

# al·ter

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/ˈɔːltə \$ ˈɒltər/

verb

- 1** [intransitive and transitive] CHANGE/BECOME DIFFERENT CHANGE FROM ONE THING TO ANOTHER  
to change, or to make someone or something change:

*Her face hadn't altered much over the years.*

*The city centre has altered beyond recognition* (= changed very much).

*Nothing can alter the fact that the refugees are our responsibility.*

- 2** [transitive] to make a piece of clothing longer, wider etc so that it fits:

**have/get something altered**

*She had the dress altered for the wedding.*

## Word origin

**Date:** 1300–1400

**Language:** French

**Origin:** *altérer*, from Medieval Latin *alterare*, from Latin *alter* 'other'

*Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*

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