

cover

[**kuhv**-er]

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verb (used with object)

1. to be or serve as a covering for; extend over; rest on the surface of:
Snow covered the fields.
2. to place something over or upon, as for protection, concealment, or warmth.
3. to provide with a covering or top:
Cover the pot with a lid.
4. to protect or conceal (the body, head, etc.) with clothes, a hat, etc.; wrap.
5. to bring upon (oneself):
He covered himself with glory by his exploits.
6. to hide from view; screen.
7. to spread on or over; apply to:
to cover bread with honey.

verb (used without object)

31. *Informal.* to serve as a substitute for someone who is absent:
We cover for the receptionist during lunch hour.
32. to hide the wrongful or embarrassing action of another by providing an alibi or acting in the other's place:
They covered for him when he missed roll call.
33. to play a card higher than the one led or previously played in the round:
She led the eight and I covered with the jack.
34. to spread over an area or surface, especially for the purpose of obscuring an existing **covering** or of achieving a desired thickness and evenness:
This paint is much too thin to cover.

noun

35. something that covers, as the lid of a container or the binding of a book.
36. a blanket, quilt, or the like:
Put another cover on the bed.
37. protection; shelter; concealment.
38. anything that veils, screens, or shuts from sight:
under cover of darkness.
39. woods, underbrush, etc., serving to shelter and conceal wild animals or game; a covert.
40. *Ecology.* vegetation that serves to protect or conceal animals, such as birds, from excessive sunlight, from drying, or from predators.

41. a set of eating utensils and the like, as plate, knife, fork, andnapkin, placed for each person at a table.

Verb phrases

51. **cover up,**

- a. to cover completely; enfold.
- b. to keep secret; conceal:

She tried to cover up her part in the plot.

Idioms

52. **blow one's cover,** to divulge one's secret identity, especiallyinadvertently:

The TV news story blew his carefully fabricated cover.

53. **break cover,** to emerge, especially suddenly, from a place ofconcealment:

The fox broke cover and the chase was on.

54.

cover one's /someone's ass, *Slang: Vulgar.* to take measuresthat will prevent oneself or another person from suffering blame,loss, hai

55. **take cover,** to seek shelter or safety:

The hikers took cover in a deserted cabin to escape the suddenstorm.

56. **under cover,**

- a. clandestinely; secretly:

Arrangements for the escape were made under cover.

- b. within an envelope:

The report will be mailed to you under separate cover.