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hum·ble  (hŭm bəl)

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adj. hum·bler, hum·blest

1. Marked by meekness or modesty in behavior, attitude, or spirit; not arrogant or prideful.
2. Showing deferential or submissive respect: *a humble apology*.
3. Low in rank, quality, or station; unpretentious or lowly: *a humble cottage*.

tr.v. hum·bled, hum·bling, hum·bles

1. To cause to feel humble: "*He was humbled by the lack of consolation in Kornblum's expression*" ([Michael Chabon](#)).
2. To cause to have a lower condition or status; abase.

[Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *humilis*, low, lowly, from *humus*, ground; see **dhghem-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

hum ble·ness *n.*

hum bler *n.*

hum bly *adv.*

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