

ENGLISH IDIOMS

Sayings & Slang



MAGNUSON

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Wayne Magnuson
English Idioms
Sayings and Slang



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Idioms: 'at a boy (that a boy) -- 'at a girl (that a girl)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| 'at a boy (that a boy) | good work, well done, ataboy | Whenever I win, Don says, " 'at a boy! Good game!" |
| 'at a girl (that a girl) | good work, well done, attagirl | When Judy gets good grades, her mom says, " 'at a girl, Judy!" |

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Idioms: a close shave -- a cut-up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| a close shave | very close to serious injury or death | The old man described his fight with the bear as a close shave. |
| a clutch hitter (baseball) | a batter who hits when runners are on base | Joe's a clutch hitter. He's batting .431 with runners on base. |
| a common thread | an idea or theme that is similar to others | There's a common thread in most of Berton's stories. |
| a contract out on | a contract that pays to have someone killed | There's a contract out on Mike. The boss doesn't like him. |
| a coon's age | many years, a dog's age | We haven't been out to the coast in a coon's age. It's been years. |
| a crash course | a short course that has the main facts and skills | He took a crash course in cooking and bought a cafe. |
| a crush on | sudden feeling of love or romance | Judy has a crush on Tim. See the way she looks at him. |
| a crying shame | a sad event, it is too bad | It's a crying shame that they didn't have fire insurance. |
| a cut above | superior, better | A scholar's work is a cut above. It's superior to the others. |
| a cut-up | a joker, a person who tells jokes and has fun | When Marsha goes to a party she's a real cut-up - a lot of fun. |

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Idioms: butter up -- buy time

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| butter up | be nice to, suck up to | Butter him up before you ask to borrow his car. |
| butter wouldn't melt in his mouth | he is very calm and clear, he has an air of innocence, cool , smooth talker | When he's talking to voters, butter wouldn't melt in his mouth. |
| button your lip | do not tell anyone, on the QT | Button your lip about the speeding ticket. Don't tell Dad. |
| buttonhole you | stop you and talk to you, corner you and bore you | At the meeting, Al buttonholed me and asked me to vote Reform. |
| buy a round | buy a drink for everyone at the table, this one is on me | When Gina was born, I bought a round for the team. Every player had a drink to honor our baby. |
| buy into | believe and support, agree to support, come onside | He will buy into our plan if the money goes to needy children. |
| buy out | buy a business and all the inventory | We knew his business was in debt, so we offered to buy him out. |
| buy that | believe that, eat that | He says he went to see his friends at the park. I can buy that. |
| buy the farm | die, kick the bucket , pass away | "Where's Henry?" "Oh, he bought the farm years ago - died of cancer, eh." |
| buy time | request time to plan, ask for extra time | If we can just buy a little time, maybe the price will go down. |

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Idioms: buy up -- by and large

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| buy up | buy all of a product or all the shares in a company | At closing time, Abe comes in and buys up the last shares. |
| buyer's market | a time when prices are low, soft market | The price of gold is low. It's a buyer's market in precious metals. |
| buzz-kill | a person who stops the fun, party-pooper | You buzz-kill! Don't talk about air disasters when I'm flying to Rome. |
| buzz off | go away, beat it , get lost | Next time he asks to borrow something, tell him to buzz off. |
| buzzed | slightly intoxicated, tipsy | Jane got buzzed on fermented coconut juice. She was happy! |
| buzzword | new word or expression, the latest jargon, catch phrase | <i>Internet</i> , <i>zero tolerance</i> - these were buzzwords of the 1990s. |
| by a country mile | by a long distance, by a wide margin | Black Beauty won the race by a country mile. She was far ahead. |
| by a long shot | (See not by a long shot) | |
| by all means | yes, please do it | By all means, come to the Learning Skills Centre. |
| by and large | mostly, mainly, most of the time | By and large, chocolate is the favorite flavor. |

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Idioms: by any means -- by its very nature

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| by any means | any way or method, by doing any job | He survived by any means when he first came to Canada. |
| by any stretch... | (See not by any stretch of the imagination) | |
| by cracky | you listen to what I say, this is the truth, by gosh This is serious, by cracky! We're lost and we have no water! | |
| by dint of | as a result of, because of | By dint of her efforts alone, this family is happy and healthy. |
| by golly | I am surprised, impressed; by gosh | By golly! She did it. She made a cherry pie! |
| by gosh | what an experience, this is interesting, by golly | Well, by gosh! This is my first look at Niagara Falls! |
| by guess or by gosh | any way that is possible, by chance | How did I learn to speak French? By guess or by gosh, that's how. |
| by heart | memorized every word, down pat | Eva knew the speech by heart. She didn't look at her notes. |
| by hook or by crook | any way that is possible, by any means | He'll get that car - by hook or by crook! He'll get it somehow. |
| by its very nature | because of its natural habits, because it is that way | A dog, by its very nature, is dependent on humans. |

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Idioms: by jove -- by word of mouth

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| by jove | it happened, it is amazing | By jove! We reached our goal. We sold 15,000 tickets! |
| by leaps and bounds | by large amounts, by a lot | The population of Calgary has grown by leaps and bounds. |
| by no means | not in any way, not by any stretch... | By no means is a car a good investment. It will depreciate. |
| by the by | (See by the way) | |
| by the same token | judging by the same rule, to be fair to both sides | By the same token, he should help with the housework. |
| by the seat of your pants | with little money, without planning, a lick and a promise | You can't operate a business by the seat of your pants. |
| by the short hairs | (See got you by the short hairs) | |
| by the skin of their teeth | by a little, barely | He won the election by one vote, by the skin of his teeth. |
| by the way | in addition to what I was saying, incidentally | By the way, I heard that Ed is resigning. |
| by word of mouth | by one person speaking to another, person to person, through the grapevine | News of his birth traveled by word of mouth. Soon everyone knew that Mary had a baby boy. |

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Idioms: bye -- bye for now

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------|---------------------------------|---|
| bye | goodbye | Bye, Mom. I love you. |
| bye for now | goodbye but I will see you soon | Bye for now. See you tonight at choir practice. |

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Idioms: c'est la vie -- call it a day

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|--|
| c'est la vie | that is fate, that's life | If you have bad luck some days, it's natural. C'est la vie! |
| Cabbagetown | a district in Toronto where European immigrants live | Restaurants in Cabbagetown serve European food. |
| cabin fever | feeling depressed because you have to stay inside | After three weeks of cold weather we all had cabin fever. |
| cackleberries | eggs, chicken eggs | Look! This hen laid five cackleberries! |
| call a spade a spade | say it in plain language; the straight goods | Kris will report the facts. She's not afraid to call a spade a spade. |
| call attention to | ask you to read or notice, draw attention to | I would like to call attention to the student parking problem. |
| call for | require, ask for | This recipe calls for bee pollen. Where can we get that? |
| call his bluff | challenge his story, give it to me straight , put up or shut up | When I called his bluff about low profits, he admitted that the company made 11 million. |
| call into account | consider, factor in, reckon with, account for | If you want to go to Ottawa on the first of July, you have to call holiday traffic into account. |
| call it a day | not work anymore today, call it quits | I'm feeling very tired. I think I'll call it a day. |

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Idioms: call it quits -- calm down

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| call it quits | stop doing something, quit what you are doing | The dust is bothering all of us. I think we should call it quits. |
| call it square | we do not owe each other, it is a wash , we are even | I bought the pizza; you bought the beer. Let's call it square. |
| call off | cancel, postpone | They called off the concert because the lead singer is sick. |
| call off the dogs | tell your friends to stop harassing me | Okay, I'll pay what I owe you. But call off the dogs! |
| call on | ask, request | I may call on you to speak at the meeting. Will you speak to us? |
| call tabs | collect money from bar customers | If customers are drunk, you call their tabs and ask them to leave. |
| call the shots | make the decisions, decide what happens | Mr. Binks may be the president, but Ms. Barker calls the shots. |
| call up | phone, dingle you , give me a ring , | Call her up and ask her for a date. Go ahead, phone her. |
| calm before the storm | (See the calm before the storm) | |
| calm down | not be so upset, settle down | Please calm down, Mr. Tse. Your daughter is safe. |

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Idioms: camel toes [B] -- can't help

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| camel toes [B] | the folds of the vagina revealed by tight jeans | When Betty wears her old jeans you can see her camel toes. |
| can | (See the can) | |
| can | dismiss, fire , let go | He was canned for drinking liquor at work. They dismissed him. |
| can help it | can stop it, can prevent it | Abortion won't become legal if he can help it. He's against it. |
| can it | stop it, knock it off | Miss Schmidt heard a boy say, "Can it! Here comes the teacher." |
| can of worms | a controversial issue, an old problem | Gun control - let's not open that can of worms! |
| can't believe my ears | cannot believe what I hear, it is unbelievable | The cat is babysitting the kids? I can't believe my ears! |
| can't believe my eyes | cannot believe what I see, it is unbelievable | When you walked into that cafe, I couldn't believe my eyes. |
| can't have it both ways | you have to choose one or the other; cannot have your cake... | When children are allowed to make choices, they learn that they can't have it both ways. |
| can't help | cannot prevent, cannot stop | I can't help crying at weddings. They make me feel sad. |

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Idioms: can't hold a candle -- canned

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| can't hold a candle | (See hold a candle) | |
| can't put my finger on it | cannot remember the exact words | I know the answer, but I can't put my finger on it. |
| can't put my hands on it | cannot remember exactly where it is | Your book is in my office, but I can't put my hands on it now. |
| can't see for looking | cannot see because I have been looking too long | Will you try to find my glove? I can't see for looking. |
| can't see the forest for the trees | I am so close that I cannot see the whole picture or the big picture | I'm so involved in teaching that I've lost my view of education. I can't see the forest for the trees. |
| can't stand | does not like, hate | Don can't stand love songs. He thinks the words are silly. |
| Canada goose | getting goosed in Canada by a Canadian | "There," he said. "Now you've had your Canada goose." |
| canary | a person who tells the police, a squealer | Ken - that canary! He tells the boss who comes in late. |
| candy-ass | a person without courage or confidence | Larry, that candy-ass! He's afraid to play me because he may lose. |
| canned | prepared, memorized, a pat answer | His answers sound canned, like he memorized them. |

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Idioms: Canuck -- carry on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| Canuck | a Canadian, a citizen of Canada, Johnny Canuck | When we visited Montana, a clerk called us "Canucks." |
| capture the imagination | cause a person to imagine a scene or character | The story of <i>Jacob Two-Two</i> will capture the kids' imagination. |
| car buff | a person who loves to repair or restore cars | Colin has been a car buff ever since he bought his first Ford. |
| card | (See such a card) | |
| card-carrying member | a regular member, a person on the membership list | Only card-carrying members will be allowed to attend the meeting. |
| caribouboo | a mistake made by a caribou, make a booboo | "Why did the caribou get lost?" "He made a caribouboo! Ha ha!" |
| carry a tune | sing well, sing in tune, pipes | Ask June to lead the singing. She can carry a tune. |
| carry it off | make it happen, pull it off | This project requires planning and skill, but he can carry it off. |
| carry on | continue, keep on | Carry on with your game. I'll wait until you're finished. |
| carry on | talk or act silly, not be sensible | They were kissing in church. Imagine carrying on like that! |

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Idioms: a daredevil -- a dog's age

