

**means**

[mi:nz] *n*

- употр. с гл. в ед. и мн. ч.** средство, способ  
 means of communication - средства связи /сообщения/  
 means of identification - средства опознавания; средства установления личности  
 means of production - **ЭК.** средства производства  
 means of protection - средства защиты  
 means of transportation - средства передвижения; транспортные средства  
 the quickest means of travel is by plane - путешествовать быстрее всего самолётом  
 means of war - а) боевые средства; б) средства и способы ведения войны  
 means to an end - средство к достижению цели  
 does the end always justify the means? - всегда ли цель оправдывает средства?  
 ways and means - а) пути и способы; б) **парл.** бюджетные предположения  
 to find (a) means to do smth. - найти способ что-л. сделать  
 we shall find means of persuading him - мы найдём способ убедить его  
 by means of - при помощи, посредством  
 thoughts are expressed by means of words - мысли выражают при помощи слов /словами/  
 by all (manner of) means - а) любыми средствами, любым способом; б) любой ценой, во что бы то ни стало; обязательно; you must do it by all means - ты должен это сделать во что бы то ни стало; в) конечно, пожалуйста  
 may I come in? - By all means! - можно войти? - Конечно!, /Пожалуйста!  
 by no (manner of) means - а) никоим образом; ни в коем случае; he is by no means to see you here - он ни в коем случае не должен вас здесь увидеть; б) совсем не(т), отнюдь не(т); нисколько  
 it is by no means easy - это совсем /отнюдь/ не легко  
 by any means - каким бы то ни было образом  
 he is not by any means a wicked man, he is by no means a wicked man - он совсем не злой человек  
 by some means (or other) - каким-л. способом, тем или иным способом  
 by fair means - честным способом /путём/, честными средствами  
 by fair means or foul - любыми средствами
- употр. с гл. во мн. ч.** средства, состояние  
 private means - личное состояние  
 her means are too small for this - у неё на это не хватит средств  
 he has ample means at his disposal - в его распоряжении большие средства  
 means of living /of subsistence/ - средства к существованию  
 to live within one's means **см.** live 1, 2)  
 to live beyond /above/ one's means **см.** live 1, 2)  
 to be without means - быть без средств

**means**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**means** *BrE* [miːnz] *NAme* [miːnz] **noun** (pl. **means**)

- countable** ~ (of sth/of doing sth) an action, an object or a system by which a result is achieved; a way of achieving or doing sth
  - Television is an effective means of communication.
  - Is there any means of contacting him?
  - Have you any **means of identification** ?
  - We needed to get to London but we had no **means of transport** .
- plural** the money that a person has
  - People should pay **according to their means** .
  - He doesn't have the means to support a wife and child.
  - Private school fees are **beyond the means of most people** (= more than they can afford).
  - Are the monthly repayments **within your means** (= can you afford them) ?
  - Try to **live within your means** (= not spend more money than you have).
  - a **man of means** (= a rich man)

**more at** the end justifies the means **at** ↑*tend* *n.*, by fair means or foul **at** ↑*fair* *adj.*, ways and means **at** ↑*way* *n.*

**Idioms:** ↑*by all means* ▪ ↑*by means of something* ▪ ↑*by no means* ▪ ↑*means to an end* ▪ ↑*not by any means*

Word Origin:

late Middle English: plural of ↑*mean* (noun), the early sense being 'intermediary' .

Thesaurus:

**means** [**means**] **noun** **C**  
 • TV is a highly effective means of communication.  
**method** • • **way** • • **system** • • **mechanism** • • **technique** • • **process** •  
 a means/method/system/mechanism/technique/process **for** (doing) sth  
 a means/way/method/system/technique **of** (doing) sth  
**use** a means/method/system/technique/process  
**devise/develop** a means/method/way/system/technique/process

Example Bank:

- Eligibility for the benefit was determined by a means test.
- Gold has been the preferred means of exchange for centuries.

- He saw his education merely as a means to an end.
- In the case of torture, the end can never justify the means.
- Infringement of copyright includes distribution by electronic means.
- My English teacher provided me with the means to enjoy reading poetry.
- Oil lamps were the sole means of illumination.
- Painting had become his primary means of self-expression.
- Private school fees are beyond the means of most people.
- She finds it difficult to live within her means.
- She must have independent means to live in such style.
- The stone was lifted by means of a rope and pulley.
- There are ways and means of raising money.
- They cannot achieve their goal through legal means.
- War is famously 'the continuation of policy by other means'.
- We have no means of knowing how they will react.
- We will use every possible means to achieve our objective.
- a means of access/communication/transport
- a means of getting what you want
- an effective means of mass communication
- people who lack visible means of support
- the means for achieving happiness
- Do you have any means of identification?
- He did not have the means to support a family.
- I don't believe that in this case the means justified the end.
- People should pay according to their means.
- TV is a highly effective means of communication.
- The study aims to provide a means of testing the theory.
- Try to live within your means.
- We must look for an alternative means of escape.
- We will use whatever means are necessary.
- What means of transport did they use?
- a man/woman of means

## means

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**means** **S2 W2** /miːnz **BrE** " **AmE** " **noun (plural means)**

### 1. METHOD [countable] a way of doing or achieving something

means of

- " For most people, the car is still their main means of transport.
- " The only means of communication was sign language.
- " The window was our only means of escape.
- " Do you have any means of identification?
- " art as a means of expression
- " Homework should not be used as a means of controlling children.
- " I had no means of telling him I would be late.
- " Brian was prepared to use any means to get what he wanted.
- " They had entered the country by unlawful means.
- " the means by which performance is assessed

### 2. MONEY [plural] the money or income that you have

have the means to do something

- " I don't have the means to support a family.
- " Paying for your children to go to a private school is beyond the means of most people (=too expensive for most people).
- " Try to live within your means (=only spending what you can afford).
- " His father was a man of means (=a rich man).

