

ものだ / もんだ common knowledge

Formation:

Verb (present plain)	+ ものだ / もんだ
Verb (ない form)	+ もんじゃない
い- Adj	+ ものではありません
な- Adj	

Usages:

1.1 Used when you state a common/popular belief or general knowledge/common sense/当たり前. Statement is objective.

【吸血鬼】きゅうけつきにんにくが【嫌い】きらいなものだ。Vampires hate garlic. (Lit. It is a popular belief that Vampires hate garlic.)

1.2 "Should; Supposed to; must; ought to..." Stating a fact. Something that normally/generally happens.

人は【完璧】かんぺきじゃないものだ。(It's well-known that) people aren't perfect.

生き物はいつか死ぬものだ。Living things are supposed to eventually die.

時間の【無駄】むだだから、人の【悪口】わるぐちを言うもんじゃない。It's a waste of time so you shouldn't badmouth others.

【悪い】わるいことをしたら、【謝る】あやまるもんだ。If you do something bad, you are supposed to apologize.

✖✖ Normally, we do not put a verb-past in front of もんじゃない with the meaning of "Normally; to be supposed to". But there's a popular expression that says 「人生捨てたもんじゃない。」 Life isn't so bad (shouldn't be thrown away).

1.3 Indicates surprise (positive or negative). Does not matter if it's in the present or past tense. This is not very common. よく + ね (I can't believe) is much more common in spoken language.

【驚いた】おどろいたもんだ。I'm so surprised.

VS

【驚いた】おどろいた。I'm so surprised. (Sounds the same but もんだ sounds formal)

よく20時間も寝られるね。(よく + ね : I can't believe) How can you sleep as much as 20 hours?

1.4 V-たもの "Used to..."

【家族】がずっとよくここに来たもんだ。I used to come here often with my family.

Common Expression:

そんなもんだよ。It is what it is.

難しいものです。It's supposed to be difficult.

そういうものだ。/ そんなものだ。That's the way it is.

【人生】じんせいそんなもんだよ。That's life. / That's the way life is.



もんだ / もんだ common knowledge (cont)

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!□!□Note: べき is almost like a societal level "should". Like, if something is べき, it's cause it's the right thing to do. It's a little judgmental.

もんだ "Normally" "To be supposed to"

もんだ / もんだ "Normally" "To be supposed to..." "Generally speaking..."	はず "I expect; supposed to (do something)"	べきだ "Should; Supposed to; must; ought to..." / べきです	V-たほうがいい "You should..." "It's better to..."	V〜ない〜な ぎゃ "Must/have to"
STATING FACTS (objective)	OWN EXPECT- ATION (subje- ctive)	ADVICE (strong-society standard)	ADVICE (imposing)	"I MUST do.."
-Not telling anyone to do anything or giving advice but just saying "it's a popular opinion"	-Indicates the expectation of the speaker (based on the speaker's belief or expect- ations)	-"Should/supposed to do" because that's the common sense and that's what the society expects from you so you feel like you HAVE to do it and it's the right thing to do (at least in your opinion)	-Used when you want to strongly recommend something to someone.	-Gives a feeling that it is an obliga- tion. Like you have to do it because others expect us to do.
		-It's like giving strong advice "It would be better if..." same with V-たほうがいい but stronger.	-Used when you want to talk about common sense (It's better to eat veggies, etc.) -よ particle is used at the end of the sentence to emphasize suggestion	-The speaker must fulfill their obliga- tions under the laws, social norms, etc.



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Not published yet.
Last updated 18th September, 2024.
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もんだ "Normally" "To be supposed to" (cont)

【お年寄り】おとしよりに-	ネズミ【年】どしなら、22歳のはずだね。If you were born in the year of the rat, you must be 22 years old.	【借りた】かりたら、【返す】かえすべきだ。If you borrow something, you should return it.	毎日やさいを食べた方がいい。It's better to eat veggies everyday.	もう一度。ちゃんと言わなきゃ。I have to say it once again and do it right (this time).
【席】せきを【譲る】ゆずものだ。You should give up your seat to the elderly. (You are not telling anyone to do anything. You are just giving a statement)	知っているはず。You should know. / I'm sure you know it.		電車で行ったほうがいい。It's better to go by train.	行かなきゃいけないと思う。I think I have to go. (Lit. I think it won't go well if I don't go.)

【借りた】かりたら、【返す】かえすもんだ。If you borrow something, you are supposed to return it.

V-た 【もんだ】 "Used to" nostalgia

Words used often: 昔は、子供の時、よく、Adverb of frequency

V-た 【もんだ】 "Used to V..."

□□ DONTs: It's not used with something you've only done once.

(Adv of frequency) + ... Vたっけ? "Used to V..."

□□□□ Adding よく/毎日/毎週 (adv of frequency) in your sentence also adds that nostalgic feeling because if this is not added, it will sound like you just can't remember it and just trying to recall something (V-たっけ?)

"Used to V" PAST TENSE

-Expresses nostalgia. -Speaker used to do something often in the past and you do not do it anymore

-Used to recall something from the past

-Talk about the past and get that feeling of nostalgia "We used to..."



V-た 【もんだ】 "Used to" nostalgia (cont)

子供の時、森に虫を【捕まえ】つかまえ行ったもんだ。When I was a kid, I used to catch mosquitoes in the woods.

✕ 昨日何食べたっけ？ What did I eat yesterday? (I can't remember) (trying to recall something)

子供の時、森に虫を【捕まえ】つかまえ行ったもんだ。When I was a kid, I used to catch mosquitoes in the woods.

よく家族とここに来たっけ。I used to come here often with my family. (You have to sound confident to sound nostalgic.)

【家族】かぞくとよくここに来たもんだ。I used to come here often with my family.

VS

よくウォークマンを聞いてたもんだ。I used to often listen to my Walkman.

家族とここに来たっけ？ Did I come here with my family?

【毎週末】まいしゅうまつ家族とバーベキューしてたっけ。I used to have barbecues with my family every weekends.

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Vocabs:

祖父】そふ: grandfather (formal)

【田んぼ】たんぼ: rice field

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Last updated 18th September, 2024.
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