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| a daredevil | a daring person, bodacious , take a chance | What a daredevil! She jumped across a ten-foot chasm! |
| a dead giveaway | a clear signal, an obvious sign | The smile on her face was a dead giveaway that she got the job. |
| a dead heat | a race that finishes in a tie for first, dead even | A photograph of the finish line proved that it was a dead heat. |
| a dead loss | a complete loss, a write-off (see write it off) | The spoiled meat was a dead loss. We couldn't eat any of it. |
| a dead ringer | a very close likeness, like a twin | Chad is a dead ringer for Mel Gibson. They look like twins. |
| a dickens of a time | a difficult task, a task with problems, a hell of a time | After the car slid in the ditch we had a dickens of a time getting it back on the road. |
| a different kettle of fish | different, not the same | A cult is not a religion. A cult is a different kettle of fish entirely. |
| a dildo [B] | a manufactured penis, a vibrator shaped like a penis | "When Ed's away I use a dildo." "Oh. That's interesting." |
| a dime a dozen | very cheap, low priced, dirt cheap | He can remember when eggs were cheap - a dime a dozen. |
| a dog's age | a long time, 10-15 years, a coon's age | Mel! I haven't seen you for a dog's age - at least ten years! |

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Idioms: carry out -- case of

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| carry out | do, complete, execute | Now that we have the loan we can carry out our plan. |
| carry the can | be responsible, see that the job gets done | The manager gets a big salary, but Mario carries the can. |
| carry the conversation | continue the conversation, continue talking to you | Visiting with Sally is easy. She carries the conversation! |
| carry the day | provide enough energy or support, fill the gap | We need one more volunteer. If you can come it will carry the day. |
| carry weight | have influence, have power | Nina is a good reference; her name carries a lot of weight. |
| carry your weight | do your share of the work, do enough work | If you carry your weight, you can work here for the summer. |
| cart before the horse | (See the cart before the horse) | |
| cascade (business) | allow information to flow down to the employees | Archie thinks we should control this information, not cascade it. |
| case in point | an example to support my point or thesis | Social democracy can succeed. Sweden is a case in point. |
| case of | (See a case of) | |

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Idioms: cash and carry -- cat got your tongue

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| cash and carry | pay cash and carry it out of the store (no deliveries) | The ad stated the terms of the sale: CASH & CARRY. |
| cash cow | a source of much money, a profitable resource | Alberta's cash cow - oil - is helping to balance the budget. |
| cash flow | money spent on the operation of a business | Calculate your weekly business expenses. That's your cash flow. |
| cash in | receive cash for bonds or poker chips; profit from | You're retired now. It may be time to cash in your bonds. |
| cash on the barrelhead | pay cash to the owner at the time of purchase; cold, hard cash | The old man said, "To buy my pony you'll have to pay \$300 - cash on the barrelhead." |
| cash on the line | pay the full price in cash to the seller | I'll pay \$200 for the bike - cash on the line. |
| cash up/cash out | count all the cash at the end of a business day | After you cash up, put the money in the safe and lock it. |
| cast a spell | use charm or spiritual power to change people | When Pavarotti sings, he casts a spell on his audience. |
| cast your vote | vote in an election, mark your ballot | Before you cast your vote, think carefully about the issues. |
| cat got your tongue | why do you not speak? lose your tongue? | Before I could reply, she said, "Cat got your tongue?" |

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Idioms: cat's ass -- catch a ride

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| cat's ass | (See the cat's ass) | |
| cat's meow | (See the cat's meow) | |
| cat's out of the bag | (See the cat's out of the bag) | |
| catcall | shouting disapproval or insults, heckling | The catcalls from the audience caused the speaker to pause. |
| catch 22 | the cause is the effect and the effect is the cause | It was catch 22. I needed my glasses to find my glasses. |
| catch a buzz | begin to feel intoxicated, begin to feel natural high | This is strong beer. You catch a buzz from drinking one bottle! |
| catch a cold (catch cold) | be sick with a cold, come down with a cold | I caught a cold while we were in Vancouver. |
| catch a glimpse | see for only a second, visible for a brief time | I caught a glimpse of Sue at the mall, but she didn't see me. |
| catch a plane/bus/train | go to the airport and get on the plane | After the meeting, you can catch the plane to Toronto. |
| catch a ride | ride with someone who has a vehicle, get a lift | When I go to church, I catch a ride with my neighbor Lila. |

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Idioms: catch as catch can -- catch some z's

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| catch as catch can | no order, get what you can | The Clearance Sale was catch as catch can - each one for himself. |
| catch hell [B] | get a scolding or lecture, get it , get shit [B] | "Did you catch hell for cheating?" "Yes. The teacher lectured me and gave me zero on the exam." |
| catch it | get a scolding or lecture, catch hell [B] | Did you catch it for coming in late? Was your mom mad? |
| catch me by surprise | surprise me, not warn me | The snowstorm in May caught us by surprise. We didn't expect it. |
| catch me doing that | see me doing that, find me doing that | You won't catch me skydiving. It's too dangerous. |
| catch on | learn how to do, learn the ropes | We need trainees who catch on quickly - people who learn fast. |
| catch on | get work, get a job, hire on | Maybe you can catch on with a survey crew for the summer. |
| catch phrase | idiom, popular phrase, buzzword | There's a catch phrase for Newfoundland: <i>The Rock</i> . |
| catch some rays | have a sun bath, get a sun tan, bag some rays | When we get to Hawaii, you can catch some rays. It's sunny there. |
| catch some z's | sleep, get some rest, crash | Do you mind if I catch some z's on your couch? I'm sleepy. |

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Idioms: catch the wave -- catch your eye

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| catch the wave | join the trend, do what is popular | Condos are popular now. Should we buy one and catch the wave? |
| catch up | arrive later, join you | You go ahead. I'll catch up with you at the bus stop. |
| catch-up | (See play catch-up) | |
| catch up on | do something that you have neglected | Ali can't go to the movie. He has to catch up on his homework. |
| catch up with | revealed or exposed, come back to haunt you | When your lies catch up with you, it's embarrassing. |
| catch you at a bad time | visit or call when it is inconvenient | You look very sad. Did I catch you at a bad time? |
| catch you later | I will talk to you later, I will see you later | I have to leave now. Catch you later. |
| catch you off guard | surprise you, say what you do not expect | Did my comment about dog poop catch you off guard? |
| catch your death | become very ill, catch a bad cold | In this terrible weather, put on a coat or you'll catch your death. |
| catch your eye | cause you to look, get your attention | When I was in Paris, a Peugeot cabriolet caught my eye. Ah! |

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Idioms: caught dead -- caution

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| caught dead | (See wouldn't be caught dead) | |
| caught flatfooted | not ready to respond, mind in neutral | Esposito was caught flatfooted by Lemaire's slapshot - an easy goal! |
| caught in the act | caught doing a crime, caught with his pants down | Two of the boys were caught in the act of vandalism. They were breaking car windows. |
| caught looking | be looking when you should have been acting | I was caught looking when he hit the ball. I just watched it. |
| caught red-handed | caught with evidence, caught in the act | The smuggler was caught red-handed with a kilo of cocaine. |
| caught up | busy with, involved | Maidra is caught up in church activities. She's very busy. |
| caught up | be finished, completed the required work | I want to get caught up on my cleaning before we have guests. |
| caught with his pants down | found doing a bad act, caught in the act | Percy was caught cheating - caught with his pants down. |
| cauliflower ear | a human ear that looks like a small cauliflower | After years of playing rugby Ron had a cauliflower ear. It had been bumped and injured too many times. |
| caution | (See a caution) | |

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Idioms: cave in -- chances are

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| cave in | quit, be unable to cope, fold | One more crisis and I'll cave in. I'm very weary. |
| cement hands | awkward hands, butter fingers | Joey can't type; he's got cement hands. |
| chain letter | a letter that is copied and sent to other people | This letter says I will have bad luck if I break the chain. |
| chain of command | order of those in power, line of authority | If you are a lieutenant, the chain of command goes up and down. |
| chain reaction | one event causing a sequence of events | Abe sold his shares, causing a chain reaction in the market. |
| chain smoker | a person who smokes one cigarette after another, smokes like a furnace | "Do all chain smokers die of emphysema?" "No, but most of them do." |
| chairman of the boards (hockey) | a player who controls play along the boards | In the 1970s Doug was chairman of the boards for the Hawks. |
| chalk it up to | conclude that it is..., attribute it to... | You tried and you failed. Chalk it up to experience. Learn from it. |
| chalk one up for you | you have earned a point, you won that point/game | Good shot! I'll chalk one up for you. |
| chances are | it is quite possible, it may be | Chances are they're lost, and that's why they're late. |

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Idioms: change for the better -- charity begins at home

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| change for the better | improve, become better | My attitude has changed for the better. I'm more positive now. |
| change hands | change owners, be sold or traded | That condo changed hands three times in one year - three owners! |
| change horses in mid stream | change plans/methods after you have begun a competition or business | We're in the furniture business, not clothing. We can't change horses in mid stream. |
| change of heart | change from negative to positive | Now he seems friendly toward us. Has he had a change of heart? |
| change your mind | choose a different plan, change your decision | Please change your mind about leaving home. Please don't go. |
| change your tune | change your attitude, change your mind | If the price of a barrel of oil goes down, he'll change his tune. |
| character assassination | saying things that ruin a person's reputation, muckrake | "What did they say about him?" "It was mainly gossip and character assassination." |
| character density | number of dense people, number of dummies | If I join your company, the character density will decrease. |
| charge it | buy or purchase on credit, put it on the bill | The clerk said, "If you don't have cash, you can charge it." |
| charity begins at home | first help the needy in your own community; then help others | If you want to help the poor, remember that charity begins at home. |

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Idioms: charley horse -- check it out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| charley horse | soreness in a muscle, cramp in a calf muscle, pull a muscle | "Did you hurt your leg playing baseball?" "Yes, I slid into third base and now I have a charley horse." |
| chaser | a soft drink to follow a hard drink, a weaker drink | The old man drank coffee as a chaser for the Irish whisky. |
| chasing rainbows | trying to achieve an impossible goal | Many young actors are chasing rainbows - hoping for fame. |
| chat her up | talk to her about a date, talk romantically to her | If you like Mila, chat her up. Say nice things to her. |
| cheap | unwilling to spend money, not generous, tight | They refuse to buy the boy a decent suit. They're too cheap. |
| cheap drunk | (See a cheap drunk) | |
| cheap like borsch | not expensive, as cheap as vegetable soup <i>borsch</i> may also be spelled <i>borsh</i> , <i>borscht</i> or <i>borshch</i> , showing that we lack an authoritative mapping from the Russian to the English alphabet | I didn't pay much for this jacket. It was cheap like borsch. |
| cheap skate | a person who does not pay his share, a tight-ass | That cheap skate can keep his money. I'll pay for the tickets. |
| cheat on | break a marriage promise, be unfaithful | He cheats on his wife. Now he's sleeping with a waitress. |
| check it out | inquire, find out about | Check it out. It may be a great opportunity. |

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Idioms: check out -- checkup

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|--|
| check out | find out about, see if it is okay | Let's check out that Subaru we saw at Chong's Used Cars. |
| check-out | the counter where you pay for your purchases | The shoppers were lined up at the Canadian Tire check-out. |
| check over | look for errors in a paper, see if there are mistakes | I've written a letter of application. Will you check it over for me? |
| check that | look at that, get a load of that | When Rick saw the sports car, he said, "Check that!" |
| check this out | look at this, eyeball this , peep this | Hey! Check this out! Carly's got a boyfriend! |
| check up on | see if everything is fine or safe | He went to check up on the kids because they were crying. |
| check up on | supervise, watch to see if it is done correctly | They don't like a manager who is always checking up on them. |
| check your bags | give your luggage to the ticket agent | I would like to check my bags. Will you put them on the plane? |
| checkered career | career with failures, history of good and bad | His checkered career may ruin his chance of being elected. |
| checkup | doctor's examination, medical examination | If you aren't feeling well, go to the doctor for a checkup. |

