

# beef<sup>1</sup>

S3

/bɪf/

noun

**1** [uncountable] the meat from a cow:

*roast beef*

*We have both dairy and beef cattle on the farm.*

**2** [countable] (informal) COMPLAIN a complaint:

*OK, so what's the beef this time?*

**3** **where's the beef?** PLAN (AmE) (spoken)

used when you think someone's promises sound good, but you want to know what they actually plan to do

→ CORNERED BEEF

## Word origin

**Date:** 1100–1200

**Language:** Old French

**Origin:** *buef*, from Latin *bos* 'ox'

# beef<sup>2</sup>

verb

[intransitive]

(informal) COMPLAIN to complain a lot:

**beef about**

*They're always beefing about something.*

**beef something ↔ up**

phrasal verb

(informal)

IMPROVE to improve something or make it more interesting, more important

etc:

*a beefed-up news story*

*We need to beef the campaign up.*

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*Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*

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