

## Pelf

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I love the English language and love playing with it - even if I don't always type it properly.

As a result I was delighted when the [Guardian editorial today](#) presented me with a word I had not come across before - pelf.

The Oxford Dictionary on my Mac defines it as:

*pelf* |*pelf*]

*noun*

*money, esp. when gained in a dishonest or dishonorable way.*

*ORIGIN late Middle English (in the sense [booty, pilfered property] ): from a variant of Old French **pelfre** 'spoils,' of unknown origin. Compare with **pilfer** .*

I have a suspicion I might be using that one again - it's just so apt.

And for those bankers on twitter who thought the editorial was ambiguous - I think you missed the point in the title.