

**scruffy**

[ˈskrʌfi] *a*  
 неряшливый; нечёсанный  
 the hotel looked rather scruffy so we decided not to stay there - гостиница была обшарпанная, поэтому мы решили в ней не останавливаться

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**scruffy**

**scruffy** [scruffy scruffier scruffiest] *BrE* [ˈskrʌfi] *AmE* [ˈskrʌfi] *adjective*  
 (scruff-ier, scruffi-est) (informal)

dirty or untidy  
**Syn:** †shabby  
 • He looked a little scruffy.  
 • scruffy pair of jeans  
Derived Words †scruffily ▪ †scruffiness

Thesaurus:

**scruffy** *adj.* (especially *BrE*, disapproving)  
 • He looked scruffy in his old jeans.  
*AmE* **messy** • [formal **unkempt** • [literary, *BrE* **dishevelled** • |*AmE* **disheveled** •  
**Opp:** smart

a/an scruffy/messy/unkempt/dishevelled **appearance**  
 a/an scruffy/unkempt/dishevelled **man/woman /child**

**Scruffy, messy or dishevelled ?** A **messy man/woman /child** is sb who makes a mess, not sb who looks untidy. A **scruffy** person, or sb with a **messy** appearance, is untidy because they have not taken care of their appearance; a **dishevelled** person has become untidy as a result of sth, for example a strong wind. **Scruffy** clothes are old and often dirty or with holes, etc.; **messy** clothes are untidy (in American English) or dirty (in British English).

Example Bank:

- He looked a bit scruffy.
- She was wearing her scruffy old jeans.
- There was a gang of scruffy kids hanging around.

**scruffy**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**scruffy** /ˈskrʌfi/ *BrE* *AmE* *adjective*

[Date: 1800-1900; Origin: scruff 'messy person' (19-21 centuries), from scurf; ⇒ †scurvy]

dirty and untidy:  
 " a scruffy old pair of jeans  
 " scruffy shops

—**scruffily** *adverb*:  
 " a scruffily dressed man

—**scruffiness** *noun* [uncountable]  
 • • •

**THESAURUS**

■ **person**

- **untidy** *British English* an untidy person does not do things in a neat way, for example they leave things lying around instead of putting them back in the correct place. Also used about someone's appearance, when they do not comb their hair, take care of their clothes etc: She was always very untidy – her clothes lay on the floor where she had dropped them. | He had obviously been sleeping; his hair was untidy and his chin unshaven.
- **messy** untidy or dirty. American people use this word instead of **untidy**. British people use this word, but it sounds less formal than **untidy**: You've made my hair all messy. | a messy eater
- **scruffy** *British English* wearing old and untidy clothes: My parents think I look scruffy in these jeans, but I like them. | She's wearing that scruffy old sweater again.
- **slovenly** *especially written* untidy and lazy: The servants were old and slovenly. | his slovenly appearance | The work was done in a slow, slovenly way.
- **bedraggled** used when someone looks untidy because they have got wet or dirty: A rather bedraggled crowd waited outside in the pouring rain. | The children walked along the path, looking miserable and bedraggled.
- **dishevelled** *British English*, **disheveled** *American English* if someone's hair or clothes look dishevelled, they look untidy, for example because they have just been in bed or in a windy place: Her hair was uncombed and her clothes were dishevelled. | a dishevelled old man | The singer was photographed looking ill and dishevelled.
- **unkempt** *especially written* if someone has unkempt hair or an unkempt appearance, they look untidy and have not been taking care of the way they look: a rough-looking youth with long black unkempt hair | The man looked tired and unkempt.
- **slob** *noun* [countable] *informal* someone who is extremely untidy but does not seem to care that they are: Jo's such a slob – how can you live like that? | If you keep dressing like a slob, no one's ever going to ask you for a date.

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scruffs 7  
scruffy 539  
scruffier 10  
scruffiest 5  
scruffiness 10  
scruffily 4

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

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