

bottle¹ S1 W2

/ˈbɒtl \$ ˈbɔːtl/

noun

1 CONTAINER[countable] a container with a narrow top for keeping liquids in, usually made of plastic or glass:

an empty bottle

a wine/milk/beer etc bottle

bottle of

a bottle of champagne

2 AMOUNT OF LIQUID[countable] (*also* **bottleful**) the amount of liquid that a bottle contains:

Between us, we drank three bottles of wine.

3 MILK[countable] a container for babies to drink from, with a rubber part on top that they suck, or the milk contained in this bottle:

*My first baby just wouldn't **take a bottle** at all.*

4 the bottle

alcoholic drink – used when talking about the problems drinking can cause:

Peter let the bottle ruin his life.

hit the bottle (= regularly drink too much)

She was under a lot of stress, and started hitting the bottle.

be on the bottle (*BrE*) (= be drinking a lot of alcohol regularly)

5 COURAGE[uncountable] BRAVE (*BrE*) (*informal*) courage to do something that is dangerous or unpleasant

SYN nerve

I never thought she'd have the bottle to do it!

6 bring a bottle (*BrE*),

/ **bring your own bottle** (*AmE*)

used when you invite someone to an informal party, to tell them that they

should bring their own bottle of alcoholic drink

→ HOT-WATER BOTTLE

Word origin

Date: 1300–1400

Language: Old French

Origin: *bouteille*, from Medieval Latin *butticula*, from Late Latin *buttis* 'wooden container for liquid'

bottle²

verb

[transitive]

1 to put a liquid, especially wine or beer, into a bottle after you have made it:

The whisky is bottled here before being sent abroad.

2 (*BrE*) to put vegetables or fruit into special glass containers in order to preserve them

[SYN] can (*AmE*)

bottle out (also bottle it) phrasal verb

FRIGHTENED (*BrE*) (informal) to suddenly decide not to do something because you are frightened

[SYN] cop out

'Did you tell him?' 'No, I bottled out at the last minute.'

bottle something ↔ up

phrasal verb

1 **HIDE/NOT SHOW** to deliberately not allow yourself to show a strong feeling or emotion:

It is far better to cry than to bottle up your feelings.

2 to cause problems by delaying something:

The bill has been bottled up in Congress.