

**bus**<sup>1</sup>

S1 W2

/bʌs/

noun [countable]

(plural **buses** or / **busses** (especially AmE))**1** a large vehicle that people pay to travel on:**on a bus***There were a lot of people on the bus.***by bus***The best way to get there is by bus.**I took a bus to San Francisco.**Buses run at 15 and 30 minutes past the hour.***2** a CIRCUIT that connects the main parts of a computer so that signals can be sent from one part of the computer to another**COLLOCATIONS** Sense 1**verbs**go/travel by bus *I usually go to work by bus.*go on the bus/use the bus (= travel by bus) *It's easier to go on the bus than to drive.*get/take/catch a bus *Can we get a bus from here to Reading?*ride a bus (AmE) *It was the first time Craig had ridden a bus downtown by himself.*get on/off a bus *Several more passengers got on the bus.*wait for a bus *We were waiting for the bus for half an hour.*miss the bus (= be too late to get on a bus) *He woke up late and missed the bus.*a bus goes/leaves *The last bus went ten minutes ago.*a bus comes/arrives *I waited and waited but the bus didn't come.*buses run (= go at regular times) *The buses run less frequently on a Sunday.***bus + NOUN**

a bus ride/journey/trip *It's a 20-minute bus ride into town.*

a bus stop (= a place where a bus stops for passengers) *She got off at the next bus stop.*

a bus shelter (= a small covered area where you wait for a bus) *Some kids had vandalized the bus shelter.*

a bus service (= a service that provides regular buses) *It's a small village but there is a good bus service.*

a bus route *We live very near a main bus route.*

a bus fare (= the money you pay for a bus journey) *Can you lend me 50p for my bus fare?*

a bus ticket *She lost her bus ticket.*

a bus pass (= a card that allows you to make several bus journeys) *Most of the students have a termly bus pass.*

a bus station (= a place where buses start and finish their journeys) *Dad met me at the bus station.*

a bus lane (= a part of the road where only buses are allowed to drive) *You can be fined for driving in a bus lane.*

a bus driver *She asked the bus driver where to get off for the Botanical Gardens.*

a bus timetable *The bus timetable changes on January 31st.*

a bus queue (**BrE**) (= a line of people waiting for a bus) *We were chatting while we stood in the bus queue.*

## **ADJECTIVES/NOUN + bus**

a school bus *Hurry up or you'll miss the school bus!*

a shuttle bus (= one that makes regular short journeys between two places) *There's a shuttle bus between the hotel and the beach.*

a double-decker bus (= one with two levels for passengers) *London used to be famous for its double-decker buses.*

an open-topped bus (= one without a roof, used for showing tourists a town etc) *We took a tour on an open-topped bus.*

a regular bus (= one that goes at regular times) *Regular buses run to the airport.*

## THESAURUS

**bus** a large vehicle that people pay to travel on: *There were a lot of people on the bus.*

**coach** (BrE) a bus with comfortable seats used for long journeys: *Taking the coach is cheaper than the train.*

**minibus** a small bus with seats for six to twelve people: *The school uses a minibus to take teams to matches.*

**double-decker** a bus with two levels: *the red double-deckers in London*

**articulated bus** (also **bendy bus** BrE) a very long bus that has a joint in the middle that allows it to go around corners: *Articulated buses have been used in Europe for many years.*

**tram** (BrE), **streetcar** (AmE), **trolley/trolley car** (AmE) a vehicle for passengers, which travels along metal tracks in the street, and usually gets power from electric lines over the vehicle: *We waited at the stop for the tram. | San Diego has a well-used trolley system.*

**tram** (AmE) a vehicle with many different parts for people to sit in, and which usually has open sides. A tram runs on wheels and is used to take tourists from place to place within a particular area: *The tram takes visitors around the backlot of Universal Studios, where many famous movies were once made.*

### Word origin

**Date:** 1800–1900

**Origin:** *omnibus*

## bus<sup>2</sup>

verb

(**bused** or **bussed**, **busing** or **bussing**)

**1** [transitive usually passive] to take a person or a group of people somewhere in a bus:

**bus** somebody to/in/into something

*Casey was bussed to the school.*

**2** [transitive] (*AmE*) to take away dirty dishes from the tables in a restaurant:  
*Shelley had a job **bussing tables**.*

**Word origin**

Sense 1:

**Date:** 1900–2000**Origin:** → *BUS*<sup>1</sup>

Sense 2:

**Date:** 1900–2000**Origin:** *busboy*

*Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*

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