### 3. by all means! spoken used to mean 'of course' when politely allowing someone to do something or agreeing with a suggestion:

- " 'Can I bring Alan?' 'By all means!'

### 4. by no means/not by any means not at all:

- " It is by no means certain that the game will take place.
- " She's not a bad kid, by any means.

### 5. by means of something formal using a particular method or system:

- " The blocks are raised by means of pulleys.

### 6. a means to an end something that you do only to achieve a result, not because you want to do it or because it is important:

- " For Geoff, the job was simply a means to an end.

### 7. the means of production the material, tools, and equipment that are used in the production of goods

⇒ ways and means at ↑way<sup>1</sup>(1)

• • •

## COLLOCATIONS

### ■ adjectives

- **an effective/efficient means** Speed bumps are an effective means of stopping cars from going too fast.
- **a useful means** Local radio is a useful means of advertising.
- **the only means** Then, horses and carts were the only means of transport available.

- **the best means** Is this really the best means of achieving our goal?
- **an important means** Surveys are an important means of gathering information.
- **lawful/legal means** Their protests will continue, but only by legal means.
- **unlawful/illegal means** He was accused of attempting to overthrow the government using unlawful means.
- **unfair means** Anyone trying to use unfair means in an examination will be reported to the University.

### ■ phrases

- **a means of transport** *British English*, **a means of transportation** *American English* (=a way of travelling, for example using a car, bus, bicycle etc) The tram is an efficient means of transport.
- **a means of communication** (=a way of talking to someone, for example by phone, writing etc) Newspapers are still an important means of communication.
- **a means of expression** (=a way of expressing your feelings or opinions) Music and art are important means of expression.
- **a means of identification** (=an official document that shows who you are) Do you have any means of identification?
- **the means of production** (=factories and equipment used for producing goods - used especially in Marxism) the class of people which owns the means of production
- **the end justifies the means** (=the result you achieve is more important than the way you do it) It's too bad if people get hurt - the end justifies the means.
- **a means to an end** (=something you do only to achieve a result, not because you want to do it or because it is important) Many of the students saw the course as a means to an end: a way of getting a good job.
- **(whether) by fair means or foul** (=using unfair methods if necessary) They were determined to achieve victory, by fair means or foul.

### ■ verbs

- **have no/any/some means of doing something** There was no path, and they had no means of knowing where they were.
- **use any/every means to do something** (=use any method or many methods) He will use any means to get what he wants.

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## THESAURUS

- **method** a way of doing something, especially one that is well known and often used: You can choose whichever method of payment you prefer. | an environmentally friendly method for treating household waste
- **way** a set of actions that you use in order to do something. **Way** is more informal than **method** and is used more often in everyday English: What's the best way to remove wine stains? | a new way of treating the disease | There are lots of ways of cooking mushrooms.
- **means** something that you use to do something or achieve something: Their main means of transport is their car. | E-mail is often the most convenient means of communication. | He looked around for a means of escape. | Education and training are the most efficient means of improving the nation's economy.
- **approach** a way of dealing with a particular problem or situation, especially a way that has been carefully thought about or planned: Today's approach to raising children is very different from 40 years ago. | I think we need to try a different approach.
- **technique** a particular way of doing something, for which you need a skill that has to be learned and practised: tips on how to improve your exam technique | More patients are surviving thanks to improved surgical techniques.
- **tactics** methods that you use in order to achieve what you want, especially in a game or competition: There were complaints about police tactics used to clear demonstrators. | The team was discussing tactics for the game.
- **strategy** a set of carefully planned methods for achieving something that is difficult and may take a long time: our sales strategy | a strategy to reduce the level of teenage smoking
- **mode** *formal* a particular way of doing something: For him, painting is just another mode of expression. | You can choose between several different modes of operation. | the most efficient mode of transportation | Withdrawing a child from class is still the preferred mode of providing extra help to that child.

## means

Freakuency Pack

12500 **750**<sup>MCW</sup>  
 15000 **275**<sup>COCA</sup>  
 RANGE: **1k** MEANING 168984  
 meaning 30104  
 meaningful 8161  
 meaningfulness 185  
 meaningfully 488  
 meaningless 2227  
 meanings 4280  
 means 86674  
 meant 36865

### COCA 500k Unlemmatized

35491 **738**<sup>53815</sup> *vvz*  
 17913 **1496**<sup>28142</sup> *nn*  
 2120 **12003**<sup>2379</sup> *rr33*  
 1610 **12731**<sup>2187</sup> *ii32*  
 50 **108579**<sup>50</sup> *nnu*  
 30 **119313**<sup>42</sup> *np1*  
 29 **141995**<sup>30</sup> *nn1*  
 25 **144995**<sup>29</sup> *jj*