

idle**1. [aɪdl] а**

1) **незанятый, неработающий, свободный**
our team will be idle tomorrow - завтра наша команда не играет /не участвует в соревнованиях/

2) безработный

the depression rendered thousands idle - из-за кризиса тысячи людей остались без работы

3) неиспользуемый, бездействующий, простаивающий

idle plant - простаивающее /бездействующее/ предприятие

idle machines - бездействующие машины /-ее оборудование/

idle capacity - резервная /неиспользуемая/ мощность

idle premises - пустующее /неиспользуемое/ помещение

idle capital /money/ - мёртвый капитал

idle field - незасеянное поле

to lie idle - не использоваться

to stand idle - не работать, простаивать

the market is idle - **эк.** на рынке царит застой

4) незаполненный, незанятый, свободный (о времени)

idle day - день, свободный от работы

idle hours - свободные часы

idle time - а) простой, перерыв в работе; б) свободное время

I have not an idle moment - у меня нет (ни одной) свободной минуты

2. ленивый, праздный

thoroughly idle and useless fellow - очень ленивый и пустой парень

the idle rich - бездельники-богачи, живущие в праздности богачи

3. бесполезный, тщетный

idle attempt - тщетная попытка

idle wish - неосуществимое желание

idle threats - пустые угрозы

it is idle to expect him to help us - нельзя рассчитывать на его помощь

4. праздный, пустой; необоснованный

idle chatter - пустая болтовня

idle gossip - вздорные сплетни

idle conceit - пустое самодовольство /-ая самонадеянность/

idle dreams [words] - пустые мечты [слова]

idle excuse - пустая отговорка

idle fears - напрасные страхи /опасения/

idle rumours - пустые /необоснованные/ слухи

idle pleasures - пустые /праздные/ развлечения

out of /through/ idle curiosity - из праздного любопытства

5. *тех.* холостой; работающий на малых оборотах

idle running - холостой ход

idle jet - **авт.** жиклёр холостого хода *или* малых оборотов

6. *тех.* промежуточный, нейтральный, паразитный

idle position - нейтральное положение

idle space - вредное пространство

7. *эл.* безваттный реактивный (о токе)

◇ idle Monday - прогул

idle folk lack no excuses - **посл.** у лодырей оправдание всегда найдётся

an idle brain is the devil's workshop - **посл.** ≅ лень - мать всех пороков

idle folks have the least leisure - **посл.** меньше всего свободного времени у бездельников, бездельникам всегда некогда

2. [aɪdl] в**1. бездельничать, лодырничать**

don't idle about! - перестань слоняться без дела!

2. тратить время попусту (*преим.* idle away)

to idle away one's time [one's life] - растрчивать своё время [свою жизнь]

3. лишать работы

to idle 200 persons - уволить 200 человек

4. оставлять без дела *или* занятия**5. *тех.* работать на холостом ходу****idle**

idle [idle idles idled idling] **adjective, verb** BrE ['aɪdl] ^m NAmE ['aɪdl] ^m

adjective**1. (of people) not working hard**

Syn: ↑lazy

• an idle student

2. (of machines, factories, etc.) not in use

• to lie/stand/remain idle

3. (of people) without work

Syn: †unemployed

• Overten per cent of the workforce is now idle.

4. **usually before noun** with no particular purpose or effect; useless

• **idle chatter/curiosity**

• It was just an **idle threat** (= not serious) .

• **It is idle to** pretend that their marriage is a success .

5. **usually before noun (of time)** not spent doing work or sth particular

• In idle moments, he carved wooden figures.

see the devil makes work for idle hands **at** †devil

Word Origin:

Old English *idel* 'empty, useless', of West Germanic origin; related to Dutch *ijdel* 'vain, frivolous, useless' and German *eitel* 'bare, worthless'.

Example Bank:

- Half their machines are lying idle.
- He did not let the factory become idle.
- He never stayed idle for long.
- She never lifts a finger to help. She's bone idle.
- The land was left idle for years.
- The pumps are standing idle.

