

cost

1 Verb + cost

Use the correct form of these verbs:

calculate claim back cover
depend on cut spread

1. When we had the idea of making a video, we thought we would make a lot of money, but, in the end, we didn't even our costs.
2. Cheap labour from abroad is being used to keep costs down. A number of factories have also been closed in an attempt to costs.
3. The cost of repairing the damage caused by the storms has been at over £20 million.
4. Whether or not we go on holiday to New Zealand will the cost of the flights.
5. I paid for my hotel with my own credit card, but I'm able to the cost of it on expenses.
6. Why not pay monthly and the cost of your house insurance over the year?

2 Common adjective collocations

Complete the sentences with these expressions:

average cost full cost
at no extra cost estimated cost
high cost increased costs
running costs the cost is negligible

1. When you buy a new computer, you usually get a bundle of software included
2. The final cost of the new opera house is likely to be in the region of £50 million. This means that the has more than doubled!
3. Higher tax on fuel means for the ordinary motorist.
4. The main drawback of the flat in the town centre is its We simply can't afford it.
5. I'm afraid that the owners of the flats will have to bear the of the roof repairs. No subsidies or grants are available.
6. I think our next car'll be a diesel. The are far lower than a petrol car.
7. The of a new house in the UK last year was £80,000.
8. Don't worry about ringing abroad at this time of the evening. It really isn't very much.

3 Noun + of + cost

Complete the sentences with these nouns:

breakdown details grounds idea

1. Can you give me an of the cost of the repairs?
2. The bill will be £400. Here's a detailed of the costs.
3. The plan to build a new national stadium had to be abandoned on of cost.
4. The government has cleverly avoided disclosing any of the financial cost of the war.

4 Expressions with cost + of

Complete the sentences below with the following:

borrowing damage health care
living postage

1. It will be £30.45 if you add in the cost of and packaging.
2. The government has reduced the cost of in an attempt to get the economy moving again.
3. The high cost of in New York means I'm going to have to come back to the UK.
4. I believe that everyone should pay something towards the cost of their own
5. People are still clearing away the debris in the streets and trying to assess the cost of the caused by the tornado.

Go back and underline the expressions with cost of.

Notes

1. In 1-3 'estimated' is also possible.
2. If the cost of something is 'immaterial', you don't care how much it is.
3. Notice these two expressions with similar meanings:
He's determined to win at all costs / whatever the cost.
4. Notice the following expressions:
He drank heavily for most of his adult life at considerable cost to his health.
The trip to the theatre works out at a cost of £25 per head.
5. Cost also means 'effort' or 'loss':
We won the war, but the cost in human life was huge.
She's not a very nice person – as I know to my cost!