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Idioms: check out -- checkup

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Idioms: a dog's breakfast -- a duke's mixture

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| a dog's breakfast | a mixture of many things, a hodgepodge | This book is a dog's breakfast. It contains a bit of everything. |
| a dog's life | a poor life, hard times | Without a job, it's a dog's life. |
| a doggy bag | a bag or container for food you don't eat at the restaurant or café | If we can't eat all the lobster, ask for a doggy bag and we'll take it home. We can have it for lunch tomorrow. |
| a double-edged sword | a device that can help you and hurt you | Truth is a double-edged sword. It can imprison me or set me free. |
| a downer (drug) | a drug that relaxes you, a sedative | Before bedtime he took a downer to help him relax and sleep. |
| a downer (sadness) | an event or statement that causes sadness | News of the war was a downer. Most of the people dreaded war. |
| a drag | a boring time, a yawner | Mary's party was a drag. We just sat around and talked. |
| a dressing down | a scolding, a lecture, a piece of my mind | Mother gave me a dressing down when I said bad words. |
| a drop in the bucket | a small part, a tiny piece, the tip of the iceberg | This donation is only a drop in the bucket, but it is appreciated. |
| a duke's mixture | an odd combination of things, a strange mixture of items, a dog's breakfast , Fibber McGee's closet | When Lynn opened the lid of the box she found a duke's mixture - everything from jewelry to birdseed! |

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Idioms: cheek -- cherrypicker (hockey)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| cheek | sharp reply, sarcasm, lip | When I called Mom a crab, she said, "No more of your cheek!" |
| cheek by jowl | beside, alongside, side by side | Jack and James fought cheek by jowl in World War I. |
| cheeky | rude, impolite, lippy , sassy | Tara is too cheeky. She told her mom to stop flirting with men. |
| cheerio | goodbye, bye for now , so long , toodle-oo | "Cheerio, dear. See you at lunchtime!" |
| cheers | a British toast or greeting meaning good health to you or goodbye and good wishes, chimo , ciao | I raise my glass to a great leader: Sir Winston Churchill. Cheers! |
| cheery-bye | goodbye, bye , cheerio | I'll see you tomorrow. Cheery-bye! |
| cheesecake | naked flesh, bare skin | The dancer provided lots of cheesecake - lots of bare leg. |
| cheesed off | upset, annoyed, ticked off | They were cheesed off when I said you wouldn't pay them. |
| cheesy | poor quality, crappy , shabby | The acting was pretty cheesy. The actors didn't know their lines. |
| cherrypicker (hockey) | a player who waits at center ice for a pass | Our coach told us about the cherrypicker on the other team. |

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Idioms: cheek -- cherrypicker (hockey)

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Idioms: chestnut -- chicken on a June bug

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| chestnut | old favorite song, well-known story | Moira played the piano, and we sang old songs - old chestnuts. |
| chew him out | lecture him, scold him, give him hell (see give you hell) [B] | My sister chewed me out for taking her car. She gave me hell. |
| chew the fat/ chew the rag | talk, visit, have a chin wag | I'll go and get the wine while you two relax and chew the fat. |
| chick | girl, woman | We were waiting for the bus, and this chick says, "Hi, boys." |
| chick flick | film for women, movie about a woman or women | <i>Steel Magnolias</i> is a chick flick about life in the southern US. |
| chicken | afraid, scared, yellow | When it comes to heights, I'm chicken. I'm scared. |
| chicken | a coward, a person who is not brave, wimp | I'm not a fighter, but I'm not a chicken. I just don't believe in violence. |
| chicken feed | small amount of money, a paltry sum , peanuts | Don't worry about a few dollars for books. It's chicken feed. |
| chicken in every pot | (See a chicken in every pot) | |
| chicken on a June bug | (See like a chicken on a June bug) | |

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Idioms: chickens come home to roost -- chip off the old block

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| chickens come home to roost | we cannot escape the consequences of our actions | We soon discover that lies return to their owner, just as chickens come home to roost. |
| chickenshit [B] | (See chicken) | |
| chief cook and bottle washer | manager, supervisor | Hal is the chief cook and bottle washer for our school supper. |
| chill out | pause to gain control of your emotions, cool off | I think you should chill out before you see the supervisor. |
| chime in | add a word or phrase to a conversation, two cents' worth | "I want a piece of cake, too," Izzie chimed in. "Please." |
| chimo | an Inuit expression meaning "Goodbye. It was nice talking to you," bye for now , ciao | "I'm glad we finally met!" "Yes, we had a good visit. Chimo!" |
| chin wag | (See a chin wag) | |
| chintzy | unwilling to spend, cheap , tight | Don't be so chintzy with your time. Volunteer to visit seniors. |
| chip in | each one help to pay for, everybody pay a little | We should chip in and buy Sadie a gift when she moves away. |
| chip off the old block | (See a chip off the old block) | |

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Idioms: chickens come home to roost -- chip off the old block

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Idioms: chip on his shoulder -- chops

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| chip on his shoulder | in a fighting mood, looking for a fight | Ron has a chip on his shoulder. He's arguing with everybody. |
| chips are down | (See when the chips are down) | |
| chock full | very full, full to the top, chockablock , plump full | The truck was chock full of paper to be recycled. |
| chockablock | tightly packed, crammed in one place, chock full | The square was chockablock with people - all looking at the pope. |
| choke | be so nervous you cannot perform or do it well | Don't even think about choking when you make your speech. |
| choked | angry, mad, pissed | She was really choked when you called her a bitch. |
| chomping at the bit | eager to go, anxious to leave | If you mention camping, the kids will be chomping at the bit. |
| choose sides | help one side or team, take sides | Some of the students will dislike you if you choose sides. |
| choose up sides | choose people to play on two or more teams | Let's choose up sides and play a game of volleyball. |
| chops | lips and teeth, mouth | You need big chops to play the tuba, eh. |

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Idioms: chip on his shoulder -- chops

Idioms: chow -- claim to fame

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| chow | food, something to eat | I'm starved. Let's get some chow. |
| chow down | eat, have a meal | I'm hungry. Let's chow down before we go to the movie. |
| Christmas graduate | a student who leaves college at Christmas | Among the Christmas graduates last year was Gerard Kutz. |
| chromedome | bald person, silkhead | Chromedomes can tell you the advantages of being bald. |
| chuck it | put it in the garbage, junk it | We used to say <i>chuck it</i> , but now we say <i>recycle it</i> . |
| chunk of change | (See a chunk of change) | |
| ciao | goodbye, see you later | Ciao, Tony. See you in Rome. |
| circles around you | much better than you, no contest | Why do you play cards with her? She can play circles around you. |
| circular file | garbage can or wastebasket, file 13 | A lot of memos go in the circular file. They're garbage. |
| claim to fame | what you have done to cause you to be famous | Besides passing math, what's your claim to fame? |

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Idioms: clam -- clean up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| clam | dollar, buck | He paid a hundred clams for that radio. |
| clam up | stop talking, become quiet | Why do you clam up when we mention Judy? Why so quiet? |
| claptrap | nonsense, trivia, bull | I heard what the psychic said. What a lot of claptrap! |
| class act | a fine person, a lady, a gentleman, first class | Do you know Stephen Lewis? Now there's a class act! |
| claws are showing | show resentment or envy or jealousy, if looks could kill | When you talked about Carla, your claws were showing. Do you dislike her? |
| clean bill of health | (See a clean bill of health) | |
| clean bill of health | (See a clean bill of health) | |
| clean cut | well groomed, clean, neat | We're looking for clean-cut boys to work as waiters. |
| clean me out | buy all I have, steal everything I own | The thieves cleaned us out. They took everything in our house. |
| clean up | pick up garbage, put away clothes or toys, wash | Lorne, please clean up the mess in your bedroom. |

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Idioms: clean up on -- clear up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| clean up on | defeat, beat, whip you , wipe you | Little Chad cleaned up on big Clint. Chad is quite a fighter. |
| clean up your act | do it better, do it legally, get your act together | I've missed classes, failed tests. I need to clean up my act. |
| clean up your plate | finish eating all the food on your plate, eat it up | You may leave the table after you've cleaned up your plate. |
| clear as a bell | easy to hear or understand, clearly audible | We heard him say it. He said <i>no</i> , clear as a bell. |
| clear as mud | not understandable, confusing | Mr. Lee explained the formula. Then he said, "Clear as mud, eh?" |
| clear out | leave, go, get out, take off | When the gang arrived, we cleared out. We left in a hurry. |
| clear out | sell at a low price, sell at a discount | We're clearing out last year's stock at 20% off. |
| clear sailing | (See smooth sailing) | |
| clear the air | explain, talk about a problem openly | His statement will clear the air. It will prevent more confusion. |
| clear up | explain, discuss so everyone understands | Let's clear up the matter of the missing keys. Were they stolen? |

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Idioms: clear your head/mind -- clotheslined (hockey)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| clear your head/mind | relax so you can think clearly | After an argument I need time to clear my head, to become calm. |
| click in | become aware, realize, dawn on , hit me | It didn't click in that he was hurt until I saw the blood on his shirt. |
| cliff-hanger | (See a cliff-hanger) | |
| climb the walls | feel upset or stressed, go bonkers , go crazy | On the first day of school, the teacher was climbing the walls. |
| close a deal/sale | complete a sale to a customer | Vi knows how to close a sale. She's a good closer. |
| close call | (See a close call) | |
| close shave | (See a close shave) | |
| close to the vest | hidden, covered, not showing your cards | Walter plays close to the vest. He doesn't let me see his cards. |
| closer | (See wheeler-dealer) | |
| clotheslined (hockey) | lifted by a bodycheck, hanging over the checker or the boards | Orr was clotheslined just as he crossed the line. What a check! |

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Idioms: clouds on the horizon -- coffee talk

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| clouds on the horizon | a problem has appeared, something is wrong, the sky isn't blue | We have achieved our goals, but there are clouds on the horizon. The government is going to cancel our funding. |
| clued in | aware, in the know , with it | "How do you get clued in?" "You watch and listen, man." |
| clueless | not informed, ignorant, not with it | When I don't know the answer, I try not to look clueless. |
| clunker | a car that is in poor condition, a beater | Uncle Blair has bought another clunker - an old Pontiac. |
| clutch hitter (baseball) | (See a clutch hitter) | |
| clutz | (See klutz) | |
| cock and bull [B] | nonsense, bull , BS [B] | Don't believe that cock-and-bull story about Bigfoot. |
| cocky | proud, smartass | "Why is Len acting so cocky?" "He won the Frisbee contest." |
| cocoon | stay inside your home to feel comfortable and safe | We don't want to go out tonight. We feel like cocooning. |
| coffee talk | conversation while having coffee, water-cooler... | I don't believe Sally's pregnant. It's just coffee talk, just gossip. |

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Idioms: coin -- collect my thoughts

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| coin | money, loot, dough , serious coin | Wait till I get some coin. Then we can travel. |
| coin a phrase | (See to coin a phrase) | |
| cold call | a visit to an employer or customer without an appointment | Sam got a job by making cold calls - by knocking on doors and asking for work. |
| cold comfort | very little comfort, satisfaction in theory not reality | If Jim dies, having his money is cold comfort for his wife. |
| cold feet | (See get cold feet) | |
| cold shoulder | (See give you the cold shoulder) | |
| cold turkey | abruptly, completely, not gradually | Barb stopped smoking, cold turkey. No plan, no program. |
| cold, hard cash | actual money, dollar bills; not a check or credit card | No checks - I want cold, hard cash for that car. |
| coldcock | punch without warning, jump | Buddy coldcocked the pitcher - hit him when he wasn't looking. |
| collect my thoughts | think calmly and clearly, organize my thoughts | She was glad when the kids left so she could collect her thoughts. |

