

# alternative<sup>2</sup>

S2 W3 AC

noun [countable]

CHOOSE something you can choose to do or use instead of something else:

## alternative to

*Is there a **viable alternative** to the present system?*

*If payment is not received legal action will be our **only alternative**.*

*I **had no alternative** but to report him to the police.*

*He quickly assessed what alternatives were open to him.*

## COLLOCATIONS

### adjectives

a good/ attractive alternative *If you don't want curtains, blinds are a good alternative.*

a possible/ acceptable/ satisfactory alternative *I'm busy tomorrow but Wednesday is a possible alternative.*

a real/ serious alternative *Co-operation offers the only real alternative.*

a viable alternative (= that can work as successfully) *Hydrogen offers a viable alternative to petrol and diesel.*

a practical alternative *This treatment represents a practical alternative to surgery.*

a cheap alternative *A take-away is a cheap alternative to eating out.*

a safe alternative *Will there ever be a safe alternative to nuclear power?*

a healthy alternative *Low-fat biscuits are a healthy alternative to cake.*

## verbs

have an alternative *You have a few alternatives to choose from.*

offer/provide an alternative *If your first choice is not available, we always have alternatives to offer.*

suggest an alternative *Do you have an alternative you can suggest?*

seek an alternative *People are seeking alternatives to meat-based dishes.*

find an alternative *The program is directed to finding alternatives to oil and natural gas.*

## phrases

have no/little alternative (but to do something) *He had no alternative but to resign.*

leave somebody with no alternative (but to do something) *I was left with no alternative but to seek legal advice.*