for him while he was so ill has been a great strain on her nerves.
- Cutting the nerves to the stomach does not affect hunger.
- He damaged a nerve in his spine.
- He kept his nerve to win a thrilling game.
- He lay awake, his nerves throbbing.
- He uncharacteristically allowed nerves to get the better of him in yesterday's game.
- He's been off work with a trapped nerve in his back.
- Her nerves were shot from all the things happening around her.
- Her nerves were stretched to breaking point.
- His endless whining really gets on my nerves.
- His nerves jangled every time the phone rang.
- I didn't have the nerve to ask.
- I had an attack of nerves just before I went on stage.
- I'm not sure my nerves can stand another night like this.
- I've never suffered from first-night nerves.
- I've trapped a nerve in my spine.
- Intense pain shot through every nerve in his body.
- It gave me time to calm my jittery nerves before meeting her.
- It took a lot of nerve to stand up and speak.
- My remarks about divorce had unwittingly touched a raw nerve.
- She took a few deep breaths to calm her nerves.
- Singing in front of so many people was a real test of nerve.
- Skydiving is all right for people who've got the nerves for it.
- Steeling my nerve, I jumped the first bar.
- The message travels along the nerve to the brain.
- The nerve runs from the eye to the brain.
- The nerves transmit pain.
- The union has been fighting a war of nerves with the management over pay.
- The vagus nerve controls heart rate and breathing.
- You must find the nerve to ask for more money.
- You need nerves of steel to be a good poker player.
- She kept her nerve to win the final set 6–4.

Idioms: **↑a bag of nerves** ▪ **↑get on somebody's nerves** ▪ **↑have nerves of steel** ▪ **↑hit a nerve**

**verb ~ yourself for sth/to do sth**

to give yourself the courage or strength to do sth

- He nerved himself to ask her out.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	nerve
	BrE /nɜːv/
	NAmE /nɜːrv/
he / she / it	nerves
	BrE /nɜːvz/
	NAmE /nɜːrvz/
past simple, past participle	nerved
	BrE /nɜːvd/
	NAmE /nɜːrvd/
-ing form	nerv <sup>ing</sup>
	BrE /nɜːvɪŋ/
	NAmE /nɜːrvɪŋ/

Word Origin:

late Middle English (also in the sense 'tendon, sinew'): from Latin **nervus**; related to Greek **neuron** 'nerve' (see ↑**neuron**).

**nerve**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**I. nerve** <sup>1</sup> **S3 W3** /nɜːv/\$ nɜːrv/BrE <sup>1</sup> AmE <sup>1</sup> **noun**

[Word Family: adjective: ↑nervous, ↑nerveless, ↑nerve-racking ↑nervy, ↑unnerv<sup>ing</sup> noun: ↑nerve, nerves, ↑nervousness; verb: ↑nerve, ↑unnerv<sup>e</sup> adverb: ↑nervously]

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Latin; Origin: nervus]

**1. WORRIED FEELINGS nerves** [plural]

a) used to talk about someone being worried or frightened

sb's nerves are on edge/in tatters/frayed (=someone feels very worried or frightened)

calm/steady your nerves (=stop yourself feeling worried or frightened)

Sean drank a large glass of brandy to calm his nerves.

be a bundle/bag of nerves (=be extremely worried or frightened)

I remember you were a bundle of nerves on your wedding day.

b) the feeling of being worried or a little frightened:

A lot of people suffer from nerves before they go on stage.

'What's wrong with Rachel?' 'It's just nerves. She's got her driving test tomorrow.'

exam/first-night etc nerves

**2. BODY PART** [countable] nerves are parts inside your body which look like threads and carry messages between the brain and other parts of the body:

a condition which affects the nerves in the back

trapped nerve *British English* pinched nerve *American English* (=a nerve that has been crushed between two muscles etc, causing pain)

**3. COURAGE** [uncountable] courage and confidence in a dangerous, difficult, or frightening situation

the nerve to do something

Not many people have the nerve to stand up and speak in front of a large audience.

She finally found the nerve to tell him she wanted a divorce.

It takes a lot of nerve to report a colleague for sexual harassment.

lose your nerve (=suddenly become very nervous so that you cannot do what you intended to do)

Jensen would've won if he hadn't lost his nerve.

hold/keep your nerve (=remain calm in a difficult situation)

It's hard to keep your nerve when people keep interrupting you.