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Idioms: a dust-up -- a few bricks short of a full load

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| a dust-up | a fight, a skirmish; set-to | The boys argued and had a little dust-up, but no one got hurt. |
| a fair shake | a fair deal, a just settlement | The insurance company gave us a fair shake - paid all our damages. |
| a falling out | a disagreement, a break in friendship | Guy and Jean had a falling out. They argued about religion. |
| a false move | a wrong move, a threatening action | A man with a gun said, "If you make a false move, you're dead." |
| a far cry | not similar, very different | This is good sherry, but it's a far cry from the amontillado. |
| a faraway look | the eyes show thoughts of a distant place or friend | When I mention horses, you get a faraway look in your eyes. |
| a fart in a windstorm | an act that has no effect, an unimportant event | A letter to the editor of a paper is like a fart in a windstorm. |
| a fat lip | a hit on the lip, an injured lip | Stop bothering her or I'll give you a fat lip. I'll hit you. |
| a feather in your cap | an honor, a credit to you, chalk one up for you | Because you are Karen's teacher, her award is a feather in your cap. |
| a few bricks short of a full load | not sensible or logical, not all there | When Moe began eating bugs, we knew he was a few bricks short. |

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Idioms: collecting dust -- come back to haunt you

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| collecting dust | not used for a long time, idle, gathering dust | "Where's the silver tray?" "On the shelf, collecting dust." |
| come [B] | have an orgasm, ejaculate | Some women fake an orgasm - they pretend to come, eh. |
| come across | seem to be, appear to be | You came across as being angry, not just disappointed. |
| come across | discover, find | I came across an antique basin in the attic. It was in a box. |
| come across | give, pay, pay up | They came across with \$250 - half the money they owe us. |
| come across [B] | consent to have sex, get laid , go all the way | You kiss me as though you're going to come across, but then you say no. |
| come again | what did you say? beg your pardon? | When I asked Grandpa if he liked the soup, he said, "Come again?" |
| come alive | become lively, cheer, applaud | As the players skated onto the ice, the crowd came alive. |
| come around | begin to co-operate, believe, come onside | When he reads the report, he'll come around. He'll believe us. |
| come back to haunt you | cause you to feel guilty or ashamed | Lies will come back to haunt you, remind you of the past. |

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Idioms: come by -- come home to roost

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| come by | find, get, obtain | How did you come by that vase? Where did you get it? |
| come clean | tell the truth, admit everything, own up | The police asked him to come clean about the money - to tell them everything he knew. |
| come down hard | punish hard, throw the book at | The teachers come down hard on cheating. They suspend cheaters. |
| come down off your high horse | (See get off your high horse) | |
| come down on like a ton of bricks | reprove, punish harshly | Whenever I make the slightest mistake, my boss comes down on me like a ton of bricks. |
| come down to earth | be realistic, get your head out of the clouds | If she'd come down to earth, if she'd stop dreaming about fame, she could pass her exams. |
| come down with | become sick, become ill | Brenda came down with the flu. She's very sick. |
| come full circle | arrive at the place where you began | "Let's ask the teacher, okay?" "If we do that, we'll have come full circle. Remember?" |
| come hell or high water | no matter what happens, by any means | I'll buy that ranch, come hell or high water. I'm determined. |
| come home to roost | (See chickens come home to roost) | |

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Idioms: come into -- come on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| come into | inherit, receive as a gift | When her father died, she came into a lot of money. |
| come into play | affect, influence, be a factor | In sales, all of your skills come into play. You use them all. |
| come into your own | be your natural best, find your voice , realize your potential | After five years in medicine, he came into his own. He became an excellent doctor. |
| come naturally | able to learn easily, have natural ability | Playing the piano seemed to come naturally to Susan. |
| come of | happen, result, develop | Peter liked Mia, but nothing ever came of it - no romance. |
| come of age | become old enough to vote or go to the bar or fight in a war | On my 18th birthday, Dad said, "Now that you've come of age, here's a set of keys to the car." |
| come off | happen as planned, succeed | The band wanted to produce a CD, but it didn't come off. |
| come off it | I do not believe it, you're kidding | You had a date with Cybill Shepherd? Come off it! |
| come on | cheer, encourage | Come on, Mat, you can do it! You can ride that bull! |
| come on | do what we ask | Come on, tell us a story. Please? |

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Idioms: come into -- come on

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Idioms: come-on -- come to a head

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| come-on | invitation to romance, give her the eye | She's giving Rex the come-on, smiling at him "and stuff". |
| come on strong | do it with more energy, do it with enthusiasm | If you come on too strong, the customer will not buy from you. |
| come onside | come on our team, be on our side, buy into | We want to persuade Vi to come onside. We want her to join us. |
| come onto | talk to in a sexual way, make advances | In the car he started coming onto her. He said he wanted her. |
| come out in the wash | become clear later, when the dust settles | We will soon know who did it. It will all come out in the wash. |
| come out with | say, tell, blurt out | Then she comes out with a dirty joke and nobody laughed. |
| come through | complete the task, do what is expected | We're hoping that Ron will come through with high grades. |
| come to | regain your senses or consciousness | A few minutes after the accident, he came to. He opened his eyes. |
| come to | involves, includes | When it comes to dessert, I like raisin pie. |
| come to a head | come to a climax, result in a fight | Things will come to a head when the family discusses the will. |

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Idioms: come-on -- come to a head

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Idioms: come to fruition -- come up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| come to fruition | become reality, be completed as planned, see it through | Through your donations, your hard work, and your perseverance you have seen your plans for this church come to fruition. |
| come to grips with | accept the truth, face facts | I am finally coming to grips with my divorce. I'm accepting it. |
| come to terms | agree, sign an agreement, settle it | We hope they can come to terms before the court date. |
| come to terms with | accept that it is true, face facts | She helped the boy come to terms with the death of his father. |
| come to the point | say what is important, get to the point | When you make a speech, come to the point quickly. |
| come to think of it | now that I remember it, a thought has just come | Come to think of it, I was the one who suggested marriage. |
| come true | become real, happen, come to fruition | You must believe in your dream to make it come true. |
| come undone | lose self-control, disorganized, at loose ends , fall to pieces | When she's near me, I come undone. I can't think or talk! |
| come unglued | lose control, fall apart | If Tina doesn't stop worrying, she'll come unglued. |
| come up | happen, occur, crop up | In this job we never know what will come up. One customer wanted to buy an ostrich. |

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Idioms: come to fruition -- come up

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Idioms: come up with -- conk out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| come up with | think of, compose | Can you come up with the answer to my question? |
| comeback kid | an older person who tries to regain his/her former level of success | He's the comeback kid. At 60, he thinks he can skate and play the way he used to. |
| comeuppance | correction, what you deserve, just desert, get yours | If you've been cruel to people, you'll get your comeuppance. |
| coming out of our ears | having too many, having too much | Everybody brought salad. We had salad coming out of our ears! |
| coming out of your yin yang | having far too many, having far too much, tons | If we learn all the idioms in this book, we'll have idioms coming out of our yin yang! |
| coming up roses | doing very well, succeeding, | Since I met Ty, life is wonderful. Everything's coming up roses! |
| common sense | the ability to make logical decisions; horse sense | It is because she has common sense that we ask her opinion. |
| compare notes | compare what we saw and heard | We haven't had a chance to compare notes on Pat's wedding. |
| comuppins | (See comeuppance) | |
| conk out | quit, not work any more, sleep, give out | The TV conked out just after the movie started. |

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Idioms: consarned -- cool under pressure

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| consarned | darn, blasted , dingbusted , friggin | The consarned battery is dead. Rats! |
| contract out on | (See a contract out on) | |
| cook | play good jazz, play music with skill and inspiration | The Boss Brass was cookin' last night. What a great band! |
| cook your goose | finish you, ruin you, goose is cooked | If you borrow too much money, you'll cook your goose. |
| cool | fine, sophisticated, hip , groovy , neat , together , way cool , with it | "Do you know any cool guys?" "Yes. There's one in my class. Would you like to meet him?" |
| cool beans | nice, great, wonderful, awesome , cool | "Hey Dad, I got an A on my math test!" "Cool beans, Nicky! I knew you could do it!" |
| cool cat | (See show-off) | |
| cool it | stop it, be good, knock it off | The students cool it when the principal walks in. |
| cool off | control your emotions, chill out , calm down | I better cool off before I talk to the kids. I'm still angry. |
| cool under pressure | calm during a crisis, able to perform well when you must do it | Jo was very cool under pressure. When the judge asked questions, she answered clearly and calmly. |

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Idioms: consarned -- cool under pressure

Idioms: cool your heels -- corner you

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| cool your heels | wait for a judgement, serve a detention | Chad is cooling his heels in the Remand Centre - the city jail. |
| cooler heads prevailed | sensible people spoke, violence was avoided | There was nearly a riot, but cooler heads prevailed. |
| coon's age | (See in a coon's age) | |
| cop | policeman, fuzz , pig | I know this cop on the Calgary Police Force - he's a nice guy. |
| cop out | an excuse, not trying, not doing your share | Instead of speaking, he showed a video. What a cop out! |
| copacetic | agreeable, fine, go along with , okay , OK | Don is copacetic. He agrees with our plans. |
| copper | (See cop) | |
| corked | intoxicated, drunk, plastered , sloshed | Grant got corked last night and walked home. He couldn't drive. |
| corner the market | become the main supplier, have a monopoly | Japanese automakers are trying to corner the luxury car market. |
| corner you | insist that you listen, buttonhole you | If Helmer corners you, tell him you have to go to the bathroom. |

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Idioms: cool your heels -- corner you

Idioms: corny -- couldn't believe my ears

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| corny | obvious humor, unsophisticated humor | The farmer said his cows are moody today. Now <i>that</i> is corny! |
| cost a pretty penny | cost a lot of money, had a high price | Elvis bought a new pink Cadillac. I bet that cost a pretty penny. |
| cost an arm and a leg | cost a lot of money, is very expensive | That fur jacket must have cost her an arm and a leg. |
| cost you | require much money or emotional stress or time or energy | Caring for a child will cost you - cost you a lot. But it's worth every minute, every tear. |
| cotton-picking | thieving, doggone , flipping , ruddy | Get your cotton-pickin' fingers off that bike! Don't touch it! |
| cotton to that | believe in that, do that, relate to that | City folks play cards on Sunday, but we don't cotton to that. |
| couch potato | a person who watches a lot of TV | If I watch four hours of TV every day, am I a couch potato? |
| cough up | pay your share, pay a debt, pay up | Come on, Tony. Cough up. You haven't paid anything. |
| could care less | (See couldn't care less) | |
| couldn't believe my ears | (See can't believe my ears) | |

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Idioms: couldn't care less -- cover your ass [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| couldn't care less | could not care any less, do not care at all | "Brad is seeing Debbie." "I know. And I couldn't care less." |
| count on | depend on, rely on | We can count on Tanya. She always comes to choir practice. |
| count your chickens before they hatch | depend heavily on plans, spend money that you have not received | Politicians have learned not to "count their chickens" before the election. |
| course you can | you can do it, believe it, of course you can | "I don't think I can learn this." "Course you can, son." |
| courseware | computer program that teaches a course | We sell courseware to schools all over North America. |
| courtesy of | from, given by, donated by | The doughnuts are courtesy of Harry's Bakery. |
| cover for me | make an excuse for me, do my work | I may be late for work today. Will you cover for me? |
| cover up | hide it, sweep under the carpet | He can't cover up his mistake because people know about it. |
| cover-up | hiding something from the authorities or media | The reporter heard about the cover-up of police brutality. |
| cover your ass [B] | protect yourself by having documents signed etc. | If you discipline or dismiss an employee, cover your ass. |

