

## **make (both) ends meet:**

Work, family, making ends meet, Albert felt all the pressure and responsibility.

工作，家庭，维持生计——阿尔伯特感受到了全部的压力和责任。

要理解短语的意思，先必须了解end的含义。

end：最早的时候指的是边界（boundary）。所有的展开释义都是围绕着这个中心意思而来。从边界（boundary）延伸到远处和近处的距离来理解一切。

1. last point 末端，尽头；最后部分，末尾

the end of the road 路的终点

the end of the book 书的末尾

the end of the world 世界尽头

It **won't be the end of the world** even if you don't win.

你就是输了也没有什么大不了的（注意其引申意思）

2. end可以表示“生命的尽头”

We were all by her side when the **end** of her life finally came.

她临终时，我们都守在她的身边。

He met his **end** last month.

他上个月去世了。

3. end还表示半边球场(球门往往在长方形球场的两个末端)

The teams changed **ends** at half-time . 两队在上半场结束时交换场地。

4. end引申为表示剩余物，残余（使用完毕后剩下的东西）

**cigarette ends** 烟头 cigarette butts

5. end 指边界（boundary）延伸到远处的地方，可以引申为目标

Do you have a particular **end** in mind? 你心中有没有一个明确的目标？

6. end 可以指边界（boundary）延伸的方向以及延伸过程中涉及的范围，方面，部分

We've **kept our end of the deal** - let's see if they keep theirs.

我们把我们自己份内的事情做好了——让我们看看他们能不能管好自己的事。

7. end指边界（boundary）延伸的终点，作动词表示(使)结束；(使)停止

The game **ended in** a draw. 比赛以平局告终。

He **ended** his performance **with** a song. 他唱了一首歌来结束表演。

She **ended up doing** nothing. 她最终一事无成。

make (both) ends meet:

the end of the money you have for the whole month

the end of the days you should live through in a month

钱花完时日子正好过完

-- 收支相抵；勉强维持生计

类似意义的短语还有：

**1. live from hand to mouth:**

生活非常拮据（手里有什么就吃掉什么，无法存下任何东西）

After she lost her job she lived a life from hand to mouth.

失业后她生活拮据。

## 2. keep body and soul together

苟活，勉强活下去 (保持灵魂躯体在一块)

I had to ask my parents for some money because I don't even have enough to keep body and soul together.

我不得不找父母要些钱，因我已无法维持生存了。

从宗教角度来理解英语，讲ergative verbs时讲过这个理念。

灵魂(soul)和 躯体(body) 在一起，则人正常活着；

灵魂(soul)离开 躯体(body)，则人就不正常，晕了，疯了或死掉了。

### 3. keep the wolf from the door

免于穷困；免于挨饿（把狼阻止在外面，引申为把贫穷和饥饿拒之门外）

I work part-time to keep the wolf from the door.

我兼职免于挨饿。

keep ... from ...: 阻止... ... 进入

wolf: 狼作为“吃羊”的形象，早在Bible中就有了：

Jesus tells his disciples: ‘Behold I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves’.

上帝对门徒说：“听着，我差你们去，如同羊进入狼群，所以你们要灵巧像蛇，驯良像鸽子。”

要想活着，就必须把狼拒在门外！ keep the wolf from the door

含有both的几个短语：

**1. have a foot in both camps**

同时兼顾；脚踩两只船

I can have a foot in both the recreative and business camps.

我可同时涉足娱乐与商业。

He had a foot in both camps, making donations to candidates in both parties.

他脚踏两只船，给两个（反对）党派的候选人都捐款。

**have a foot in both camps** 指与敌对的两方都保持良好关系。camp指战场上敌对双方的军营。

## **2. play both ends against the middle**      (玩弄两头对付中间)

为获利而脚踏两只船; 使鹬蚌相争而渔翁得利

I told my brother that Mary doesn't like him. Then I told Mary that my brother doesn't like her. So they broke up, now I have the car this weekend.  
I succeeded in playing both ends against the middle.

两边挑事，从中牟利！

## **3. with both barrels** : 竭尽全力，全力以赴      (之前已经讲过该短语! )

**both barrels**: 双管猎枪的两个枪管

注意：它与汉语的“双管齐下”意思不一样。

“双管齐下”：指做一件事时，两个方面同时进行或两种方法同时使用。

“管”：笔管；原指双手执笔同时作画。



总结:

1. end各种意义的获取
2. make both ends meet 的真正含义
3. 讲解了关于“勉强度日”的几个成语
4. 讲解了含有“both”的几个成语