

humble

I

1. ['hʌmb(ə)] *a*
 - 1) скромный, застенчивый, робкий; почтительный
humble follower - скромный последователь
humble smile - робкая /жалкая/ улыбка
 - 2) смиренный, покорный
humble request - покорная /смирренная/ просьба
humble of heart - смиренный
in my humble opinion - по моему скромному мнению
your humble servant - *усл.* ваш покорный слуга (*в обращении в конце письма*)
2. раболепный лишённый чувства собственного достоинства
to speak in the humblest accents - говорить заискивающим /просительным/ тоном
3. простой, бедный, скромный; незаметный
humble income - небольшой доход
humble occupation [station in life] - скромное занятие [место в обществе]
humble dwelling - простое /бедное/ жилище
Lincoln was born in a humble log cabin - Линкольн родился в бедной бревенчатой хижине
of humble birth /origin, stock/ - незнатного рода
in humble circumstances - в стеснённых обстоятельствах
4. *бот.* низкорастущий; низкорослый
◇ to eat humble pie - а) проглотить обиду, покориться, смириться; сносить оскорбления; б) прийти с повинной; унижаться

II

1. ['hʌmb(ə)] = *hummel* / u //
2. ['hʌmb(ə)] = *hummel* / u //

humble

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

hum·ble [**humble** **humbles** **humbled** **humbling** **humbler** **humblest**] *adjective*,*verb* *BrE* ['hʌmbɪ] [ⓘ] *NAmE* ['hʌmbɪ] [ⓘ]*adjective* (**hum·bler** *BrE* ['hʌmblə(r)] [ⓘ] ; *NAmE* ['hʌmbləɹ] [ⓘ] **hum·blest** *BrE* ['hʌmbɪst] [ⓘ] ; *NAmE* ['hʌmbɪst] [ⓘ])

1. showing you do not think that you are as important as other people

Syn: ↑modest

- Be humble enough to learn from your mistakes .
- my humble tribute to this great man

see also ↑humility

2. (*ironic* or *humorous*) used to suggest that you are not as important as other people, but in a way that is not sincere or not very serious

- **In my humble opinion** , you were in the wrong.
- **My humble apologies** . I did not understand.

3. having a low rank or social position

- a man of **humble birth/origins**
- a humble occupation
- the daughter of a humble shopkeeper

4. (*of a thing*) not large or special in any way

Syn: ↑modest

- a humble farmhouse
- The company has worked its way up from humble beginnings to become the market leader.
- Most of us have never considered the humble potato as a precious gift from nature.

see eat humble pie **at** ↑eatWord Origin:Middle English: from Old French, from Latin **humilis** 'low, lowly' , from **humus** 'ground'.Example Bank:

- She was very humble and apologetic.
- a man of fairly humble origins
- an amazing man who makes you feel quite humble
- He had worked his way up from humble beginnings.
- He is intensely proud of his humble background.
- He was a made who had risen from humble origins through hard work and good fortune.
- She felt humble and grateful but couldn't put her feelings into words.
- She was the daughter of a humble carpenter and a washerwoman.
- She's a loving, kind and humble woman.

Derived Word ↑humbly

verb

1. ~ **sb** to make sb feel that they are not as good or important as they thought they were
 - He was humbled by her generosity.
 - a humbling experience
2. **usually passive** ~ **sb** to easily defeat an opponent, especially a strong or powerful one
 - The world champion was humbled last night in three rounds.
3. ~ **yourself** to show that you are not too proud to ask for sth, admit that you have been wrong, etc.

see also ↑ **humility**

Verb forms:

| verb forms | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| present simple | |
| I / you / we / they | humble |
| | BrE / 'hʌmbəl/ |
| | NAme / 'hʌmbəl/ |
| he / she / it | humbles |
| | BrE / 'hʌmbəlz/ |
| | NAme / 'hʌmbəlz/ |
| past simple, past participle | humbled |
| | BrE / 'hʌmbld/ |
| | NAme / 'hʌmbld/ |
| -ing form | humbling |
| | BrE / 'hʌmbliŋ/ |
| | NAme / 'hʌmbliŋ/ |

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French, from Latin **humilis** 'low, lowly', from **humus** 'ground'.

humble

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **hum** **ble** ¹ /'hʌmbəl/ BrE ¹ AmE ¹ **adjective**

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: Latin humilis 'low, humble', from humus 'earth']

1. not considering yourself or your ideas to be as important as other people's **OPP proud** ⇒ **humility**:

▪ a modest and humble man

2. having a low social class or position:

▪ He started his career as a humble peanut farmer.

humble background/origins etc

▪ Iacocca rose from humble beginnings to become boss of Ford.

3. **in my humble opinion** *spoken* used humorously to give your opinion about something

4. **my humble apologies** *British English spoken* used humorously to say you are sorry

5. **[only before noun]** simple and ordinary, but useful or effective:

▪ The **humble** potato may be the key to feeding the world's population.

6. **eat humble pie** to admit that you were wrong about something

7. **your humble servant** *British English old use* a formal way of ending a letter

8. **sb's humble abode** someone's house or apartment – used humorously:

▪ Welcome to our humble abode.

—**humbly** **adverb**

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THESAURUS

▪ **modest** not wanting to talk about your abilities or achievements and to say that you are good at something, even when you are – used to show approval: Miller, a quiet, modest man, gave credit to Asher for the initial discovery. | She was surprisingly modest about her own achievements as a player.

▪ **self-effacing** *written* not wanting to talk about yourself or to attract attention: Her husband was a quiet, self-effacing man who spent much of his time in his study.

▪ **unassuming** not wanting to be noticed and not expecting to be treated in a special way: By now Chapman was famous, but he remained as unassuming as ever. | He then began, in typically unassuming fashion, to establish the first modern dance company.

▪ **humble** believing that you are not more important, better, or cleverer than other people, and therefore not expecting to be treated in a special way: A good leader is humble enough to get advice from experts.

▪ **unpretentious** not trying to seem better than other people, even if you are rich, famous, clever etc: President Eisenhower was a friendly and unpretentious man who seemed to embody American virtues. | It's his unpretentious boyish charm that ensures Jackie Chan's position as one of the giants of international cinema.

▪ **self-deprecating** *written* behaving or talking about your own abilities or achievements in a way that makes them seem unimportant: Despite his intellect, he had an appealing self-deprecating humour. | The nice thing about him is his self-deprecating manner. His intellectual ability was never pushed at you, yet he obviously had great potential. | a self-deprecating smile

II. **humble** ² BrE ² AmE ² **verb**

1. **be humbled** if you are humbled, you realize that you are not as important, good, kind etc as you thought you were:

▪ You can't help but be humbled when you enter this cathedral.

2. **[transitive]** to easily defeat someone who is much stronger than you are:

▪ The mighty U.S. army was humbled by a small Southeast Asian country.

3. **humble yourself** to show that you are not too proud to ask for something, admit you are wrong etc:

▪ I knew he had humbled himself to ask for my help.

—**humbling** **adjective**:

▪ a **humbling** experience

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humble 3875

humbled 591

humbling 517

humbles 48

humbleness 29

humbler 92

humblest 76

humbly 439

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