Derived Word †idleness

verb

1. **transitive, intransitive** to spend time doing nothing important

• ~ **sth (+ adv./prep.)** They idled the days away, talking and watching television.

• **(+ adv./prep.)** They idled along by the river (= walked slowly and with no particular purpose) .

2. **intransitive (of an engine)** to run slowly while the vehicle is not moving

Syn: †tick over

• She left the car idling at the roadside.

3. **transitive ~ sb/sth (NAme)** to close a factory, etc. or stop providing work for the workers, especially temporarily

• The strikes have idled nearly 4 000 workers.

Verb forms: verb forms

present simple	
I / you / we /they	idle
	BrE / 'æɪdl/
	NAme / 'æɪdl/
he / she /it	idles
	BrE / 'æɪdlz/
	NAme / 'æɪdlz/
past simple, past participle	idled
	BrE / 'æɪdlɪd/
	NAme / 'æɪdlɪd/
-ing form	idling
	BrE / 'æɪdlɪŋ/
	NAme / 'æɪdlɪŋ/

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idle

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

1. **idle** ¹ /'æɪdl/ **BrE** ¹ **AmE** ¹ **adjective**

[**Language:** Old English; **Origin:** *idel*]

1. not working or producing anything **OPP busy**:

• I cannot afford to leave the land lying idle.

• The whole team stood idle, waiting for the mechanic.

• The workers have been idle for the last six months.

2. not serious, or not done with any definite intention:

• She was not a woman to make idle threats.

idle chatter/talk/gossip etc

• It was only from idle curiosity that she went into the barn.

3. lazy:

• Go and wake up that idle brother of yours.

REGISTER

Idle sounds rather old-fashioned and literary. In everyday English, people usually say **lazy**:

• She's not stupid, just lazy.

4. **it is idle to do something** it is not worth doing something, because nothing will be achieved:

• It would be idle to deny that progress was made.

5. **the idle rich** rich people who do not have to work

—**idleness** *noun* [uncountable]

—**idly** *adverb*:

- They sat chatting idly.
- I cannot stand idly by and let him take the blame.

• • •

THESAURUS

- **lazy** not liking work or physical activity, or not making any effort to do anything: a lazy student | You make your own breakfast! Don't be so lazy!
- **idle** lazy and not doing enough work. **Idle** sounds rather formal and is becoming old-fashioned. In everyday English, people usually use **lazy**: The beggars were too idle to look for work. | Her son was bone idle (=extremely lazy).
- **indolent** *formal* lazy and living a comfortable life: He spent an indolent first year at Oxford. | the indolent son of a wealthy landowner
- **shiftless** lazy and having no ambition to succeed or do anything useful with your life: her shiftless husband
- **work-shy** *British English* lazy and trying to avoid any work: He was work-shy, and no one could remember when he'd last held a job.
- **slothful** *formal* lazy and not liking physical activity: Her advice to slothful Americans is: 'Get out there and walk!'

II. **idle** ² *BrE* ² *AmE* ² *verb*

1. **[intransitive]** if an engine idles, it runs slowly while the vehicle, machine etc is not moving:
He flicked a switch and let the boat idle.
2. **[intransitive]** to spend time doing nothing:
Sometimes he went for a walk; sometimes he just idled.
3. **[transitive]** *American English* to stop using a factory or stop providing work for your workers, especially temporarily **SYN shut down**:
The company has idled a number of its US plants indefinitely.

idle something ↔ away *phrasal verb*

to spend time in a relaxed way, doing nothing:

- They idled their time away in the pub.

idle

Freakuency Pack

12500 **2549**^{MCW}

15000 **4069**^{COCA}

RANGE: **3k IDLE** ⁴⁷⁷⁷

idle ²⁴⁷⁴

idleness ²³⁵

idly ⁹³¹

idling ⁷²⁰

idled ²⁵⁹

idles ⁸¹

idlest ⁰

idler ⁷⁷

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

1854 **12615**²²¹⁷ *jj*

73 **64372**¹³⁸ *vv0*

112 **69247**¹¹⁹ *vvi*