

demolish

[di'mɒlɪʃ] *v*

1. разрушать, уничтожать; сносить
to demolish a building - снести здание
2. опровергать, разбивать
to demolish arguments [objections] - опрокидывать доводы [возражения]
to demolish a myth - разрушить миф
3. *шутл.* съедать
to demolish three eggs for breakfast - уничтожить три яйца за завтраком

demolish

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

de-mol-ish [demolish demolishes demolished demolishing] *BrE* [di'mɒlɪʃ] ^m

NAmE [di'mɑːlɪʃ] ^m *verb*

1. ~ **sth** to pull or knock down a building
• The factory is due to be demolished next year.
2. ~ **sth** to destroy sth accidentally
• The car had skidded across the road and demolished part of the wall.
3. ~ **sth** to show that an idea or theory is completely wrong
• A recent book has demolished this theory.
4. ~ **sb/sth** to defeat sb easily and completely
• They demolished New Zealand 44–6 in the final.
5. ~ **sth** (*BrE, informal*) to eat sth very quickly
• The children demolished their burgers and chips.

Derived Word ↑ **demolition**

Verb forms: *verb forms*

present simple	
I / you / we / they	demolish
	<i>BrE</i> /di'mɒlɪʃ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /di'mɑːlɪʃ/
he / she / it	demolishes
	<i>BrE</i> /di'mɒlɪʃɪz/
	<i>NAmE</i> /di'mɑːlɪʃɪz/
past simple, past participle	demolished
	<i>BrE</i> /di'mɒlɪʃt/
	<i>NAmE</i> /di'mɑːlɪʃt/
-ing form	demolishing
	<i>BrE</i> /di'mɒlɪʃɪŋ/
	<i>NAmE</i> /di'mɑːlɪʃɪŋ/

Word Origin:

mid 16th cent.: from French *démoliss-*, lengthened stem of *démolir*, from Latin *demoliri*, from *de-* (expressing reversal) + *moliri* 'construct' (from *moles* 'mass').

Thesaurus:

demolish *verb T*

• The old factory has been demolished.

knock sth down • • **pull sth down** • • **raze** • • **level** • • **flatten** • |sometimes disapproving **bulldoze** • • **tear sth down** •

Opp: build, **Opp:** construct

demolish/knock down/pull down/level/flatten/tear down a **building/house**

demolish/knock down/pull down/tear down a **factory/wall**

raze/level/flatten/bulldoze an **area**

Which word? **Demolish**, **knock sth down** and **pull sth down** are all neutral terms; **tear sth down** can suggest that unnecessary violence was used, or that the speaker has negative feelings about what was done.

Example Bank:

- He has successfully demolished the opposition's arguments.
- The old slums are being demolished to make way for a new housing project.
- Tornadoes demolished trailers and blew roofs off houses.

demolish

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

de-mol-ish /di'mɒlɪʃ \$ di'mɑːlɪʃ- *BrE* ^m *AmE* ^m *verb* [transitive]

[Date: 1500-1600; Language: Old French; Origin: demolir, from Latin moliri 'to build']

1. to completely destroy a building:
" The entire east wing of the building was demolished in the fire.
2. to prove that an idea or opinion is completely wrong:
" He demolished my argument in minutes.
3. to end or ruin something completely:
" These ants can demolish large areas of forest.
4. to defeat someone very easily:
" Miami demolished Texas 46–3.
5. *especially British English informal* to eat all of something very quickly:

He demolished a second helping of pie.

—**demolition** /,deme'liʃən/ *noun* [uncountable and countable]

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THESAURUS

- **destroy** to damage something so badly that it no longer exists or cannot be used or repaired: The earthquake almost completely destroyed the city. | The twin towers were destroyed in a terrorist attack.
- **devastate** to damage a large area very badly and destroy many things in it: Allied bombings in 1943 devastated the city. | The country's economy has been devastated by years of fighting.
- **demolish** to completely destroy a building, either deliberately or by accident: The original 15th century house was demolished in Victorian times. | The plane crashed into a suburb of Paris, demolishing several buildings.
- **flatten** to destroy a building or town by knocking it down, bombing it etc, so that nothing is left standing: The town centre was flattened by a 500 lb bomb.
- **wreck** to deliberately damage something very badly, especially a room or building: The toilets had been wrecked by vandals. | They just wrecked the place.
- **trash** *informal* to deliberately destroy a lot of the things in a room, house etc: Apparently, he trashed his hotel room while on drugs.
- **obliterate** *formal* to destroy a place so completely that nothing remains: The nuclear blast obliterated most of Hiroshima.
- **reduce something to ruins/rubble/ashes** to destroy a building or town completely: The town was reduced to rubble in the First World War.
- **ruin** to spoil something completely, so that it cannot be used or enjoyed: Fungus may ruin the crop. | The new houses will ruin the view.

demolish

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RANGE: **4k** DEMOLISH 1723

demolish ³⁹²

demolishes ⁴⁹

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COCA 500k Unlemmatized

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⁶¹ **96405**⁶³ *vv0*