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Idioms: couldn't care less -- cover your ass [B]

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Idioms: a fifth wheel -- a fool and his money are soon parted

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| a fifth wheel | a useless object, an unnecessary device | The team already had two guards, so I felt like a fifth wheel. |
| a fighting chance | a fair chance, a good chance | If I can get a job interview, I'll have a fighting chance. |
| a fill-up | a full tank of gasoline, fill her up | We got a fill-up before we left Winnipeg. The truck needed gas. |
| a fine line | a close relationship, not much difference | Sometimes there is a fine line between love and lust. |
| a fine-toothed comb | a careful search, a search for a detail | She read the file carefully - went over it with a fine-toothed comb. |
| a firm hand | a person who will discipline people | The students in Grade 8 need a teacher with a firm hand. |
| a flash in the pan | a person who does superior work at first | I'm looking for a steady worker, not a flash in the pan. |
| a fleeting glance | a very brief look, a quick glance | A fleeting glance from Marilyn would make his heart beat wildly. |
| a fly on the wall | able to hear and see what a fly would see and hear | I'd like to be a fly on the wall in the Judge's chambers. |
| a fool and his money are soon parted | a fool will spend all his money quickly; easy come, easy go | After he had spent his fortune, he remembered this saying: <i>A fool and his money are soon parted.</i> |

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Idioms: cow-pie -- crack the line-up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| cow-pie | cow shit [B] cow dung | Watch where you step. There are cow-pies everywhere. Oops! |
| cowpoke | a cowboy, a man who works on a ranch | Three cowpokes were herding some cattle down the road. |
| Cowtown | Calgary, Alberta; a town where cows are sold | The Calgary Stampede is the pride of Cowtown. Y'all come! |
| crack a book | study, read a textbook | Sean passed that exam without cracking a book. |
| crack a joke | tell a joke, say a funny word or phrase | Please be serious. Don't crack jokes or laugh at us. |
| crack down on | stop, not permit, not allow | The police began to crack down on speeders in the school zones. |
| crack me up | make me laugh hard, split a gut | Robin Williams cracks me up when he tells a story. |
| crack of dawn | (See at the crack of dawn) | |
| crack shot/salesman etc. | a person who is highly skilled at shooting etc. | Marvin has developed into a crack salesman. He's excellent. |
| crack the line-up | earn a place on a team, make the team | He's a good basketball player, but can he crack the line-up? |

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Idioms: cow-pie -- crack the line-up

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Idioms: crack this case -- crank out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| crack this case | solve a crime, discover who is guilty | David will crack this case; he's a thorough investigator. |
| crack under the strain | become irrational or hysterical due to strain, around the bend | Mother was a strong person. She never cracked under the strain of raising ten children. |
| cracked | crazy, nuts , wacko | He must be cracked. He mailed a letter to himself. |
| crackers | crazy, bonkers , nuts | Don't worry about me. I've been crackers all my life. |
| crackpot | a person who is strange or weird, wacko | Some crackpot wrote a letter to him threatening his family. |
| crackup | collision, crash | Drinking and driving causes a lot of crackups. |
| cramp your style | cause problems for you, cause stress for you | If we can't buy a Corvette, will it cramp your style? |
| crank issue | a topic that causes anger, can of worms | The Premier raised a crank issue and then went on holidays. |
| crank it up | turn up the volume, louder please | Hey, Karen, crank up the radio. That's a great song. |
| crank out | make, write, manufacture | Can you crank out a few jokes for our school newspaper? |

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Idioms: crack this case -- crank out

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Idioms: crap -- crazy like a fox

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|--|
| crap | lies, bull , BS | He told us that history books contain a lot of crap - BS. |
| crappy | poor quality, junky, shabby | What a crappy camera! Look at these terrible pictures! |
| crash | go to bed, go to sleep | Sometimes Don crashes on our sofa and sleeps for hours. |
| crash | fail to operate, not work, break down , kaput | If Netscape crashes, I'll have to use the phone instead of e-mail. |
| crash a party | go to a party uninvited, horn in | Bo and his friends crashed our party. They came uninvited. |
| crash course | (See a crash course) | |
| crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo | do anything to be closer to her, worship the ground she walks on | I'm so in love I'd crawl on my hands and knees over miles of broken glass to see her photo. |
| crawling with | having many of them, oodles , scads | The hotel was crawling with police. I couldn't count them. |
| crazy about | like a lot, mad about | Dad's crazy about sports. He really loves baseball. |
| crazy like a fox | crafty while appearing foolish or dumb, play the fool | In the debate, he was crazy like a fox. He praised his opponent for being clever and ruthless. |

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Idioms: cream of the crop -- cross paths

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| cream of the crop | best of the group, the finest ones | Only the cream of the crop will be invited to the interviews. |
| cream you | hit you, knock you down, knock you flat | If Jon discovers you lied to him, he'll cream you. He'll hit you. |
| creep | strange person, pervert, weirdo | What a creep! He looks like a stray dog! |
| crock | (See that's a crock) | |
| crocodile tears | false tears, phony sadness | Her crocodile tears don't fool me. She just wants sympathy. |
| crop up | happen, occur, come up | I'm planning to go to Montreal unless something crops up - like an airline strike. |
| cross my heart and hope to die | promise sincerely, honestly , under oath | I'll pay you back on Friday, cross my heart and hope to die. |
| cross over Jordan | die, buy the farm , pass away | Before dad crossed over, he told us to care for our mother. |
| cross over to the other side | die, kick the bucket , pass away | Some people cross over to the other side - and return! |
| cross paths | meet, encounter | We'll cross paths again, I'm sure. Until then, good luck. |

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Idioms: cream of the crop -- cross paths

Idioms: cross someone -- crux of the matter

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| cross someone | go against someone, insult someone | People are afraid to cross Phil because he has a violent temper. |
| cross that bridge when I come to it | make that decision when it is necessary, do not jump the gun | If interest rates begin to drop, I can buy bonds, but I'll cross that bridge when I come to it. |
| cross your fingers | (See keep your fingers crossed) | |
| cruise | drive the streets looking for fun and friends, bomb around | It was Sunday afternoon and we were cruising the streets looking for "chicks". |
| cruise | drive around in a car, bomb around | On summer nights we cruise the streets looking for fun. |
| cruising for a bruising | inviting a fight, asking for it | The new kid was cruisin' for a bruising - insulting everybody. |
| crummy | poor quality, lousy , shabby | We canceled the picnic because of the crummy weather. |
| crunch | (See the crunch) | |
| crush on | (See a crush on) | |
| crux of the matter | (See the crux of the matter) | |

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Idioms: cry her heart out -- cup runneth over

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| cry her heart out | cry a lot, sob, cry your eyes out | Poor girl! She's crying her heart out because he hasn't called her. |
| cry in your beer | be sad as you drink beer, regret as you drink beer, cry the blues | Go to college. Get your diploma. Or someday you'll be crying in your beer. |
| cry me a river | you can cry a lot but you will not get my sympathy, crocodile tears | When he complained about how much he had to pay his chauffeur, I said, "Cry me a river, guy." |
| cry over spilt milk | cry about small accidents, cry instead of doing | Children drop things and break them. Don't cry over spilt milk. |
| cry the blues | complain because your friend or lover has gone | Lan is crying the blues because Bing left her for another woman. |
| cry your eyes out | cry a lot, cry hard, cry her heart out | The little boy was lost and scared, and crying his eyes out. |
| crying shame | (See a crying shame) | |
| crystal clear | very clear, well understood, plain as day | After Mr. Tse explained the concept to me, he asked, "Is that clear?" "Crystal clear," I replied. |
| cup of tea | favorite activity, choice of entertainment | A holiday in the Yukon is not her cup of tea. |
| cup runneth over | feeling too full of love or joy or happiness | Whenever I listen to Mother Teresa, my cup runneth over. |

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Idioms: cry her heart out -- cup runneth over

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Idioms: curiosity killed the cat -- cut above

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| curiosity killed the cat | a very curious person may find trouble or danger | Don't ask so many questions. Remember, curiosity killed the cat. |
| curl up with a good book | sit down in a comfortable place and read a book | On a cold and rainy day she likes to curl up with a good book. |
| curl your hair | shock you, disgust you | The man described the accident. It was enough to curl your hair! |
| curtains | the end, the death, the last of | If we clear-cut Canada's forests, it's curtains for the lumber industry. |
| cushy | soft, luxurious, comfortable | They had a cushy life in their beautiful home beside the ocean. |
| cuss | curse, say bad words, the air was blue | The little boy had learned to cuss. He said <i>damn</i> and <i>hell</i> a lot. |
| cut | defined, clearly visible | Neil's muscles are well cut. They ripple when he moves. |
| cut a fine figure | look very good in your clothes, look sharp | When Dee was in her twenties she cut a fine figure in this fur jacket. |
| cut a wide swath | do many things - party, play sports, live and love | Tim cut a wide swath in his youth. He lived a full and active life. |
| cut above | (See a cut above) | |

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Idioms: cut and dried -- cut me to the quick

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| cut and dried | simple, not complex, open and shut | For me, the choice was cut and dried. I chose the Peugeot. |
| cut corners | use less material, use less than required | If we cut corners, we'll produce a low-quality product. |
| cut from the same cloth | from the same family, very similar | Ty and Ed are cut from the same cloth - both are serious and quiet. |
| cut him off [B] | not have sex with him, not make love to him | If he doesn't buy me a car, I'll cut him off - no "nookie"! |
| cut it | do the job, satisfy, work | Red and brown just don't cut it. They look ugly together. |
| cut it a little fine | leave very little time, have just enough money | After paying the rent we had only \$60. This is cutting it a little fine. |
| cut it out | stop it, do not do that, knock it off | When the kids began throwing dirt, we told them to cut it out. |
| cut losses | quit the project and accept the financial losses | If the stock price goes down, sell them and cut your losses. |
| cut me some slack | give me more time, give me more freedom | You may be asking too much of your son. Cut him some slack. |
| cut me to the quick | hurt me, cause me to feel sad | I was hurt when she called me a cow. She cut me to the quick. |

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Idioms: cut my teeth on -- cut the mustard

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| cut my teeth on | learned as a young person, learned as I grew up | Yes, I can tie a bow knot. I cut my teeth on string and ropes. |
| cut off | not allowed to do it any more, stopped from doing | We have to cut off beer sales at 12 midnight. No more sales. |
| cut off | drive in front of, swerve into your lane | That jerk cut me off! He swerved into my lane! |
| cut off | interrupt, prevent from talking, shut down | The chairman cut me off in the middle of my question. "You're out of order," he said. |
| cut off your nose to spite your face | make your problem worse, hurt yourself because you dislike yourself | If you abuse drugs to forget a problem, you are cutting off your nose to spite your face. |
| cut out for | have natural ability for, be suited to | I guess I'm just not cut out for bull riding. I'm not good at it. |
| cut rate | second class, sold for less than full price | We bought some cut-rate lumber and built a shelter for the boat. |
| cut the cheese [B] | let off gas, fart, pass wind | Then somebody cut the cheese, and everybody laughed. |
| cut the crap [B] | stop telling lies, stop doing stupid things, no more bull | Will somebody tell him to cut the crap and give us the facts! |
| cut the mustard | do the job properly, cut it | If I'm too old to cut the mustard, maybe I should retire, eh. |

