



SINCE 1828

bug

DICTIONARY

THESAURUS

Date visited: April 5, 2017

<sup>1</sup> bug 

noun | \ 'bæg \

Popularity: Top 40% of words

## Definition of BUG

*obsolete*

: BOGEY, BUGBEAR

## Origin and Etymology of BUG

Middle English *bugge* hobgoblin; probably akin to Low German *bögge* goblin

First Known Use: 14th century

<sup>2</sup> bug

noun

## Definition of BUG

- 1
  - a** : an insect or other creeping or crawling small invertebrate (as a spider or centipede)
  - b** : any of several insects (as a bedbug or head louse) commonly considered obnoxious
  - c** : any of an order (Hemiptera and especially its suborder Heteroptera) of insects that have sucking mouthparts, forewings thickened at the base, and incomplete metamorphosis and are often economic pests —called also *true bug*
- 2 : an unexpected defect, fault, flaw, or imperfection • the software was full of *bugs*
- 3
  - a** : a microorganism (such as a bacterium or virus) especially when causing illness or disease

**b** : an often unspecified or nonspecific sickness presumed to be caused by such a microorganism

**4** : a sudden enthusiasm

**5** : **ENTHUSIAST** • a camera *bug*

**6** : a prominent person

**7** : a crazy person

**8** : a concealed listening device

**9** [from its designation by an asterisk on race programs]  
: a weight allowance given apprentice jockeys

## Origin and Etymology of BUG

origin unknown

First Known Use: 1622

## Other Insect Terms

drone, entomology, gadfly, pismire, proboscis, vespine

# <sup>3</sup>bug

verb

## Definition of BUG

**bugged; bugging**

transitive verb

**1** : to plant a concealed microphone in

**2** : **BOTHER, ANNOY** • don't *bug* me with petty details

intransitive verb

: to lose one's composure : **FREAK** —often used with *out*

## First Known Use of BUG

1935

## Other Audio Recording Terms

baffle, dub, fidelity, transcription, treble