

scapegoat

['skeɪpɡəʊt] *n*
 козёл отпущения

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

scapegoat

▪ **I. scapegoat** [scapegoat scapegoats scapegoated scapegoating] *BrE*
 ['skeɪpɡəʊt] ^u *NAmE* ['skeɪpɡəʊt] ^u *noun*

a person who is blamed for sth bad that sb else has done or for some failure

Syn: ↑fall guy

- She felt she had been made a scapegoat for her boss's incompetence.

Word Origin:

mid 16th cent.: from archaic scape 'escape' + ↑goat.

Example Bank:

- They are being made the scapegoats for all the ills of society.
- She felt she had been made a scapegoat for her boss's incompetence.

▪ **II. scapegoat** *f10 verb ~ sb/sth*

Main entry: ↑scapegoat_{derived}

scapegoat

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

scapegoat /'skeɪpɡəʊt \$ -ɡəʊt/ *BrE* ^u *AmE* ^u *noun* [countable]

[**Date:** 1500-1600; **Origin:** scape (from scape 'to get away' (13-20 centuries), from escape) + goat; meant as a translation of Hebrew 'azazel (probably the name of an evil spirit in the Bible), as if it were 'ez 'ozel 'goat that leaves']

someone who is blamed for something bad that happens, even if it is not their fault

scapegoat for

^u She believed she had been made a scapegoat for what happened.

—scapegoat *verb* [transitive]

scapegoat

Freakuency Pack

12500 **9960**^{MCW}

15000 **8822**^{COCA}

RANGE: **8k** SCAPEGOAT ⁹³⁰

scapegoat ⁶⁶³

scapegoats ²⁶⁷

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

⁵⁴⁵ **27370**⁶⁵⁰ *nn1*

⁷ **319915**⁷ *vvi*

⁵ **357525**⁶ *vv0*