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Idioms: cut to the chase -- cutting edge

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| cut to the chase | tell the exciting part, get to the point | George, please, cut to the chase. We're tired of the story already. |
| cut-up | (See a cut-up) | |
| cut you down to size | make you feel smaller; not as important | The foreman cut him down to size by calling him a laborer. |
| cut you to ribbons | defeat you in an argument, embarrass you in a contest | That professor will cut you to ribbons if you question his facts. |
| cut your own throat | hurt yourself, be your own worst enemy | By overspending, you will cut your own throat. |
| cute as a bug's ear | petite and pretty, adorable | Have you seen her little sister? She's cute as a bug's ear. |
| cutting edge | the latest technology, state of the art | This picture is the cutting edge - the best in the TV industry. |

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Idioms: a foregone conclusion -- a game one

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| a foregone conclusion | a certain conclusion, a predictable result | That he'll graduate is a foregone conclusion. He is a good student. |
| a free-for-all | a fight without rules, Donnybrook | There was a free-for-all after the dance, and Brendan got hurt. |
| a free hand | complete authority, freedom to control | The President gave Ms. Drake a free hand in choosing the colors. |
| a freeze on | a stoppage; a decision to stop spending, hiring etc. | Right now there's a freeze on hiring at the plant - no hiring. |
| a fresh pair of eyes | a different reader, one who has not seen the writing | A fresh pair of eyes may find many errors in this report. |
| a fresh start | starting again, a new life | In Canada, you will have a fresh start. You can begin a new life. |
| a full house (cards) | a pair plus three of a kind, e.g., 2 kings and 3 aces | In our last game of poker, you dealt me a full house. |
| a full plate | a busy schedule, a lot to do | Nancy has a full plate these days. She has two jobs and three kids. |
| a gaggle of geese | a flock of geese, a bunch of geese | A gaggle of geese met us as we drove into the farmyard. |
| a game one | a willing player, a rough and ready person | I can see that Bev's a game one. She plays hard and doesn't quit. |

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Idioms: dad-blamed -- daredevil

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| dad-blamed | damned, darn , dingbusted | The dad-blamed fishing line is tangled! It's in knots! |
| damaged goods | abused, in poor condition | One man described prostitutes as <i>damaged goods</i> . |
| damn it [B] | it is very annoying or frustrating, darn it | Damn it! That cigarette smoke is making me ill. |
| damn the luck [B] | that is bad luck, that was unlucky, darn my luck | When Marilyn's computer crashed, she said, "Damn the luck!" |
| damn you [B] | you are bad, you deserve the worst, go to hell | Damn you, dog! Get out of my house with your dirty bum! |
| damned if you do and damned if you don't | you are blamed if you do it and blamed if you do not, between the devil... , can't have it both ways | If you offer to help, he refuses; if you don't offer, he complains. You're damned if you do, and damned if you don't. |
| dampen your spirits | reduce your enthusiasm, cause you to lose interest | Losing one game didn't dampen her spirits. She's full of hope. |
| dance with the one who brought you | be loyal to the person who helped you, don't turn your back on your friends | Don't try to get votes from big business. Stick with the workers - dance with the ones who brought you. |
| dapper Dan | well-groomed man, classy man | He looks so great in his new suit - a real dapper Dan! |
| daredevil | (See a daredevil) | |

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Idioms: dark horse -- dash off a note/letter

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| dark horse | the competitor that could surprise us and win | The dark horse in the World Cup is Ireland. They could win it all. |
| dark side | bad side of a person, the evil part of our nature | Most people try to hide the dark side of their personality. |
| darken a church door | attend church, go to a church service | He never darkens a church door except to attend funerals. |
| darn | damn, ruddy | 35° is hot - too darn hot! |
| darn it | oh no, not again, nuts , rats | Darn it! I locked my keys in the car. |
| darn my luck | my luck is poor, I am unlucky today | My bread is in the oven and the power goes off. Darn my luck! |
| darn right | that is right, yes, you betcha | "Do you believe in ghosts?" "Darn right I do! I just saw one!" |
| darn tooting | that is true, I agree, darn right | "They still talk about the winter of 1907, don't they, Helmer?" "Darn tootin'! It was a <i>cold</i> one!" |
| dasein | blending into a group, not distinct or unique | How to describe Anna? Dasein - she seems to disappear in a group. |
| dash off a note/letter | quickly write a note or letter and send it | Josi dashed off a note to her cousin in Toronto - in English. |

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Idioms: dark horse -- dash off a note/letter

Idioms: date -- dead duck

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| date | boy and girl go to a movie etc., go out with , see | Tong has been dating May since they met at Christmas. |
| dates you | tells your age; when you were born | Knowing that song dates you. It was popular in the 1950s. |
| dawn on me | cause me to think of, occur to me, hit me | It didn't dawn on me that they're twins until I saw them together. |
| day in, day out | every day, daily | Day in, day out, she walked to work. I saw her every morning. |
| day of the family farm | (See the day of the family farm) | |
| day one | (See from day one) | |
| dead as a doornail | dead, showing no signs of life, stone dead | It's only a stuffed bear. It's dead as a doornail. |
| dead-cat bounce | very little recovery after a loss, not coming up again | The broker said, "It was a dead-cat bounce. Stocks remain low." |
| dead certain | very certain, very sure, positive | He's dead certain that Ming is the man who talked to him. |
| dead duck | not competitive, not viable, dead in the water , kaput | I don't care how much skill he has. If he can't play under pressure he's a dead duck. |

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Idioms: date -- dead duck

Idioms: dead even -- dead ringer

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| dead even | having the same score, tied, a dead heat | After six events in the decathlon, the two men were dead even. |
| dead-eye Dick | a person who can shoot accurately | We call him <i>Dead-eye Dick</i> . He can shoot the dot off an <i>i</i> . |
| dead giveaway | (See a dead giveaway) | |
| dead heat | (See a dead heat) | |
| dead in the water | not competitive, not qualified to compete, haven't got a hope | When you're job hunting, if you don't have a resume you're dead in the water. |
| dead last | the last runner or competitor | It doesn't matter if you come in dead last. Just finish the race. |
| dead loss | (See a dead loss) | |
| dead meat | finished, terminated, done for | If you're caught driving drunk in Sweden, you're dead meat. |
| dead on | accurate, correct, spot on | When you said our sales would double, you were dead on. |
| dead ringer | (See a dead ringer) | |

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Idioms: dead set against -- death warmed over

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| dead set against | strongly opposed to, down with | She's dead set against abortion as a means of birth control. |
| dead tired | very tired, blotto , zonked | After fighting the fire, they were dead tired - exhausted. |
| dead to the world | sleeping, in a deep sleep, sound asleep | I was dead to the world when the phone rang and woke me. |
| dead wrong | clearly wrong, mistaken | I was dead wrong about the word: it's <i>prejudice</i> , not <i>prejudism</i> . |
| deadbeat | a person with no desire to work, good-for-nothing | Lana, are you going to marry that deadbeat? He's no good! |
| deadhead | a person who has damaged his brain with drugs | It's too bad, really, but Marvin is a deadhead - too much cocaine. |
| deal me in | deal cards for me, please; I want to play cards | Deal me in, Walter. Deal me a winning hand. |
| Dear Dad, No mon, no fun, your son! Dear Son, So sad, too bad, your dad! | Letter from a son attending college, and his dad's reply. (contributed by Jes Jr. Henry) | |
| death row | the prisoners who are to be executed or put to death | The priest wants to visit the prisoners on death row. |
| death warmed over | (See look like death warmed over) | |

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Idioms: death wish -- deked out of his jock

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| death wish | saying you want to die, inviting death | To challenge the Mafia would be a death wish. It would be suicide. |
| deathbed | (See on your deathbed) | |
| deck him | knock him down, cream you | Tony decked him in the first round of the boxing match. |
| deck out | decorate; attach ornaments, lights, etc.; customize | His truck was all decked out with chrome trim and colored lights. |
| deep, dark secret | very private information, confidential information, on the QT | I'll tell you about my past, but not my childhood. That's a deep, dark secret. |
| deep pockets | rich, wealthy, filthy rich , loaded | Jerry can pay your legal fees. He's got deep pockets. |
| deep six | in a six-foot-deep grave, pushing up daisies | If you overdose on coke, you're deep six, man. |
| deep sleep | sound sleep, restful sleep, sleep like a log | I was in a deep sleep when the fire started, but I woke up and phoned for help. |
| deke you | deceive you, fool you, sucker you | He'll try to deke you. He'll fake one way and go the other. |
| deked out of his jock | tricked out of position, outplay , stickhandle | Mario skated in on the goalie and deked him out of his jock. |

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Idioms: dense -- dickens you say

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|--|
| dense | not smart, slow at thinking, stupid, not too swift | She knows the answers to these questions. She's just acting dense. |
| Denver boot | a wheel block that stops a car from moving | Greg was drunk, so the police put a Denver boot on his car. |
| deserve credit | deserve praise or thanks, give her credit | David deserves credit for finding the lost keys. Thank you, boy. |
| devil-may-care | carefree, wild, on a lark | Employers won't hire people with a devil-may-care attitude. |
| devil you say | (See the devil you say) | |
| dibs | (See first dibs) | |
| dick [B] | penis, dink , dork , hoo-haw | With all these winter clothes on, I can't find my dick. |
| dick | nothing, zero, nada , zilch | Don't listen to him. He knows dick about selling! |
| dickens of a time | (See a dickens of a time) | |
| dickens you say | (See the dickens you say) | |

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Idioms: did good -- dig a little deeper

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| did good | did well, did a good job, done good | I watched you ride that horse - you did real good! |
| did yourself proud | did a good job, did well, did good , done good | That was a great dinner, Nora. You did yourself proud. |
| diddly-squat | nothing, not a penny, dick | For all that work, he gave me diddly-squat - not even thanks. |
| didn't have a stitch of clothes on | naked, nude, birthday suit , in the buff | When the kids go swimming they don't have a stitch of clothes on. |
| die down | gradually stop, diminish, drop off | When the laughter died down, I found my false teeth, put them in my mouth, and said, "Excuse me." |
| die for | want very much; in the worst way | I'm dying for a cup of coffee! I'll have an Espresso, please. |
| die hard | change slowly, continue to be strong, you can't teach... | Some men still want to be the head of the family. Old beliefs die hard. |
| die off | become extinct, all of them die | That type of horse died off before humans appeared. |
| different strokes for different folks | people have different preferences, to each his own | When Michael heard the story of a man who had a clone of his wife in several cities, he smiled and said, "Different strokes for different folks!" |
| dig a little deeper | try harder, give a little more | The coach asked the team to dig a little deeper, to give their best. |

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Idioms: dig deep -- dildo

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| dig deep | give more money, dig a little deeper | We'll all have to dig deep if we hope to achieve our goals. |
| dig in | begin to eat, eat up , help yourself | Dig in, everybody. There's lots of food. |
| dig in their heels | hold their position, not yield or move | If we discuss money, he digs in his heels. "No raises," he says. |
| dig it up | dig the garden, dig to uncover a buried object | Remember where you bury the treasure, because some day you may want to dig it up. |
| dig me | understand, get my drift | "I don't like you to take my car. That's gonna stop, dig me!" |
| dig your own grave | cause your own failure, cut your own throat | When you criticize the manager, are you digging your own grave? |
| dig yourself in | make it worse, say or do something that aggravates | When he insulted the policeman, I said, "Don't dig yourself in." |
| dig/dig it | like, enjoy, relate to | Ole digs the Beatles. His favorite song is <i>Norwegian Wood</i> . |
| digs | apartment, house, pad | I'm having a party so everybody can see my new digs. |
| dildo | (See a dildo) | |

