

**puzzle**

1. ['pʌz(ə)] *n*

- 1) трудный вопрос, проблема; задача
- 2) загадка; головоломка  
 cross-word puzzle - кроссворд  
 pictorial puzzle - ребус; загадочная картинка  
 it is a puzzle to me how he managed to do it - для меня загадка, как он ухитрился сделать это

2. головоломка (*игрушка*)

Chinese puzzle - китайская головоломка  
 jigsaw puzzle - картинка-загадка (*собирается из отдельных кусочков*)

3. замешательство, смущение, недоумение; затруднение

to be in a puzzle - быть в смущении /в недоумении, в замешательстве/

2. ['pʌz(ə)] *v*

1. озадачивать, приводить в замешательство, в смущение; ставить в тупик

to puzzle smb. with a question - смутить /озадачить/ кого-л. вопросом  
 puzzled look - озадаченный взгляд  
 this question puzzles me - этот вопрос приводит меня в смущение  
 he was puzzled how to act - он был поставлен в тупик и не знал, как поступить

2. ломать голову (*над чем-л.*)

he puzzled his brains to find the answer - он ломал голову над ответом  
 we tried to puzzle through something we didn't understand at all - мы бились над тем, чего совершенно не понимали

3. редк. усложнять, запутывать

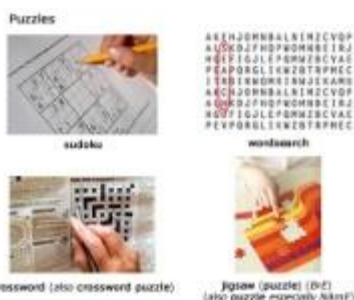
**puzzle**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**puz-zle** [pʌzəl] noun, verb BrE ['pʌzəl] <sup>m</sup> NAmE

['pʌzəl]

noun



1. a game, etc. that you have to think about carefully in order to answer it or do it

- a crossword puzzle
- a book of puzzles for children

2. (especially NAmE) = ↑jigsaw

3. usually singular something that is difficult to understand or explain

**Syn:** ↑mystery

- The deeper meaning of the poem remains a puzzle.
- The detectives were beginning to solve the murder. All the pieces in the puzzle were falling neatly into place.

Word Origin:

late 16th cent. (as a verb): of unknown origin.

Culture:

**crosswords**

Crosswords, or **crossword puzzles**, first appeared in the US in the early 20th century. Today, many people in the US and in Britain regularly **do crosswords** sometimes on the bus or train on their way to work. Most newspapers and magazines contain at least one crossword and there are often prizes for people who send in the correct **solution**. Books of crosswords are also popular. **Solving** a crossword involves answering a set of **clues**. The answers are words or phrases which fit together in a **patterned grid**. The clues are usually numbered and listed as **across** and **down**, according to whether the answer reads across the grid or from top to bottom.

There are two basic types of crossword, called in Britain **quick crosswords** and **cryptic crosswords**. In quick crosswords the clues are usually **definitions** of the answers. This is much the most common type of crossword in the US, where the **grids** are usually a lot bigger and contain many more words. These crosswords are not necessarily easy, and the one in the Sunday issue of the **↑New York Times** is considered very difficult.

Cryptic crosswords, which began in Britain and are much more popular there than in any other country, have clues which contain both a **definition** of the answer and a word **puzzle** involving the letters in it. One common type of word puzzle is an **anagram**, in which the letters of the answer word are rearranged in the clue to form another word or phrase. For example, CARTHORSE and SHORT RACE are both anagrams of the word ORCHESTRA.

Example Bank:

- The origin of the word is something of a puzzle.
- The police didn't know what the message meant, but it was another piece in the puzzle.
- The puzzle remains of what happened to the ship.
- There is a puzzle about how the plant first came to Britain.

- They knew who the killer was, but there were still some gaps in the puzzle.
- They're trying to solve the puzzle of how gravity works.
- Traces of explosives found among the wreckage were the key to the puzzle.

Derived Word ↑puzzling

Derived ↑puzzle over something ▪ ↑puzzle something out

**verb ~ sb**

to make sb feel confused because they do not understand sth

**Syn:** ↑baffle

- What puzzles me is why he left the country without telling anyone.

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	puzzle
	BrE / 'pʌzəl/
	NAme / 'pʌzəl/
he / she / it	puzzles
	BrE / 'pʌzəlz/
	NAme / 'pʌzəlz/
past simple, past participle	puzzled
	BrE / 'pʌzld/
	NAme / 'pʌzld/
-ing form	puzzling
	BrE / 'pʌzliŋ/
	NAme / 'pʌzliŋ/

Word Origin:

late 16th cent. (as a verb): of unknown origin.

Example Bank:

- I had noticed something puzzling.
- Marlowe was a puzzling character.
- There were reports of the puzzling deaths of hundreds of dolphins.

Example Bank:

- This is something that has always puzzled me greatly.
- How they recognized you is what puzzles me.
- It has always puzzled me that he hasn't won more tournaments.
- This question has puzzled scientists for decades.
- What puzzles me is why he left without telling anyone.

## puzzle

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **puz·zle**<sup>1</sup> /'pʌzəl/ BrE<sup>☞</sup> AmE<sup>☞</sup> **noun** [countable]



1. a game or toy that has a lot of pieces that you have to fit together ⇒ **jigsaw**:

☞ a child's wooden puzzle

2. a game in which you have to think hard to solve a difficult question or problem:

☞ a crossword puzzle

3. [usually singular] something that is difficult to understand or explain

**puzzle of**

☞ the puzzle of how the sun works

☞ The meaning of the poem has always been a puzzle.

☞ He thought he had solved the puzzle.

4. **piece of the puzzle** a piece of information that helps you to understand part of a difficult question, mystery etc

II. **puzzle**<sup>2</sup> BrE<sup>☞</sup> AmE<sup>☞</sup> **verb** [transitive]

to confuse someone or make them feel slightly anxious because they do not understand something:

☞ a question that continues to puzzle scientists

☞ He was puzzled by the reactions to his remark.

☞ What puzzles me is why his books are so popular.

**puzzle something** ↔ **out** *phrasal verb*

to solve a confusing or difficult problem by thinking about it carefully:

▪ He lay looking at the ceiling, trying to puzzle things out.

**puzzle over something** *phrasal verb*

to think for a long time about something because you cannot understand or solve it:

▪ The class puzzled over a poem by Shakespeare.

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## puzzle

Freakuency Pack

12500 **6798**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **2433**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **3k** PUZZLE <sup>12433</sup>

puzzle <sup>5424</sup>

puzzles <sup>1635</sup>

puzzled <sup>3409</sup>

puzzling <sup>1445</sup>

puzzler <sup>48</sup>

puzzlers <sup>22</sup>

puzzlement <sup>445</sup>

puzzlements <sup>5</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

<sup>2927</sup> **6962**<sup>5109</sup> *nn1*

<sup>231</sup> **48094**<sup>239</sup> *vvi*

<sup>74</sup> **87462**<sup>76</sup> *vv0*

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