

brush² S3

verb

- 1 | clean/make tidy** [transitive] CLEAN to clean something or make something smooth and tidy using a brush → **sweep:**

Don't forget to brush your teeth.

- 2 | remove** [transitive always + adverb/preposition] MOVE SOMETHING OR SOMEBODY to remove something with a brush or with your hand:

brush something off/from etc something

Ella brushed the crumbs off her jacket.

He brushed the tears from his eyes.

- 3 | touch lightly** [intransitive always + adverb/preposition, transitive] TOUCH to touch someone or something lightly when passing them:

Something brushed her shoulders.

brush against

I felt her hair brush against my arm.

brush past

Nell brushed past him in the doorway.

- 4 | put something on something** [transitive always + adverb/preposition] to put a liquid onto something using a brush:

brush something with something

Brush the pastry with milk.

brush something over/onto something

Brush a little oil over the top of the pizza.

→ **brush something under the carpet** AT SWEEP¹ (15)

brush somebody/ something ↔ aside

phrasal verb

to refuse to listen to someone, or refuse to consider something

SYN dismiss

He simply brushed all my objections aside.

brush somebody/something ↔ down

phrasal verb

1 CLEAN to clean something using a brush:*He was brushing the pony down.***2 brush yourself down**

to use your hands to remove dirt from your clothes, especially after you have fallen

brush somebody/something ↔ off

phrasal verb

REJECT/NOT ACCEPT to refuse to listen to someone or their ideas, especially by ignoring them or saying something rude:

Corman brushed off the accusations.→ BRUSH-OFF**brush up (on) something**

phrasal verb

IMPROVE to practise and improve your skills or your knowledge of something that you learned in the past:

I must brush up on my French before I go to Paris.

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