

**muddle**

1. [ˈmʌdl] *n* *мк.* *sing*

1. неразбериха; беспорядок

to be in a muddle - быть в беспорядке [*см. тж.* 2]

to make a muddle of smth. - спутать /перепутать/ что-л., напутать в чём-л.

to make a muddle of one's life - испортить /загубить/ свою жизнь

2. путаница, «каша в голове»

to be in a muddle - а) перепутаться, смешаться (о *мыслях*); б) быть в растерянности [*см. тж.* 1]

to get into a muddle (about smth.) - запутаться (в чём-л.)

3. смешанное общество, компания

2. [ˈmʌdl] *v*

1. (*часто* muddle up, muddle together) путать; смешивать; вносить беспорядок; нарушать порядок

to muddle smth. together - смешать что-л (в одну кучу)

to muddle one's papers - спутать /смешать/ бумаги

to muddle (up) a drawer - сделать беспорядок в ящике (*стола, комода*)

to muddle (up) things - всё напутать

2. портить; делать кое-как

to muddle a business at the start [completely] - с самого начала [совсем] испортить дело

3. возиться (без толку); копаться

to muddle with smth. - бесцельно заниматься чем-л.

4. 1) смущать, сбивать с толку; путать (*мысли*); помрачить (*сознание*); пьянить; одурманивать

to muddle smb.'s brain /mind/ - сбивать кого-л. с толку

to muddle smb. with drink - подпоить кого-л.

a glass of whiskey muddles him - он пьянеет от рюмки виски, после рюмки виски он перестаёт соображать

2) делать речь нечёткой

5. 1) мутить, загрязнять (*жидкость*)

2) мешать, помешивать (*жидкость, напиток*)

3) мешать краски; нарушать чистоту цвета

6. *редк.* делать грязную работу

7. *уст.* валяться, барахтаться в грязи

**muddle**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**mud-dle** [**muddle muddles muddled muddling**] **verb, noun** *BrE* ['mʌdl] <sup>1</sup>

*NAmE* ['mʌdl] <sup>1</sup>

**verb** (especially *BrE*)

1. to put things in the wrong order or mix them up

• ~ **sth** Don't do that— you're muddling my papers.

• ~ **sth up** Their letters were all muddled up together in a drawer.

2. ~ **sb (up)** to confuse sb

• Slow down a little— you're muddling me.

3. ~ **sb/sth (up)** | ~ **A (up) with B** to confuse one person or thing with another

**Syn:** mix up

• I muddled the dates and arrived a week early.

• He **got all muddled up** about what went where.

• They look so alike, I always **get them muddled up** .

**Verb forms:**

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	muddle
	<i>BrE</i> / ˈmʌdl/
	<i>NAmE</i> / ˈmʌdl/
he / she / it	muddles
	<i>BrE</i> / ˈmʌdlz/
	<i>NAmE</i> / ˈmʌdlz/
past simple, past participle	muddled
	<i>BrE</i> / ˈmʌdlɪd/
	<i>NAmE</i> / ˈmʌdlɪd/
-ing form	muddling
	<i>BrE</i> / ˈmʌdlɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> / ˈmʌdlɪŋ/

Word Origin:

late Middle English (in the sense 'wallow in mud'): perhaps from Middle Dutch *moddelen*, frequentative of *modden* 'dabble in mud'; compare with **↑mud**. The sense 'confuse' was initially associated with alcoholic drink (late 17th cent.), giving rise to 'busy oneself in a confused way' and 'jumble up' (mid 19th cent.).

Example Bank:

- All the cups and saucers have been muddled up.
- Don't do that— you're muddling my papers.
- Their letters were muddled up together in a drawer.

Derived **↑muddle along** ▪ **↑muddle through**

noun (especially BrE)

1. **countable, usually singular** a state of mental confusion

• Can you start from the beginning again— I'm **in a muddle** .

2. **countable, usually singular, uncountable ~ (about/over sth)** a situation in which there is confusion about arrangements, etc. and things are done wrong

• There was a muddle over the theatre tickets .

• There followed a long period of confusion and muddle.

3. **countable, usually singular, uncountable** a state of confusion in which things are untidy

**Syn:** †mess

• My papers are all **in a muddle** .

Word Origin:

late Middle English (in the sense 'wallow in mud'): perhaps from Middle Dutch **moddelen**, frequentative of **modden** 'dabble in mud'; compare with †**mud**. The sense 'confuse' was initially associated with alcoholic drink (late 17th cent.), giving rise to 'busy oneself in a confused way' and 'jumble up' (mid 19th cent.).

Example Bank:

- The house was in a awful muddle by the time the children left.
- The judge made a muddle of the case.
- There was a bureaucratic muddle over his appointment.
- Don't just throw your tools into the shed in a muddle.
- He picked up a dirty glass, part of the muddle on the mantelpiece.
- My desk was the usual muddle of books, files and papers.
- My papers are all in a muddle.

**muddle**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **mud** ɪdl̩ <sup>1</sup> /'mʌdl̩/ *BrE* <sup>2</sup> *AmE* <sup>3</sup> *noun*

1. **be in a muddle/get into a muddle** *British English*

a) to be confused:

• I'm in such a muddle, I'd completely forgotten you were coming today.

**be in a muddle/get into a muddle over/about**

• My grandmother tends to get into a muddle over names.

b) to be untidy or in a disorganized state:

• Sorry about the mess – we're in a bit of a muddle at the moment.

• All my files have got into a muddle somehow.

2. [**countable usually singular, uncountable**] when there is confusion about something, and things are done wrong as a result:

• Our accountant finally managed to sort out the muddle.

**muddle over/about**

• There was a bit of a muddle over our hotel reservations.

II. **muddle** <sup>2</sup> *BrE* <sup>3</sup> *AmE* <sup>4</sup> (also **muddle up**) *verb* [**transitive**] *especially British English*

[Date: 1500-1600; Origin: Probably from early Dutch **moddelen** 'to make muddy', from Middle Dutch **modde** 'mud']

1. to put things in the wrong order:

• Someone's muddled up all the papers on my desk.

• The government seems to have lost its way and muddled its priorities.

2. to confuse one person or thing with another, and make a mistake **SYN mix up**:

• The twins are so alike that it's easy to muddle them up.

• Spanish and Italian are very similar and I sometimes get them muddled up.

**muddle something with something**

• Be careful not to muddle the files you've already worked on with the others.

3. to confuse someone, especially so that they make a mistake:

• Don't muddle her with all the extra details at the moment.

• Could you just repeat those figures – I've got a bit muddled up.

**muddle along/on** *phrasal verb*

to continue doing something without having any clear plan or purpose, or without having enough help or support:

• There's no point in muddling on in the same old job for ever.

• Many of the students complained that they were left to muddle along on their own.

**muddle through (something)** *phrasal verb especially British English*

to succeed in doing something with difficulty, or not in a very satisfactory way:

• There were some difficult questions but I managed to muddle through.

• The team managed to muddle through another season.

**muddle**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **7294** <sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **8433** <sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **4k** MUDDLE <sup>1041</sup>

muddle <sup>384</sup>

muddles <sup>28</sup>

muddled <sup>532</sup>

muddling<sup>97</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

<sup>186</sup>**53382**<sup>197</sup> *nn1*

<sup>113</sup>**68657**<sup>121</sup> *vvi*

<sup>60</sup>**94121**<sup>66</sup> *vv0*

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