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do ¹  (d)

Share:

v. **did** (dĭd), **done** (dŭn), **do-ing**, **does** (dŭz)

v.tr.

1.

a. To perform or execute; carry out: *do one's assigned task; do a series of business deals.*

b. To fulfill the requirements of: *did my duty at all times.*

c. To perform the tasks or behaviors typically associated with (something), especially as part of one's character or normal duties: *That talk show host just doesn't do subtle.*

d. To participate in (a meal or an activity) with another person: *Let's do brunch on Sunday.*

2.

a. To produce, especially by creative effort: *do a play on Broadway.*

b. To play the part or role of in a creative production: *did Elizabeth I in the film.*

c. To mimic: *"doing the Southern voice, improvising it inventively as he goes along" (William H. Pritchard).*

3.

a. To bring about; effect: *Crying won't do any good now.*

b. To render; give: *do equal justice to the opposing sides; do honor to one's family.*

4. To put forth; exert: *Do the best you can.*

5.

a. To attend to in such a way as to take care of or put in order: *did the bedrooms before the guests arrived.*

b. To prepare for further use especially by washing: *did the dishes.*

6.

a. To set or style (the hair).

b. To apply cosmetics to: *did her face.*

7. To have as an occupation or profession: *Have you decided what you will do after college?*

8. To work out by studying: *do a homework assignment.*

9. Used as a substitute for an antecedent verb or verb phrase: *He can play the piano, and I can do that, too.*

10. *Informal*

a. To travel (a specified distance): *did a mile in four minutes.*

b. To go (a specified rate): *did 80 mph on the highway.*

c. To make a tour of; visit: *"[He] did 15 countries of Western Europe in only a few days" (R.W. Apple, Jr.)*

11.

a. To be sufficient in meeting the needs of; serve: *This room will do us very nicely.*

b. *Informal* To serve (a prison term): *did time in jail; did five years for tax fraud.*

12. *Slang* To cheat; swindle: *do a relative out of an inheritance.*

13. *Slang* To take (drugs) illegally: *"If you do drugs you are going to be in continual trouble" (Jimmy Breslin).*

14. *Slang* To kill; murder.

15. *Vulgar Slang* To have sex with or bring to orgasm.

v.intr.

1. To behave or conduct oneself; act: *Do as I say and you won't get into trouble.*

2.

a. To get along; fare: *students who do well at school.*

b. To carry on; manage: *I could do without your interference.*

c. To make good use of something because of need: *I could do with a hot bath.*

3.

a. To serve a specified purpose: *This coat will do for another season.*

b. To be proper or fitting: *Such behavior just won't do.*

4. To take place; happen: *What's doing in London this time of year?*

5. Used as a substitute for an antecedent verb: *worked as hard as everyone else did.*

6. Used after another verb for emphasis: *Run quickly, do!*

v.aux.

1. Used with the infinitive without *to* in questions, negative statements, and inverted phrases: *Do you understand? I did not sleep well. Little did we know what was in store for us.*

2. Used as a means of emphasis: *I do want to be sure.*

n. pl. dos or do's

1. A statement of what should be done: *a list of the dos and don'ts of management.*

2. Informal An entertainment; a party: *attended a big do at the embassy.*

3. A commotion.

4. A hairdo.

5. Chiefly British Slang A swindle; a cheat.

6. Slang Fecal matter; excrement.

Phrasal Verbs:

do by

To behave with respect to; deal with: *The children have done well by their aged parents.*

do for

To care or provide for; take care of.

do in Slang

1. To tire completely; exhaust: *The marathon did me in.*

2. To kill.

3. To ruin utterly: *Huge losses on the stock market did many investors in.*

do up

1. To adorn or dress lavishly: *The children were all done up in matching outfits.*

2. To wrap and tie (a package).

3. To fasten: *do up the buttons on a dress.*

do without

To manage despite the absence of: *We had to do without a telephone on the island.*

Idioms:

can/could do without

To prefer not to experience or deal with: *I could do without their complaints.*

do a disappearing act Informal

To vanish.

do away with

1. To make an end of; eliminate.

2. To destroy; kill.

do it Vulgar Slang

To engage in sexual intercourse.

do (one) proud

To act or perform in a way that gives cause for pride.

do (one's) bit

To make an individual contribution toward an overall effort.

do (one's) business

Slang To defecate. Used especially of a pet.

do (one's) own thing Slang

To do what one does best or finds most enjoyable: *"I get paid to try cases and to do my thing on trial" (Bruce Cutler).*

[Middle English *don*, from Old English *dōn*; see **dhē-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.](#)]

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do²  (dō)

n.

Music

Share:

The first tone of the diatonic scale in solfeggio.

[Italian, more singable replacement of *ut*; see [GAMUT](#).]

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do³  (d)

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n. pl. **dos**

Slang

A hairdo.

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do.

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abbr.

ditto

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DO

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abbr.

1. Doctor of Optometry

2. Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

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