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brute  (br t)

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n.

1. An animal other than a human; a beast.
2. A brutal, crude, or insensitive person.

adj.

1. Of or relating to animals other than humans: "*None of the brute creation requires more than food and shelter*" ([Henry David Thoreau](#)).
2. Characteristic of a brute, especially:
 - a. Entirely physical: *brute force*.
 - b. Lacking or showing a lack of reason or intelligence: *a brute impulse*.
 - c. Savage; cruel: *brute coercion*.
 - d. Unremittingly severe: *was driven to steal food through brute necessity*.
3. Coarse; brutish.

[From Middle English, nonhuman, from Old French *brut*, from Latin *brūtus*, stupid; see [g^werǝ-¹](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

brut **ism** *n.*

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