**4. get on sb's nerves** *informal* if someone gets on your nerves, they annoy you, especially by doing something all the time:

She's always moaning. It really gets on my nerves.

**5. LACK OF RESPECT** [singular] *spoken* if you say someone has a nerve, you mean that they have done something unsuitable or impolite, without seeming to be embarrassed about behaving in this way **SYN** cheek:

He's got a nerve asking for more money.

'She didn't say sorry or anything.' 'What a nerve!'

have the nerve to do something

She lets me do all the work, and then she has the nerve to criticize my cooking.

**6. touch/hit a (raw) nerve** to mention something that makes someone upset, angry, or embarrassed, especially accidentally:

Without realizing, he had touched a raw nerve.

**7. nerves of steel** the ability to be brave and calm in a dangerous or difficult situation:

The job requires nerves of steel.

⇒ strain every nerve at ↑strain<sup>2</sup>(6)

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**COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 1)**

■ verbs

- calm/steady somebody's nerves (=make someone feel less worried or nervous) She took a few deep breaths, trying to calm her nerves.
- settle/soothe somebody's nerves (=make someone feel less worried or nervous) She hoped that a cup of tea would soothe her nerves.
- suffer from nerves (=often feel worried or nervous) He suffered from nerves and could no longer perform on stage.

▪ **your nerves jangle** (=you feel extremely nervous or worried) Suddenly she was wide awake, her nerves jangling.

■ **NOUN + nerves**

- **exam nerves** Quite a few of the students suffered from exam nerves.
- **first-night nerves** (=before the first night of a performance) She always suffered from first-night nerves.

■ **phrases**

- **somebody's nerves are on edge** (=they feel nervous or worried about what might happen) His nerves were on edge as he entered the dark room.
- **somebody's nerves are tattered/frayed/shattered** (=they feel very nervous or worried) Everyone's nerves were frayed by the end of the week.
- **somebody's nerves are stretched (to breaking point)** (=they feel very nervous or worried) Her nerves were stretched almost to breaking point as she waited.
- **be a bag/bundle of nerves** (=to feel extremely nervous or worried) I was a bag of nerves during the interview.
- **be shaking with nerves** (=to be extremely nervous) Just before the audition he was shaking with nerves.
- **be in a state of nerves** (=to be in a nervous condition) She was in such a state of nerves that she jumped at every noise.
- **an attack of nerves** (=a time when you feel very nervous) Harrison had an attack of nerves before the match.

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**COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 3)**

■ **verbs**

- **have the nerve to do something** I just didn't have the nerve to tell them the truth.
- **find the nerve to do something** He couldn't find the nerve to ask her out.
- **hold/keep your nerve** (=remain calm and confident in a difficult situation) The team held their nerve and went on to win.
- **lose your nerve** (=suddenly lose the courage or confidence to do something) I wanted to ask him the question, but I lost my nerve.
- **test somebody's nerve** (=test whether someone will have the courage to do something difficult) The next few days would test their nerve to the limit.
- **somebody's nerve fails (him/her)** (=someone suddenly loses the courage or confidence to do something) At the last moment, her nerve failed her.
- **somebody's nerve breaks** (=someone loses the courage to do something or continue something) The police hoped his nerve would break and he'd give himself away.

■ **phrases**

- **it takes nerve to do something** (=something requires a lot of courage or confidence) It takes nerve to stand up for what you believe.
- **a failure/loss of nerve** (=a situation in which someone lacks the courage to do something) They accused the government of a loss of nerve.

II. **nerve**<sup>2</sup> BrE<sup>2</sup> AmE<sup>2</sup> verb

[Word Family: adjective: ↑nervous, ↑nerveless, ↑nerve-racking, ↑nervy, ↑unnerving noun: ↑nerve, nerves, ↑nervousness; verb: ↑nerve, ↑unnerve, adverb: ↑nervously]

**nerve yourself to do something/for something** to force yourself to be brave enough to do something:

\* The parachutist nerved himself for the jump.

**nerve**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3059**<sup>MCW</sup>  
15000 **2681**<sup>COCA</sup>  
RANGE: **2k** NERVE 10475  
nerve 6887  
nerves 3588  
COCA 500k Unlemmatized  
3819 **5602**<sup>6742</sup> *nn1*  
67 **90651**<sup>71</sup> *vvi*  
49 **105539**<sup>53</sup> *vv0*  
17 **172852**<sup>21</sup> *nnu*