

**diminish**

- [di'mɪnɪʃ] *v*
- 1) уменьшать, убавлять, сокращать; ослаблять  
to diminish pressure - уменьшать давление  
to diminish suspicions - рассеивать подозрения
  - 2) уменьшаться, убавляться, сокращаться; слабеть  
to diminish in bulk - сокращаться в объёме
2. *амер.*
- 1) умалывать, преуменьшать (*значение чего-л.*)  
to diminish the importance of smth. - а) преуменьшать важность чего-л.; б) приводить к переоценке важности чего-л.
  - 2) унижать (*достоинство*)
  3. *муз.* уменьшать (*интервал*) на полтона

**diminish** Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**di-min-ish** **AW** [diminish diminishes diminished diminishing] **BrE** [dɪ'mɪnɪʃ] **NAmE** [dɪ'mɪnɪʃ] *verb*

1. **intransitive, transitive ~ (sth)** to become or to make sth become smaller, weaker, etc.  
**Syn:** ↑decrease  
  - The world's resources are rapidly diminishing.
  - His influence has diminished with time.
  - Our efforts were producing **diminishing returns** (= we achieved less although we spent more time or money) .
2. **transitive ~ sb/sth** to make sb/sth seem less important than they really are  
**Syn:** ↑belittle  
  - I don't wish to diminish the importance of their contribution.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we /they	diminish
	BrE /dɪ'mɪnɪʃ/
	NAmE /dɪ'mɪnɪʃ/
he / she /it	diminishes
	BrE /dɪ'mɪnɪʃɪz/
	NAmE /dɪ'mɪnɪʃɪz/
past simple, past participle	diminished
	BrE /dɪ'mɪnɪʃt/
	NAmE /dɪ'mɪnɪʃt/
-ing form	diminishing
	BrE /dɪ'mɪnɪʃɪŋ/
	NAmE /dɪ'mɪnɪʃɪŋ/

Word Origin:  
late Middle English: blend of archaic minish 'diminish' (based on Latin **minutia** 'smallness') and obsolete diminue 'speak disparagingly' (based on Latin **deminuere** 'lessen' (in late Latin **diminuere**), from **minuere** 'make small').

- Example Bank:
- Our efforts were producing diminishing returns.
  - The world's resources are rapidly diminishing.

**diminish** Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**di min ish** **AC** /də'mɪnɪʃ, dɪ'mɪnɪʃ/ **BrE** *AmE* *verb*

[Date: 1400-1500; Origin: diminue (14-16 centuries), from Old French diminuer, from Latin minuere 'to make less']

1. **[intransitive and transitive]** to become or make something become smaller or less **SYN reduce**:
  - The party's share of the electorate has diminished steadily.
  - These drugs diminish blood flow to the brain.
2. **[transitive]** to deliberately make someone or something appear less important or valuable than they really are:
  - Don't let him diminish your achievements.
  - But that's not to diminish the importance of his discoveries.
3. **diminishing returns** when the profits or advantages you are getting from something stop increasing in relation to the effort you are making  
•••

**THESAURUS**

- **decrease** to become less in number or amount: The average rainfall has decreased by around 30 percent.
- **go down** to decrease. **Go down** is less formal than **decrease** and is the usual word to use in conversation: Unemployment has gone down in the past few months.
- **decline** *formal* to decrease – used with numbers or amounts, or about the level or standard of something: The standard of living has declined. | Support for the government is steadily declining. | Salaries have declined by around 4.5%.
- **diminish** to become smaller or less important: Union membership diminished from 30,000 at its height to just 2,000 today.
- **fall/drop** to decrease, especially by a large amount. **Fall** and **drop** are less formal than **decrease**: The number of tigers in the wild has fallen to just over 10,000. | At night, the temperature drops to minus 20 degrees.
- **plunge** /plʌndʒ/ **plummet** /'plʌmɪt/, 'plʌmɪt/ to suddenly decrease very quickly and by a very large amount: Share prices have plummeted 29% in the last four months. | Climate change could cause global temperatures to plummet.
- **slide** if a price or value slides, it gradually decreases in a way that causes problems – used especially in news reports: The

dollar fell in late trading in New York yesterday and slid further this morning.

▪ **dwindle** /'dwɪndl/ to gradually decrease until there is very little left of something, especially numbers or amounts, popularity, or importance: Support for the theory is dwindling.

▪ **taper off** /'teɪpə \$ -ə/ if a number or the amount of an activity that is happening tapers off, it gradually decreases, especially so that it stops completely: Political violence tapered off after the elections.

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## diminish

Freakuency Pack

12500 **4548**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **2812**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **5k** DIMINISH<sup>9488</sup>

diminish<sup>2518</sup>

diminished<sup>3941</sup>

diminishes<sup>819</sup>

diminishing<sup>1716</sup>

diminution<sup>306</sup>

undiminished<sup>188</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

1806 **13642**<sup>1965</sup> *vvi*

518 **30074**<sup>553</sup> *vv0*

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