

motive**1. ['mɒtɪv] n**

1. повод, мотив; побуждение

to act from some motive(s) - действовать из каких-л. побуждений

to have a motive in doing smth. - иметь повод /основание/ делать что-л

I did it from the best motives - я сделал это из лучших побуждений

2. = motif 1

2. ['mɒtɪv] a1. *слец.* движущийmotive power /force/ - движущая сила *или* энергия

2. двигательный

3. *редк.* побудительный**3. ['mɒtɪv] v**

1. побуждать

2. 1) служить мотивом *или* причиной2) *преим. pass* мотивировать, правдоподобно объяснять **motive**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

mo-tive **AW** [motive motives motivated motiving] **noun, adjective** **BrE** ['mɒtɪv] ¹**NAmE** ['mɒtɪv] ²**noun** ~ (for sth)

a reason for doing sth

- There seemed to be no motive for the murder.
- I'm suspicious of his motives.
- the profit motive (= the desire to make a profit)
- I have an **ulterior motive** in offering to help you.

Word Origin:late Middle English: from Old French **motif** (adjective used as a noun), from late Latin **motivus**, from **movere** 'to move'.Synonyms:**reason****explanation** • **grounds** • **basis** • **excuse** • **motive** • **justification** • **pretext**

These are all words for a cause or an explanation for sth that has happened or that sb has done.

reason • a cause or an explanation for sth that has happened or that sb has done; a fact that makes it right or fair to do sth: ▫ He said no but he didn't give a reason.**explanation** • a statement, fact or situation that tells you why sth has happened; a reason given for sth: ▫ The most likely explanation is that his plane was delayed. ◇ ▫ She left the room abruptly without explanation.**grounds** • (rather formal) a good or true reason for saying, doing or believing sth: ▫ You have no grounds for complaint.**basis** • (rather formal) the reason why people take a particular action: ▫ On what basis will this decision be made?**excuse** • a reason, either true or invented, that you give to explain or defend your behaviour; a good reason that you give for doing sth that you want to do for other reasons: ▫ Late again! What's your excuse this time? ◇ ▫ It gave me an excuse to take the car.**motive** • a reason that explains sb's behaviour ▫ There seemed to be no motive for the murder.**justification** • (rather formal) a good reason why sth exists or is done: ▫ I can see no possible justification for any further tax increases.**grounds or justification?****Justification** is used to talk about finding or understanding reasons for actions, or trying to explain why it is a good idea to do sth.It is often used with words like **little**, **no**, **some**, **every**, **without**, and **not any**. **Grounds** is used more for talking about reasons that already exist, or that have already been decided, for example by law: **moral/economic grounds**.**pretext** • (rather formal) a false reason that you give for doing sth, usually sth bad, in order to hide the real reason: ▫ He left the party early on the pretext of having to work.(a/an) reason/explanation/grounds/basis/excuse/motive/justification/pretext **for** sththe reason/motive **behind** sth**on the** grounds/basis/pretext **of/that...**(a) **good/valid** reason/explanation/grounds/excuse/motive/justificationExample Bank:

- He was acting from the highest motives when he offered her money.
- He was suspicious of her motives in inviting him into the house.
- However you explain the motives behind his actions, he was still wrong.
- I did it for a variety of motives.
- I'd say he had a very strong motive for wanting her dead.
- It is clear that they were acting from motives of revenge.
- She knew that he was inspired by base motives.
- She should examine her motives for marrying him.
- She was not sure what his underlying motives were.
- The police are still trying to establish a motive for the attack.
- There is no doubt about the motive behind it all.
- There may be a hidden motive for his departure.

- There must be something which provided a motive for these killings.
- There seemed to be no clear motive for the attack.
- We give aid to other countries with mixed motives.
- We've become adept at hiding our true motives.
- What was their motive in setting fire to the building?
- speculation that less noble motives were driving the country's foreign policy
- I'm suspicious of his motives.

