

# at·mo·sphere S3 W2

/ˈætməsfɪə \$ -fɪr/

noun

- 1 FEEL HAPPY/FRIGHTENED/BORED ETC[uncountable and countable] the feeling that an event or place gives you:

*The hotel had a lovely **relaxed atmosphere**.*

*The atmosphere at home was rather tense.*

**atmosphere of**

*An atmosphere of optimism dominated the conference.*

- 2 [uncountable]if a place or event has atmosphere, it is interesting:

*The castle was centuries old and full of atmosphere.*

*The match was lacking in atmosphere.*

3 **the atmosphere**

the mixture of gases that surrounds the Earth

- 4 [countable]the mixture of gases that surrounds a PLANET

- 5 [countable usually singular] AIR the air inside a room:

*a smoky atmosphere*

## COLLOCATIONSSense 1

### ADJECTIVES/NOUN + atmosphere

a good atmosphere *The club has a good atmosphere.*

a happy/cheerful atmosphere *It's a good school and it has a very happy atmosphere.*

a relaxed/friendly/informal atmosphere *Helen's flat has a very relaxed atmosphere.*

a carnival/festive atmosphere (= when people are celebrating something) *Outside the stadium, there was a carnival atmosphere.*

a welcoming atmosphere (= when a place you arrive at feels

friendly) *The bar provides a welcoming atmosphere for a relaxing evening drink.*

a cosy atmosphere (= when a building, room etc is small, comfortable, and warm) *With its low ceilings and open fire, the house has a cosy atmosphere.*

a bad atmosphere *There's a bad atmosphere among the staff.*

a strained/tense atmosphere (= not relaxed) *As soon as I went in, I was aware of the tense atmosphere in the room.*

## verbs

the atmosphere changes *New owners bought the hotel and the whole atmosphere changed.*

create a good/bad atmosphere *Lighting is one of the most effective ways of creating a good atmosphere.*

### Word origin

**Date:** 1600–1700

**Language:** Modern Latin

**Origin:** *atmosphaera*, from Greek *atmos* 'liquid in the air, vapor' + Latin *sphaera* 'sphere'