

**murmur**

**1. [ˈmɜːmə] n**

- 1) приглушённый шум голосов  
a distant murmur of voices - далёкий /приглушённый расстоянием/ звук /шум/ голосов
- 2) журчание (воды, ручейка); глухой рокот (волн); шорох, шелест (листьев); жужжание (пчёл)
2. бормотание, шёпот  
to converse in murmurs - разговаривать вполголоса /шёпотом/  
she didn't let out a murmur - она не издала ни звука
3. ропот, ворчание  
without a murmur - безропотно
4. *уст.* слух, молва
5. *мед.* шум (в сердце; *тж.* heart murmur)
6. полуголос, приглушённый голос (в паралингвистике)

**2. [ˈmɜːmə] v**

1. говорить тихо; шептать; бормотать  
to murmur smth. in reply - пробормотать что-л. в ответ  
to murmur a prayer - шептать молитву  
a child murmuring in her sleep - ребёнок, разговаривающий во сне  
to murmur (a secret) into smb.'s ear - прошептать кому-л. на ухо (какую-л. тайну)
2. журчать; рокотать; шелестеть; жужжать  
a brook murmured in the garden - в саду журчал ручей  
they murmured like a swarm of bees - они жужжали, как рой пчёл
3. (at, against) роптать, ворчать  
to murmur against new taxes - роптать/выражать недовольство/ по поводу новых налогов

**murmur**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**mur·mur** [murmur murmurs murmured murmuring] **verb, noun** BrE [ˈmɜːmə(r)]

*NAmE* [ˈmɜːmə]

**verb**

1. **transitive, intransitive ~ (sth) | + speech | ~ that...** to say sth in a soft quiet voice that is difficult to hear or understand
  - She murmured her agreement.
  - He murmured something in his sleep.
  - She was murmuring in his ear.
2. **intransitive** to make a quiet continuous sound
  - The wind murmured in the trees.
3. **intransitive ~ (against sb/sth) (literary)** to complain about sb/sth, but not openly
  - The people murmured against the new regime.

**Verb forms:**

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	murmur
	BrE / ˈmɜːmə(r) /
	NAmE / ˈmɜːmə /
he / she / it	murmurs
	BrE / ˈmɜːməz /
	NAmE / ˈmɜːməz /
past simple, past participle	murmured
	BrE / ˈmɜːməd /
	NAmE / ˈmɜːməd /
-ing form	murmuring
	BrE / ˈmɜːmə(r)ɪŋ /
	NAmE / ˈmɜːməɪŋ /

**Word Origin:**

late Middle English: from Old French **murmure**, from **murmurer** 'to murmur', from Latin **murmurare**, from **murmur** 'a murmur'.

**Example Bank:**

- 'Mmm, ' she murmured appreciatively.
- 'Night, night,' she murmured sleepily.
- 'What a fool I've been,' he murmured softly.
- He held her tight and murmured to her.
- She heard him murmur something under his breath.

**noun**

1. **countable** a quietly spoken word or words
  - She answered in a faint murmur.
  - Murmurs of 'Praise God' went around the circle.
2. **countable (also mur·mur·ings plural)** a quiet expression of feeling
  - a **murmur of agreement / approval / complaint**
  - He paid the extra cost **without a murmur** (= without complaining at all) .
  - polite murmurings of gratitude
3. (also **mur·mur·ing**) **singular** a low continuous sound in the background

- the distant murmur of traffic
4. **countable (medical)** a faint sound in the chest, usually a sign of damage or disease in the heart
- a heart murmur

Word Origin:

late Middle English: from Old French **murmure**, from **murmurer** 'to murmur', from Latin **murmurare**, from **murmur** 'a murmur'.

Example Bank:

- A murmur of amusement ran round the room.
- A murmur of excitement rippled through the audience.
- He gave a little murmur of relief.
- He took the mug of coffee with a murmur of thanks.
- She answered in a low murmur.
- They did as they were told, without a murmur.
- a general murmur of assent
- a murmur of agreement/approval/complaint

See also: ↑murmurings

**murmur**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **murmur**<sup>1</sup> /'mɜːmə/ 'mɜːrmər *BrE* *AmE* verb

1. **[intransitive and transitive]** to say something in a soft quiet voice that is difficult to hear clearly:
    - 'Well done,' murmured George.
    - The girl murmured something polite, and smiled.
    - Julie turned over and murmured in her sleep.
  2. **[intransitive]** to make a soft low sound:
    - The wind murmured through the trees.
  3. **[intransitive + against]** *literary especially British English* to complain to friends and people you work with, but not officially
- murmuring** *noun* [uncountable and countable]:
- murmurings of discontent
  - • •

**THESAURUS**

■ **different ways of saying something**

- **whisper** to say something very quietly, using your breath rather than your full voice: 'Don't wake the baby,' Jenny whispered.
- **mumble** to say something quietly without pronouncing the words clearly: He mumbled his thanks.
- **mutter** to say something quietly, especially when you are annoyed but do not want someone to hear you complaining: 'This is ridiculous,' he muttered under his breath. | She muttered something about having to go home early.
- **murmur** to say something in a soft slow gentle voice: She stroked his hair and murmured, 'Don't worry. You'll be all right.'
- **growl** to say something in a low angry voice: 'As I was saying,' Lewis growled, 'it needs to be finished today.'
- **snarl** to say something in a nasty angry way: 'Get out of my way!' he snarled.
- **exclaim** to say something suddenly and loudly: 'How beautiful!' she exclaimed.
- **blurt out** to suddenly say something without thinking, especially something embarrassing or secret: It was partly nervousness that had made him blurt out the question.
- **stammer/stutter** to speak with a lot of pauses and repeated sounds, because you have a speech problem, or because you are nervous or excited: 'I'll, I'll only be a m-moment,' he stammered.

II. **murmur**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* *AmE* *noun* [countable]

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: French; Origin: murmure, from Latin murmur]

1. a soft low sound made by people speaking quietly or a long way away
 

**murmur of**

  - the murmur of voices in the other room
  - She replied in a low murmur.

**murmur of agreement/surprise/regret etc** (=one that expresses a particular feeling)

  - There was a murmur of agreement from the crowd.
2. a complaint, but not a strong or official complaint
 

**murmur of**

  - There have been murmurs of discontent over the new rules.
3. **do something without a murmur** to do something without complaining, especially when this is surprising:
  - They signed the form without a murmur.
4. the soft low sound made by water, the wind etc:
  - the murmur of the little brook
5. **heart murmur** an unusual sound made by the heart, which shows that there may be something wrong with it
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**THESAURUS**

■ **a quiet sound**

- **hum** a quiet low continuous sound, especially from electrical equipment, traffic, an engine, or people's conversation: The only sound was the faint hum of the air-conditioning unit. | He could hear the hum of distant traffic.
- **rustle** a continuous quiet sound from papers, leaves, or clothes when they rub together: She heard the rustle of dried leaves behind her. | the rustle of silk dresses
- **murmur** a quiet low continuous sound, especially from people's voices that are far away: The murmur of voices died away. |

They spoke in a low murmur.

▪ **rumble** a series of long low sounds, especially from big guns, traffic, or **thunder**: I heard a rumble of thunder. | the low rumble of a train approaching

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## murmur

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