Derived Word ↑motiveless

adjective only before noun (technical)

causing movement or action

- **motive power/force** (= for example, electricity, to operate machinery)

Word Origin:

late Middle English: from Old French **motif** (adjective used as a noun), from late Latin **motivus**, from **movere** 'to move'.

motive

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **mo** [tɪv] ¹ **AC** /'məʊtɪv \$ 'mou-/ *BrE* ² *AmE* ² **noun** [countable]

[Word Family: adjective: ↑motivated, ↑motivational, ↑motiveless; noun: ↑motive, ↑motivation; verb: ↑motivate]

[Date: 1500-1600; Language: Old French; Origin: motif, from motif 'moving', ⇔ ↑motive²]

1. the reason that makes someone do something, especially when this reason is kept hidden:

"What do you suppose the killer's motive was?"

motive for (doing) something

"The police believe the motive for this murder was jealousy."

motive behind

"The motives behind the decision remain obscure."

"The violence was clearly prompted by political motives."

"It's not the kind of thing he'd do unless he had an ulterior motive (=a reason he kept hidden)."

2. a ↑motif

—**motiveless** adjective:

"an apparently motiveless killing"

...

COLLOCATIONS

■ adjectives

- **a strong motive** Barbara had a strong motive for disliking Ben.
- **the main motive** The main motive for the killings seemed to be revenge.
- **the prime/primary motive** (=the main motive) Concern was her prime motive in visiting Mrs Green.
- **a possible motive** The police are still thinking about possible motives for the murders.
- **a clear motive** She had no clear motive to lie.
- **a hidden motive** She wondered if there was a hidden motive for his departure.
- **an ulterior motive** (=a hidden motive) Did you think I had an ulterior motive for coming here?
- **sb's real/true motive** What were his true motives for offering her the job?
- **an underlying motive** (=a motive that is not directly stated) The treaty's underlying motive was to make Japan a strong ally of the US.
- **a political motive** The murders might have a political motive.
- **an economic motive** Many people believed that there were economic motives to the decision to go to war.
- **mixed motives** He had mixed motives for joining the army: a desire to prove himself, but also the desire to get away from his family.

■ verbs

- **have a motive** Who might have had a motive for killing him?
- **question/suspect sb's motive** (=think that someone might have selfish or dishonest reasons for doing something) They began to question the motives of the people who held positions of power.
- **find/establish a motive** So far the police have been unable to establish a motive for the murder.

...

THESAURUS

- **reason** why something happens, or why someone does something: What was the reason for the delay? | I don't know the reason why he left his last job.
- **explanation** a set of reasons that helps you to understand why something happens, especially when it seems difficult to understand: There are various possible explanations for climate change. | Is there any explanation for his behavior?
- **motive** a reason that makes someone decide to do something – often used about crimes: Police say that there is no obvious motive for the attack.
- **justification** a good reason for doing something that seems wrong: There is never any justification for torture or abuse. | They try to use the situation in the Middle East as a justification for killing innocent civilians. | There's no justification for this type of behaviour.
- **grounds** a reason that makes it right or fair to do something, especially according to legal, official, or moral rules: The court will decide if she has grounds for divorce. | They claim the war is justified on moral grounds (=because of moral reasons).
- **basis** the main ideas or reasons on which something is based: The doctor makes his decisions purely on the basis of clinical observation. | What do you think is the basis for this advice?

▪ **rational** /,ræʃə'nəʃəl/ *formal* a set of reasons that are used to explain why someone does something in a particular way: the rationale behind the government's economic reforms | This chapter explains the nature of yearly plans, and provides a rationale for their use.

II. **motive**² **AC** *BrE* ⁴ *AmE* ⁴ *adjective* [only before noun]

[**Date:** 1400-1500; **Language:** Old French; **Origin:** motif, from Medieval Latin *motivus*, from Latin *motus*; ⇨ ↑**motor**¹]

technical the motive power or force for a machine, vehicle etc makes it move:

⁴ Water provided the motive power for the mill.

motive

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3459**^{MCW}

15000 **1306**^{COCA}

RANGE: **3k** **MOTIVE** 33426

motive 4031

motivate 1980

motivated 6747

motivates 802

motivating 1295

motivation 9515

motivational 2110

motivations 1789

motives 4331

unmotivated 130

motivator 522

motivators 174

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

2630 **8266**⁴⁰²⁵ *nn1*

5 **354993**⁶ *nnu*