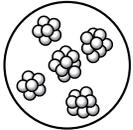


wave formation

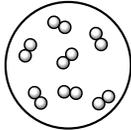
backwater /'bæk,wɔ:tə/ noun [singular] **1** a place, situation, or organization in which nothing exciting or important happens, and in which people still have old-fashioned ideas **2** **GEOGRAPHY** an area of water that is connected to a river but is not affected by its current

bacon /'beɪkən/ noun [U] meat from a pig that is treated with smoke or salt, and is often cooked in **rashers** (=thin pieces)

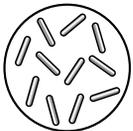
bacteria /'bæktəriə/ (singular **bacterium** /'bæktəriəm/) noun [plural] **BIOLOGY, HEALTH** microorganisms consisting of a single cell, with a chromosome not inside a nucleus. Some types of bacteria cause diseases while others are responsible for decay, **fermentation**, and **nitrogen fixation**. Most reproduce **asexually** by dividing in two.



bunches, e.g. causing food poisoning



paired spherical, e.g. causing pneumonia



rod-shaped, e.g. causing anthrax



spiral, e.g. causing syphilis

bacteria

bacterial /'bæktəriəl/ adj **BIOLOGY** relating to or caused by bacteria: **bacterial infections**

bacteriology /'bæktəri'ɒlədʒi/ noun [U] **BIOLOGY** the scientific study of bacteria — **bacteriological** /'bæktəri'ɒlədʒɪk(ə)l/ adj, **bacteriologist** /'bæktəri'ɒlədʒɪst/ noun [C]

Bactrian camel /'bæktəriən 'kæm(ə)l/ noun [C] a camel from Asia with two humps on its back → DROMEDARY

bad /bæd/ (**worse** /wɜ:s/, **worst** /wɜ:st/) adj

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 not nice | 5 painful |
| 2 causing problems | 6 behaving badly |
| 3 of low quality/skill | 7 no longer fresh |
| 4 not suitable | + PHRASES |

1 not nice or enjoyable: *The weather was really bad.*
♦ *I'm afraid I have some **bad news** for you.*

2 causing major problems, harm, or damage: *a bad accident* ♦ *I tried to help, but I just made things worse.*

3 showing a lack of quality or skill: *one of this year's worst films* ♦ *I'm really **bad at** remembering people's names.*

4 not suitable or convenient: *I can come back later if this is **a bad time** for you.*

5 painful or injured: *a bad back*

6 cruel, evil, or morally wrong: *He's not a bad man, just very weak.*

7 no longer fresh or good to eat or drink: *The fish had **gone bad**.*

PHRASES **feel bad (about sth)** to feel guilty or unhappy about something

not bad *informal* fairly good, or better than you expected: *Those pictures aren't bad for someone who's a complete beginner.*

→ **BADLY**

Build your vocabulary: words you can use instead of **bad**

Bad is a very general word. Here are some words with more specific meanings that sound more natural and appropriate in particular situations.

meal/film/weather/behaviour/book

appalling, atrocious, awful, terrible

person horrible, nasty, unpleasant, wicked

illness/injury/problem major, serious, severe

performance/piece of work/teacher/singer

not much good (*informal*), poor, terrible, useless (*informal*)

something that causes harm or bad effects

damaging, dangerous, harmful, poisonous, toxic, unhealthy

'bad 'break noun [C] **COMPUTING** a hyphen in the wrong place in a word, sometimes caused by software that puts hyphens in words automatically

'bad 'debt noun [C] **BUSINESS** money that a person or country owes but will never pay

'bad 'faith noun [U] the fact of not being sincere or honest about your intentions

badge /'bædʒ/ noun [C] **1** a special piece of metal, cloth, or plastic with words or symbols on it. Someone wears it or carries it to show their official position: *a police badge* **2** a small round object with words or symbols on it. People fasten it onto their clothes with a pin, for example to show that they support an idea or a political party.

badger¹ /'bædʒə/ noun [C] a wild animal with dark fur and a white area on its head, found in Europe, Asia, and North America. Badgers live in a system of holes in the ground called a **sett**. — *picture* → MAMMAL

badger² /'bædʒə/ verb [T] to try to make someone do something by asking them many times

'bad 'language noun [U] rude words

badly /'bædli/ (**worse** /wɜ:s/, **worst** /wɜ:st/) adv **1** in a way that is not skilful, effective, or successful: *She spoke English so badly I couldn't understand her.* ♦ *a badly organized meeting* **2** in a serious or severe way: *He was badly hurt in the accident.* **3** in an unkind, unfair, or unreasonable way: *She feels as though she has been badly treated.* **4** if you need or want something badly, you need or want it very much

'badly 'off (worse off, worst off) adj someone who is badly off does not have much money

badminton /'bædmɪntən/ noun [U] **SPORTS** a game in which two or four players use **rackets** to hit a **shuttlecock** (= a small light object with feathers on it) to each other across a net