Men

- JOIN MWU
  Gain access to thousands of additional definitions and advanced search features—ad free! JOIN NOW
- GAMES
- WORDS AT PLAY
- MORE
- WORD OF THE DAY
- WORDS AT PLAY
- TIME TRAVELER

Follow: Facebook Twitter YouTube Instagram

dispose

verb

dis·pose | 

dis·posed; disposing

https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/dispose
Definition of dispose

(Entry 1 of 2)

transitive verb

1 : to give a tendency to : incline faulty diet disposes one to sickness
2a : to put in place : set in readiness : arrange disposing troops for withdrawal
b obsolete : regulate
c : bestow

intransitive verb

1 : to settle a matter finally
2 obsolete : to come to terms

dispose of
1 : to place, distribute, or arrange especially in an orderly way disposing of the weapons in the new fort
2a : to transfer to the control of another disposing of personal property to a total stranger
b(1) : to get rid of how to dispose of toxic waste
(2) : to deal with conclusively disposed of the matter efficiently

dispose

noun

Definition of dispose (Entry 2 of 2)

1 obsolete : disposal
2 obsolete

a : disposition
b : demeanor

Other Words from dispose

Synonyms
Choose the Right Synonym
More Example Sentences
Learn More about dispose

Keep scrolling for more

Other Words from dispose

Verb
disposer noun

Synonyms for dispose

Synonyms: Verb
depose, deposit, emplace, fix, lay, place, position, put, set, set up, situate, stick

Visit the Thesaurus for More

Choose the Right Synonym for dispose

Verb

incline, bias, dispose, predispose mean to influence one to have or take an attitude toward something. incline implies a tendency to favor one of two or more actions or conclusions. I incline to agree bias suggests a settled and predictable leaning
in one direction and connotes unfair prejudice. The experience biased him against foreigners. *dispose* suggests an affecting of one's mood or temper so as to incline one toward something. Her nature *disposes* her to trust others. *predispose* implies the operation of a disposing influence well in advance of the opportunity to manifest itself. Does fictional violence *predispose* them to accept real violence?

### Examples of *dispose* in a Sentence

**Verb**

Looking for the perfect spot to *dispose* the new knickknack. *disposed* the surgical instruments in the exact order in which they would be needed.

Recent Examples on the Web: Verb

Americans use and *dispose* of 500 million plastic straws every single day—and that's 500 million too many. — *Popular Mechanics*, "Ditch Plastic And Sip Your Drinks With These Planet-Friendly Metal Straws," 18 Apr. 2019  Bring it to your local VFW chapter, where unrepairable flags are collected and *disposed* of properly. — Cindy Dampier, *chicagotribune.com*, "Are flag-wearing celebs being disrespectful or just following their own American tradition?," 5 July 2018

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'dispose.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. Send us feedback.

See More

### First Known Use of *dispose*

**Verb**

14th century, in the meaning defined at *transitive sense 1*

**Noun**

1590, in the meaning defined at *sense 1*

### History and Etymology for *dispose*

**Verb and Noun**

Middle English, from Anglo-French *desposer*, from Latin *disponere* to arrange (perfect indicative *disposui*), from *dis-* + *ponere* to put — more at *position*

Keep scrolling for more

### Learn More about *dispose*

Share *dispose*

- Post the Definition of *dispose* to Facebook
- Share the Definition of *dispose* on Twitter

Resources for *dispose*

- Time Traveler! Explore the year a word first appeared

### Dictionary Entries near *dispose*
Phrases Related to *dispose*

so disposed

**Statistics for *dispose***

Last Updated
2 Jun 2019

Look-up Popularity
Top 10% of words

Time Traveler for *dispose*

**The first known use of *dispose* was in the 14th century**

See more words from the same century

Keep scrolling for more

More Definitions for *dispose*

dispose

**English Language Learners Definition of *dispose***

formal

: to cause (someone) to be likely to do or have something

: to put (someone or something) in a particular position or place

See the full definition for *dispose* in the English Language Learners Dictionary

dispose

**verb**

dis pose \ dis-ˈpōz \ disposed; disposing

https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/dispose
Kids Definition of *dispose*

: to put in place: *arrange* Campsites were *disposed* around the lake.

dispose of

1: to finish with The matter was quickly *disposed of*.

2: to get rid of Please *dispose of* trash properly.

Keep scrolling for more

More from Merriam-Webster on *dispose*

Rhyming Dictionary: [Words that rhyme with *dispose*](#)

Thesaurus: [All synonyms and antonyms for *dispose*](#)

Spanish Central: [Translation of *dispose*](#)

Nglish: [Translation of *dispose* for Spanish Speakers](#)

Britannica English: [Translation of *dispose* for Arabic Speakers](#)

Comments on *dispose*

What made you want to look up *dispose*? Please tell us where you read or heard it (including the quote, if possible).

[SHOW COMMENTS](#)