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Idioms: dig deep -- dildo

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Idioms: dilly -- DINKS

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| dilly | (See it's a dilly) | |
| dilly-dally | go very slowly, pause too much | Sarah, you come straight home from school. Don't dilly-dally. |
| dime a dozen | (See a dime a dozen) | |
| dimwit | one who is slow to respond or catch on | I felt like a dimwit when I couldn't remember her name. |
| ding-a-ling | fool, an airhead , jerk | What a ding-a-ling! She expects me to pay for a phone book! |
| dingbat/ding-dong | strange person, nerd , weirdo | That dingbat wanted me to take off my clothes! |
| dingbusted | damn, blasted , consarned , darn | I couldn't reach the dingbusted switch to turn on the light. |
| dingle you | phone you, call you, give me a ring | I'll dingle you when I get back from Chicago. |
| dink [B] | penis, dork , hoo-haw | Did you wash your hands after you touched your dink? |
| DINKS | married couples who have Double Income No Kids | Our travel packages are purchased mainly by DINKS. |

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Idioms: a ghost of a chance -- a good head

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| a ghost of a chance | a poor chance, not likely to happen | That car doesn't have a ghost of a chance. It's too slow! |
| a glow on | slightly drunk, tipsy , catch a buzz | When Myrna gets a glow on, she likes to dance real close. |
| a go | (See it's a go) | |
| a go-getter | an aggressive employee, a hard worker, gung ho | What a go-getter! He finished the course a month before the others. |
| a going concern, | a busy person, an active enterprise, going great guns | At three years of age she was a going concern - into everything! |
| a golden opportunity | a good chance to succeed, a good investment | The Royal Hotel is for sale. What a golden opportunity! |
| a goner | something that is lost or beyond help | I thought he was a goner, but the cat came back. He's home. |
| a good arm | the ability to throw a baseball or football | Doug is short, but he has a good arm. He's an excellent passer. |
| a good egg | a good-natured person, a good head | Everybody likes Marsha. She's a good egg. |
| a good head | friendly, generous person; a good egg | Sean is a good head. He'll help at the food bank. |

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Idioms: dipstick -- dis/diss

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| dipstick | a person who seems to be stupid, dimwit | When Todd is nervous, he acts like a dipstick - like a fool. |
| dirt cheap | very cheap, not expensive | Cherries are dirt cheap in B.C. during the summer. |
| dirt file | record of failures and bad actions | Every time we have a fight, you haul out my dirt file. |
| dirty | (See dirty laundry) | |
| dirty dog/dirty rat | immoral person, liar, scum , slimebucket | You dirty rat! You stole my truck and used my credit card! |
| dirty laundry | personal problems, mistakes, scandals | I don't want the public to see my dirty laundry - my worst moves. |
| dirty money | stolen money, money obtained illegally | We believe the donation from the Mafia is dirty money. |
| dirty thirties | 1930s, when drought caused hardship on the prairie; dirty thirties | During the dirty thirties, soil drifted into the ditches and crops wouldn't grow. |
| dirty work | unpleasant tasks, difficult work | I do the dirty work - fight for the puck - and he scores the goals. |
| dis/diss | insult, criticize, disrespect, put down | If you dis me, I won't help you with your math. |

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Idioms: discombobulated -- do

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|--|
| discombobulated | disturbed, bothered, upset | When my dog hears a train whistle, he becomes discombobulated. He barks and howls. |
| discretion is the better part of valor | be sensible when you are brave; be courageous but not reckless | In all your battles, be brave but not foolish. Discretion is the better part of valor. |
| dish | (See what a dish) | |
| dish it out | criticize, complain | Jay can dish it out, but she gets mad if you criticize her. |
| disk jockey (DJ) | radio announcer who plays recorded music | Clare became a disk jockey with a radio station in Moose Jaw. |
| ditch him | leave him, lose him , give him the slip | I tried to ditch him at the mall but he held on to my hand. |
| ditto | repeat it, write or say the same thing, back at ya , same to you | "You jerk!" "Ditto!" "You creep!" "Ditto!" "Ditto!" "Double ditto!" "What!" |
| ditz | fool, an airhead , jerk , nerd , nut | You ditz! You put ketchup on my ice cream! |
| do (a speed) | travel at a speed, drive at a speed of | We were only doing 50 km per hour. That's the truth. |
| do | (See hairdo) | |

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Idioms: do a 180 -- do it the hard way

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| do a 180 | turn around and go in the opposite direction, U-turn | When the boy on the motorcycle saw the police car, he did a 180 and sped off. |
| do a dime | be in prison for ten years, do time | If you shoot somebody you'll do a dime, maybe more. |
| do a favor | help someone who asks, do a task for someone | Ben offered to do me a favor if I ever need help. |
| do a gig | play music for a dance or concert | Our band is doing a gig at Bijo's tonight. We play from 10 till 2. |
| do a number on | deceive, fool, taken , taken in | They did a number on us when we bought this car. It's not reliable. |
| do away with | throw out, dispose of | We want to do away with nuclear weapons - to dispose of them. |
| do-dad | an object with a name you cannot remember, do-funny | A little do-dad on the back of the carburetor was sticking. That was the problem. |
| do drugs | use drugs, take drugs | They don't hire people who do drugs. No way. |
| do-funny | a thing with a funny name, thing-a-ma-bob | You put the do-funny on the lever, and you're finished! |
| do it the hard way | use a poor method, go against the grain | Don't start a fire with stones. That's doing it the hard way. |

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Idioms: do lunch -- do unto others as you would have them do unto you

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|---|
| do lunch | have lunch together, eat lunch | We'll do lunch tomorrow, OK? Do you like salad? |
| do me | love me, make love to me | Paul sang, "When she really done me, she done me good!" |
| do me for/do me until | supply me until, last me , tide me over | "Got lots of shampoo?" "Enough to do me for a week or so." |
| do me in | kill me, knock me off | I hope no one wants to do me in. I want to live a few more years. |
| do or die | last chance to win, it's now or never | It's do or die. If we lose this game, we'll be out of the series. |
| do the honors | do the task for the leader, fill in for the leader | The Mayor can't speak to us, so Mr. Kelly will do the honors. |
| do the town | celebrate or party all over town | On July 1, we'll do the town. We'll really celebrate. |
| do the trick | solve the problem, help, that's the ticket | If you need a lubricant, Vaseline will do the trick. |
| do time | be in prison, be in a penitentiary | He's doing time for sexual assault. He's in for five years. |
| do unto others as you would have them do unto you | treat people the way you would like to be treated | This is The Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." |

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Idioms: do up -- doctor it/doctor it up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|--|
| do up | lace, tighten the laces | Do up your skate laces, please. I will help you tie them. |
| do with | would like, want | I could do with a cold drink. I'm hot and thirsty. |
| do without | manage without, not have, make do | We did without meat all winter. We became vegetarians. |
| do you follow | do you understand? do you see how it operates? | Turn the key left to lock, right to unlock. Do you follow? |
| do you mind | do you care? does it matter? | Do you mind if I sit on your desk? Does it bother you? |
| do your own thing | do it your own way, do what you feel, let it all hang out | I like managers who let me do my own thing - who respect my way of doing things. |
| do your part | do your share, do your job | We did our part to help the food bank. We donated cereal. |
| do your utmost | do as much as you can, do whatever you can | Pat did his utmost to save her, but she fell into the pool. |
| do yourself proud | do something that you are proud of | You did yourself proud when you helped the refugees. |
| doctor it/doctor it up | improve it, edit it, spin doctor , touch up , tweak | I wrote the letter but Ted doctored it up - to make it look professional. |

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Idioms: do up -- doctor it/doctor it up

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Idioms: dodge a bullet -- dog me

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| dodge a bullet | avoid a failure or loss or injury | Kevin dodged a bullet. He got a "D" on the final exam. |
| dodo | (See go the way of the dodo) | |
| doesn't add up | is not logical, does not make sense | One shot was fired, but three cows are dead. It doesn't add up. |
| doesn't mince words | does not say nice words when complaining, call a spade a spade , straight from the shoulder | When Greta is angry she doesn't mince words. She tells you what is bothering her. |
| doesn't wash | is not believable, is not logical, does not make sense | His explanation doesn't wash. If a millennium begins at year 1, how does he account for the first year? |
| dog days of summer | the hottest days of summer, midsummer | We like to watch baseball during the dog days of summer. |
| dog eat dog | vicious competition, everybody for himself | Will education prepare us for the dog-eat-dog world of business? |
| dog in the manger | a person who will not share something he does not use or need | He's a dog in the manger about his office space. He doesn't use it, but he won't let us have it. |
| dog it | be lazy, not work | Bill admits he's been dogging it lately. He lacks energy. |
| dog me | follow me, bother me | His failure in politics dogged him for the rest of his life. |

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Idioms: dog tired -- dolled up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| dog tired | very tired, exhausted, all in , done in | Janis was dog tired after the series. She played every game. |
| dog's age | (See for a dog's age) | |
| dog's breakfast | (See a dog's breakfast) | |
| dog's life | (See a dog's life) | |
| dogan | Catholic, a member of the Roman Catholic Church | I'm a Jew, Walter's a dogan, and Peter's a Buddhist. What a mixture! |
| doggone | extremely annoying, god-damn, blasted | I can't find the doggone scissors again. This house must eat them! |
| doggy bag | (See a doggy bag) | |
| doggy doo | dog poop , dog feces, doo-doo | Here, I brought a plastic bag for Lassie's doggy doo. |
| dollars to donuts | (See bet you dollars to donuts) | |
| dolled up | in a party dress, with hair styled, gussied up | When Lisa gets all dolled up, Harry becomes very romantic. |

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Idioms: don't borrow trouble -- don't give me that line/story etc.

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|--|
| don't borrow trouble | do not invite their trouble; we have enough trouble | When I said I was going to help my neighbor get a divorce, Pat said, "Don't borrow trouble." |
| don't count your chickens before they hatch | do not expect all plans to be successful, wait until you get the final results | "Look at the sales I'm going to make this month - over 50!" "Don't count your chickens... ." |
| don't eat that | do not accept that, do not believe that | After hearing the report, Ben said, "Don't eat that, guys." |
| don't get mad; get even | do not waste your energy on anger, do get revenge; actions speak louder... | To the victims he said, "Don't get mad. Get even. Report this to the police." |
| don't get me wrong | do not misunderstand; take it the wrong way | Don't get me wrong; I love literature, but I hate poetry. |
| don't get smart with me | show more respect, do not talk back | If you ask why, she'll say, "Don't get smart with me." |
| don't give a crap [B] | do not care at all, do not value it, don't give a damn | Janis doesn't care if he likes other girls. She said she doesn't give a crap. |
| don't give a damn [B] | do not care, am not interested, give a shit [B] | Jack's late for class every day and I don't give a damn! He's a big boy now and it's his business! |
| don't give me any of your lip | do not talk back , do not refuse to do what I ask | When the boy swore, she said, "Don't give me any of your lip." |
| don't give me that line/story etc. | do not tell me that false story | Don't give me that line about a cure for the common cold. |

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Idioms: don't go away mad; just go away -- don't know whether you're coming or going

