

build¹

S1 W1

/bild/

verb

(past tense and past participle **built** /bɪlt/)

1 | make something MAKE SOMETHING [intransitive and transitive] BUILD to make something, especially a building or something large:

The purpose is to build new houses for local people.

The road took many years to build.

They needed \$3 million to build the bridge.

It is the female birds that build the nests.

Developers want to build on the site of the old gasworks.

a row of recently built houses

build somebody something

He's going to build the children a doll's house.

2 | make something develop (also **build up**) [transitive] DEVELOP to make something develop or form:

She had built a reputation as a criminal lawyer.

She's been busy building her career.

Ross took 20 years to build up his business.

build (up) a picture of somebody/something (= form a clear idea about someone or something)

We're trying to build up a picture of what happened.

3 | be built of something BUILD

to be made using particular materials:

The church was built of brick.

4 | feeling FEELING (also **build up**) [intransitive and transitive]

INCREASE IN ACTIVITY, FEELINGS ETC if a feeling builds, or if you build it, it increases gradually over a period of time:

Tension began to build as they argued more frequently.

In order to build your self-esteem, set yourself targets you can

reach.

5 build bridges FRIENDLY

to try to establish a better relationship between people who do not like each other:

Peter needs to try and build bridges with Lizzie.

THESAURUS

build to make a house, road, wall, bridge etc using bricks, stone, wood, or other materials: *A new stadium will be built for the Olympics.*

construct to build a building, bridge, machine etc. **Construct** is more formal than **build**: *The council plans to construct two new schools.*

put up something to build a wall, fence, or building, or put a statue somewhere. **Put up** is less formal than **build**: *The neighbours have put up a new wooden fence.*

erect (formal) to build a wall, fence, or building, especially a public building, or put a statue somewhere: *A monument to the Canadian soldiers was erected in Green Park.*

throw something up (BrE) (informal) to build something very quickly: *Developers have hastily thrown up family homes in the area.*

put together to make something from its parts, for example a piece of furniture: *It took an hour to put the bookcase together.*

assemble (formal) to put all the parts of something such as a machine or a piece of furniture together: *A line of robots assemble the cars.*

build something around something

phrasal verb

to base something on an idea or thing and develop it from there:

Successful businesses are built around good personal relationships.

build something ↔ in

phrasal verb

BUILD to make something so that it is a permanent part of a wall, room etc:

You could build in a wardrobe with mirrored doors.

→ BUILT-IN

build something into something

phrasal verb

1 BUILD to make something so that it is a permanent part of a wall, room etc:

*There are three cash machines **built into the wall**.*

2 INCLUDE to make something a permanent part of a system, agreement etc:

Opportunities for reviewing the timings should be built into the plan.

build on

phrasal verb

1 build something on something

to base something on an idea or thing:

Our relationship is built on trust.

2 build on something INCREASE IN NUMBER OR AMOUNT

to use your achievements as a base for further development:

The new plan will build on the success of the previous programme.

3 BUILD to add another room to a building in order to have more space:

build something ↔ on

We're planning to build on a conservatory.

build up

phrasal verb

1 increase gradually INCREASE IN ACTIVITY, FEELINGS ETC if something builds up somewhere, or if you build it up, it gradually becomes bigger or greater:

the rate at which the pension builds up

build something ↔ up

The museum has built up a fine art collection.

→ BUILD-UP**2 develop build something ↔ up**

to make something develop or form:

build something ↔ up into*He's built up the family firm into a multinational company.***3 feeling** INCREASE IN ACTIVITY, FEELINGS ETC if a feeling builds up, or if you build it up, it increases gradually over a period of time:*If you don't express your feelings, frustration and anger can build up.***build up something***You have to build up trust.***4 make healthy build somebody/something ↔ up** CURE

to make someone well and strong again, especially after an illness:

*Taking exercise will build up your strength.***5 praise build somebody/something ↔ up** PRAISE

to praise someone or something so that other people think they are really good, or so that they have more confidence:

*The coach has been building his men up before the match.***6 HOPE build up somebody's hopes (also build somebody's hopes up)**

to unfairly encourage someone to think that they will get what they hope for:

*Don't build your hopes up too much.***build up to something**

phrasal verb

INTRODUCE to prepare for a particular moment or event:

*I could tell she was building up to some kind of announcement.***Word origin****Language:** Old English**Origin:** *byldan*

noun

[singular, uncountable]

BODY the shape and size of someone's body → **built:***a woman of **slim build****You're a surprisingly strong swimmer for one of such a **slight build**.**I wanted a more **athletic** and **muscular build**.***COLLOCATIONS****adjectives**medium/ average build *He was of medium build and wearing a light-coloured jacket.*slim/ slender build *She was very strong despite her slender build.*thin build *He had the thin build of a long-distance runner.*slight build (= fairly thin) *Simpson was of slight build and shy in character.*stocky build (= not very tall, but broad and strong) *The man was described as of stocky build with dark hair.*sturdy build (= not very tall but strong and healthy) *an eight-year-old boy of sturdy build*muscular build *These exercises will help you achieve a strong muscular build.*athletic build *She admired his athletic build.*