

bump¹

S3

/bʌmp/

verb

1 [intransitive always + adverb/preposition, transitive] HIT/BUMP INTO to hit or knock against something:

bump against

I ran after him, bumping against people in my hurry.

bump into

Tim was a clumsy boy, always bumping into the furniture.

bump something on something

She bumped her arm on the table.

*The roof was so low he **bumped** his **head** (= his head hit the roof) .*

2 [intransitive always + adverb/preposition] MOVE/CHANGE POSITION to move up and down as you move forward, especially in a vehicle:

A police car bumped down the track.

bump along

The plane was bumping along the runway.

3 [transitive always + adverb/preposition] to push or pull something somewhere in an irregular or unsteady way:

Flora was bumping her bags down the steps.

4 [transitive] (informal) to move someone or something into a different class or group, or to remove them from a class or group altogether:

The flight was overbooked, and Dad was the first one to be bumped.

bump somebody up to/out of/from etc something

The reforms bumped many families off the state-provided health care list.

5 [transitive] to move a radio or television programme to a different time:

'Married with Children' will be bumped from Sundays to Saturdays.

bump into somebody

phrasal verb

MEET to meet someone who you know, when you were not expecting to

SYN run into*I bumped into Jean in town.***bump somebody ↔ off**

phrasal verb

(informal)

KILL to kill someone

bump something ↔ up

phrasal verb

INCREASE IN NUMBER OR AMOUNT to suddenly increase something by a large amount:

*Prices were bumped up by 10 percent last week.***Word origin****Date:** 1500–1600**Origin:** From the sound**bump²**

noun

[countable]

1 an area of skin that is raised because you have hit it on something→ **lump:***She has a bump on the back of her head.**He had a few injuries, mostly bumps and bruises.***2** STICK OUT a small raised area on a surface:*The car hit a bump on the road.*→ [SPEED BUMP](#)**3** SOUND the sound or sudden movement of something hitting a hard surface:*We heard a bump in the next room.*

fall/sit down etc with a bump

Rose fell, landing with a bump.

4 (informal) ACCIDENT a small accident in which your car hits something but you are not hurt

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

© Pearson Education Limited 2009, 2011, 2015