

Muddle

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«Muddle» is a noun, an adjective and a verb. As a noun it means “desorden, lio, follón y confusion”. Here are some examples as a noun:

- What a muddle! (¡que desorden, que lio, que follón!).
- The government in Germany is in a muddle (está confuso). The government does not know what to do (el gobierno no sabe qué hacer).

A room could be *in a muddle* (en desorden) and arrangements (planes, preparativos) can be in a muddle.

It is also a verb:

- Podemos had *muddled up* all the papers (... había revuelto todos los papeles).
- ZP got *muddled up* during the meeting (ZP se confundió durante la reunión). Here it is a phrasal verb and means “confused”.
- I always *muddle up* my words when I speak in Spanish.
- You are getting Mr. Bean muddled up with Mr. Zapatero (te estás confundiendo Señor Bean con Mr. Zapatero).

Finally as an adjective (muddle-headed):

- Sanchez is a muddler (atolondrado) and the barons of PSOE (barones) are muddle-headed (despitados, atolondrados).

So a *muddle-headed* person is a *muddler* who always *muddles up* things and therefore is *in a muddle*!