

embarrassed**em·bar·rased** *BrE* [ɪm'bærəst] ^ˈ *NAmE* [ɪm'bærəst] ^ˈ **adjective**

- (of a person or their behaviour) shy, awkward or ashamed, especially in a social situation
 - I've never felt so embarrassed in my life!
 - Her remark was followed by an embarrassed silence.
 - ~ **about sth** She's embarrassed about her height.
 - ~ **at sth** He felt embarrassed at being the centre of attention.
 - ~ **to do sth** Some women are too embarrassed to consult their doctor about the problem.
- financially ~ (informal) not having any money; in a difficult financial situation

Thesaurus:**embarrassed** [embarrassed] **adj.**

• I've never felt so embarrassed in my life!

uncomfortable • • **awkward** • • **self-conscious** • • **sheepish** •**Opp:** unembarrassedembarrassed/uncomfortable/awkward/self-conscious/sheepish **about sth**an embarrassed/uncomfortable/awkward **silence****feel/look** embarrassed/uncomfortable/awkward/self-conscious/sheepish**Embarrassed, uncomfortable or awkward?** **Embarrassed** is used especially to describe how sb feels; **uncomfortable** can describe a situation; **awkward** often describes sb's personality or usual behaviourWhich Word?:**ashamed / embarrassed**

You feel ashamed when you feel guilty because of something wrong that you have deliberately done: ▫ You should be ashamed of treating your daughter like that. Do not use ashamed when you are talking about something that is not very serious or important: ▫ I am sorry that I forgot to buy the milk. ◇ I am ashamed that I forgot to buy the milk.

You feel embarrassed when you have made a mistake or done something stupid or feel awkward in front of other people: ▫ I was embarrassed about forgetting his name.

Example Bank:

- He felt acutely embarrassed at being the centre of attention.
- He looked a bit embarrassed.
- His colour had risen and Isobel felt embarrassed for him.
- She seemed almost embarrassed by her own outburst.
- I've never felt so embarrassed in my life!
- Sometimes I get a bit embarrassed when I have to explain to people.

embarrassed

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

em·bar·rased **S3** /ɪm'bærəst/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ **adjective**[**Word Family:** **adjective:** ↑embarrassed, ↑embarrassing; **verb:** ↑embarrass; **noun:** ↑embarrassment; **adverb:** ↑embarrassingly]

- feeling uncomfortable or nervous and worrying about what people think of you, for example because you have made a silly mistake, or because you have to talk or sing in public:

- Lori gets embarrassed if we ask her to sing.

- He looked embarrassed when I asked him where he'd been.

very/deeply/highly/acutely embarrassed

- Michelle was acutely embarrassed (=very embarrassed) at having to ask for money.

embarrassed smile/laugh/grin etc

- Ken gave her an embarrassed grin.

- There was an embarrassed silence.

embarrassed to do something

- He was embarrassed to admit making a mistake.

embarrassed about/at

- I felt embarrassed about how untidy the house was.

- financially embarrassed** having no money or having debts

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COLLOCATIONS■ **adverbs**

- **terribly/deeply embarrassed** (=very embarrassed) I was deeply embarrassed to see my mother arrive in a very short skirt.
- **acutely/highly embarrassed** (=extremely embarrassed) The government must be acutely embarrassed by the minister's behaviour.
- **slightly/a little embarrassed** Tom looked slightly embarrassed when his name was called out.
- **somewhat embarrassed** (=slightly embarrassed) His family seemed somewhat embarrassed to be there.
- **clearly/obviously embarrassed** (=in a way that is obvious to other people) He was clearly embarrassed about what had happened.

■ **verbs**

- **feel embarrassed** I felt embarrassed that he had seen me cry.
- **seem/look/sound embarrassed** The judge seemed embarrassed to be asking her such personal questions.
- **get/become embarrassed** Sometimes I get embarrassed, and I start to stutter.

■ **nouns**

- **an embarrassed silence** There was an embarrassed silence, then Gina laughed loudly.
- **an embarrassed smile/laugh/grin** Lucy gave an embarrassed smile and looked down at her feet.

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THESAURUS

- **embarrassed** feeling uncomfortable or nervous and worrying about what people think of you, for example because you have made a silly mistake, or because you have to talk or sing in public: I was really embarrassed when I arrived at the party an hour early. | There's no need to be embarrassed – you've got a lovely voice.
- **self-conscious** embarrassed about your body or the way you look or talk: Paul had always been self-conscious about his big feet.
- **uncomfortable** unable to relax because you are embarrassed and not sure what to say or do: There was a long silence and everyone at the table looked uncomfortable.
- **awkward** /'ɔːkwəd/\$'ɒkwəd feeling embarrassed because you are in a situation in which it is difficult to behave naturally: Teenagers often feel awkward in formal social situations. | There were some awkward moments when neither of us knew what to say to each other.
- **sheepish** slightly embarrassed because you know that you have done something silly or because you feel a little guilty: Nigel came in late looking sheepish and apologetic.
- **red-faced** embarrassed or ashamed – used mainly in newspaper reports: A judge was left red-faced when his mobile phone rang in court.
- **mortified** [not before noun] extremely embarrassed and ashamed because you realize that you have done something very silly or wrong: He said he was mortified at the way his comments had been reported in the papers.

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