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|---|
| don't go away mad; just go away | do not be angry, but leave; you are not welcome here | He said to the heckler, "Don't go away mad; just go away." |
| don't go there | (See don't want to go there) | |
| don't hand me that | (See don't give me that) | |
| don't have a cow | don't become so excited or angry, chill out) | "Do you want a punch in the nose?" "Now, Ralph, don't have a cow." |
| don't hold your breath | it is not going to happen soon, be prepared to wait | The City will repair the street but don't hold your breath. |
| don't knock it | don't be negative, it could be worse | "I only got a <i>C</i> for my report." "Don't knock it. I got a <i>D</i> ." |
| don't know him from Adam | do not know who he is, have never met him | The man says he knows me, but I don't know him from Adam. |
| don't know the first thing about it | do not know anything about it | I can't fix a transmission. I don't know the first thing about it. |
| don't know the half of it | do not know all the facts, have not heard all of it | Yes, they got divorced, but you don't know the half of it. |
| don't know whether you're coming or going | you are confused, you do not understand, go in circles | If you believe the cult leaders, you won't know whether you're coming or going. |

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Idioms: don't go away mad; just go away -- don't know whether you're coming or going

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Idioms: don't know which end is up -- don't push your luck

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|--|
| don't know which end is up | are confused, are mixed up | After talking to four bureaucrats, I didn't know which end was up. |
| don't know which side your bread is buttered on | do not know what is really important, have not learned much about life | If you refuse the assistance, you don't know which side your bread is buttered on. |
| don't know your ass from a hole in the ground [B] | you are ignorant, you are mistaken, mixed up | He said one member of the cult was so confused he didn't know his ass from a hole in the ground. |
| don't look a gift horse in the mouth | do not be critical of a gift; be grateful for a gift | Don't evaluate a gift. Don't look a gift horse in the mouth. |
| don't make a mountain out of a molehill | do not cause a big fuss about a small problem | So I scratched the car. Don't make a mountain out of a molehill. |
| don't make me laugh | do not be ridiculous, don't give me that line | When I said I wrote the novel, he said, "Don't make me laugh." |
| don't make no nevermind | (See it don't make no nevermind) | |
| don't make waves | do not do anything that will cause problems | Our company has changed a lot. Don't make any more waves. |
| don't mention it | it was no trouble, no problem | "Thanks for the ride," I said. "Don't mention it," he replied. |
| don't push your luck | do not try to get too much, do not ask for more | If Mom says <i>maybe</i> , don't push your luck. Be patient. |

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Idioms: a good sport -- a hassle

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| a good sport | a person who is fair and friendly | What a good sport! You never complain, even when you lose. |
| a grain of salt | (See take it with a grain of salt) | |
| a grain of truth | a bit of truth, take it with a grain... | There's not a grain of truth in what Brian says. It's all untrue. |
| a handful | a child who is difficult to manage | Jason is not easy to manage. He is a real handful for his mother. |
| a handout | free food or money, freeload | I'm not asking for a handout. I'll pay you back when I find work. |
| a hard day | a day full of hard work, put in a hard day | You look tired, Dear. Did you have a hard day at the office? |
| a hard-on [B] | an erect penis, a hard penis | When our dog gets a hard-on, he tries to crawl up my leg. |
| a hard row to hoe | a difficult task, many problems | A single parent has a hard row to hoe, working day and night. |
| a hard time | teasing or bugging, a bad time | Ken will give you a hard time about missing that free throw. |
| a hassle | a problem, a bother | The tax form is a hassle this year. It's difficult to understand. |

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Idioms: a good sport -- a hassle

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Idioms: don't put all your eggs in one basket -- done it all

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|--|
| don't put all your eggs in one basket | do not invest all the money in one company | Balance your investments. Don't put all your eggs in one basket. |
| don't rock the boat | do not cause a change, do not upset anybody | If the team is winning, don't rock the boat. Don't change anything. |
| don't sweat it | do not worry about it, you can't saw sawdust | If you did your best but didn't win a medal, don't sweat it. |
| don't teach your grandmother how to suck eggs | do not tell me what I know, do not say what is obvious | You, a history major, telling me, a war veteran, about war? Don't teach your grandmother how to suck eggs! |
| don't think so | do not believe it is so, think not | "Do you have dandruff?" "I don't think so." |
| don't want to go there | do not want to talk about it, it is not a pleasant topic | My divorce? We don't want to go there. It's ugly! |
| done for | defeated, beaten, hopeless | We were done for until Tim hit a home run and we won the game. |
| done good | did well, performed well, did good | After watching the race, his dad said, "You done good, Son." |
| done in | very tired, dead tired , all in | After the roundup, the old-timer was done in - exhausted. |
| done it all | had a lot of experience, done every activity | We need a manager who's done it all - done all the jobs. |

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Idioms: don't put all your eggs in one basket -- done it all

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Idioms: done to a turn -- double or nothing

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| done to a turn | cooked or baked until very tasty | The steaks were done to a turn - brown and juicy. |
| done with it | finished using it, not using it | Just leave the pen on my desk when you're done with it. |
| Donnybrook | a fight involving many people - especially in a game of hockey | The Flames and the Oilers had another Donnybrook last night - a bench-clearing brawl. |
| doo-doo | excrement, shit, doggy doo , in deep doo-doo , poop | My shoe really stinks. I must have stepped in some doo-doo! |
| door to door | going from one house to the next house | We went door to door asking for donations for the team. |
| dork [B] | penis, dick , hoo-haw | "Does your dork shrink after you've been swimming?" "Ya. That's natural." |
| dork [B] | foolish person, dipstick , jerk , lamebrain | What a dork! He drove off the road to pass that car! |
| double-cross | break a promise, cheat on someone | He promised not to tell you, but he did. He double-crossed me. |
| double-edged sword | (See a double-edged sword) | |
| double or nothing | double the first bet and if I win, I owe nothing | After losing the first bet, I said, "Double or nothing this time?" |

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Idioms: done to a turn -- double or nothing

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Idioms: double take -- down and out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|---|--|
| double take | look again in disbelief, can't believe my eyes | She did a double take when Clint Eastwood walked into the store. |
| double-talk | confusing talk, bafflegab | His explanation of the government decision was a lot of double-talk. |
| double whammy | two events or experiences that happen close together, synchronicity | Talk about a double whammy! My boss tells me I've lost my job, and you tell me I've won the lottery! |
| dough | money, dollars, moola | Did you get some dough? We need money to buy groceries. |
| doughhead | someone who does not think before acting | Don't ever call him a doughhead again. He's my boyfriend. |
| dove | a person who wants peace, pacifist | The doves complained when the US built more nuclear weapons. |
| down | sad, depressed, low | She's been down ever since her cat died. She misses her cat. |
| down a peg | (See take him down a peg) | |
| down and dirty | not polite, rude, vulgar | The next song is down and dirty. It's called <i>Snake's Pad</i> . |
| down and out | poor and unlucky, bumming and boozing | When he was down and out, he went to the Salvation Army. |

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Idioms: double take -- down and out

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Idioms: down for the count -- down the hatch

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| down for the count | defeated by an opponent, out of the contest | Chad was down for the count. He couldn't get up. |
| down home | simple but good, old fashioned | Hey, Ma. I can't wait to taste your down-home cookin'. |
| down in the dumps | sad, not happy, depressed, down in the mouth | Shelly was down in the dumps until her boyfriend arrived. |
| down in the mouth | looking sad, having a sad face, a sad sack | You'd be down in the mouth, too, if you'd just lost your job. |
| down my throat | (See shove down my throat) | |
| down on his luck | not lucky lately, not happy or positive | With no money and no job, Ragnar was down on his luck. |
| down pat | memorized, just right | Flora had her speech down pat. She had practised it many times. |
| down the drain | lost, wasted, squandered | His fortune went down the drain when he began to gamble. |
| down the garden path | (See lead you down the garden path) | |
| down the hatch | down the throat and into the stomach | Another pickled egg went down the hatch. Yum! |

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Idioms: down for the count -- down the hatch

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Idioms: down the line -- down to the wire

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| down the line | in the future, later, down the road | Down the line, we'll meet again and laugh about our disagreement. |
| down the pike | toward us, at us, what's going down | Management keeps sending complaints down the pike, and we don't send anything back! |
| down the road | dismissed, fired | Disagree with the boss and you'll soon be down the road. |
| down the road | in the future, in a few years | We plan to have an office in both cities - but that's down the road. |
| down the tubes | lost or gone, ruined, up the creek | You have to advertise, or your business will go down the tubes. |
| down to a T | perfectly, exactly, down pat | Sharon is wonderful in the play. She has her part down to a T. |
| down to brass tacks | (See get down to brass tacks) | |
| down to earth | humble, not proud, the salt of the earth | I like Mrs. Wilson because she's so down to earth, so natural. |
| down to the short strokes | nearly finished a job, almost completed a task | "How's it going? Are you nearly finished?" "We're down to the short strokes - we just have to paint the doors." |
| down to the wire | to the last minute, near the end | The first two games went down to the wire - very close scores. |

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Idioms: down the line -- down to the wire

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Idioms: down under -- drag

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| down under | Australia, New Zealand, etc. | Next year I'm going down under for my holidays - New Zealand. |
| down with | do not support, stop that plan, not | "Down with the sales tax!" they shouted. "Down with the tax!" |
| downer (drug) | (See a downer) | |
| downer (sadness) | (See a downer) | |
| downhearted | sad, unhappy, down | "Are you downhearted, my dear?" "No. Just quiet, my love." |
| downplay | say it is not important, soft pedal | They tried to downplay the fact that smoking caused the fire. |
| downside | (See the downside) | |
| downtime | time needed to repair a machine | When you own a computer, you have to expect some downtime. |
| draft dodger | a person who runs away from military service | American draft dodgers came to Canada in the 1970s. |
| drag | (See a drag) | |

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Idioms: drag it out -- draw a sober breath

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| drag it out | take a long time to finish, speak for a long time | When James tells a ghost story, he drags it out for an hour. |
| drag on | go for a long time, last for hours or days | The funeral dragged on and on - for three days! |
| drag queen | man dressed in women's clothing, transvestite | Don's a transvestite. They call him "the drag queen of Fag Street." |
| drag race | two cars racing from a stop light | "Did you see the drag race?" "Ya. The Corvette won." |
| drag your feet | work too slow, prevent progress | They're dragging their feet. Tell them to work faster. |
| dragged through a... | (See look like he was dragged through a knothole) | |
| drain the swamp | remove what prevents a clear view of the problem | If I were manager, my first step would be to drain the swamp. |
| drat | oh no, nuts , rats , scrut | Drat! I've lost the key. How can we get into the apartment? |
| draw a blank | be unable to think of an answer, mind go blank | For some reason, I drew a blank when the professor questioned me. |
| draw a sober breath | be sober, not be drunk | They say he hasn't drawn a sober breath since his son was killed. |

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Idioms: drag it out -- draw a sober breath

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Idioms: draw attention to -- dress down

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| draw attention to | ask people to notice; show or display to people | If you wear a short skirt, you draw attention to your legs. |
| draw first blood | attack first, be first to hit or win | The Jets drew first blood in the series, winning game one 5-4. |
| draw it to my attention | tell me about it, cause me to be aware of it | Spelling <i>is</i> a problem. Thanks for drawing it to my attention. |
| draw the line | stop, refuse to do it | When it comes to drugs, he draws the line. He won't touch them. |
| draw their fire | get attention while a friend moves or escapes | You draw their fire while I move behind them. You distract them. |
| draw upon | recall and use, remember | At university, I drew upon my knowledge of Russian history. |
| drawing card | entertainment to attract people, loss leader | The community hired a comedian as a drawing card for the fair. |
| dream on | you are not being realistic, get your head out... | You expect me to buy you a Corvette? Dream on! |
| dress clothes | good, expensive clothes | "Why don't you change your dress clothes before you repair the car?" |
| dress down | (See a dressing down) | |

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Idioms: draw attention to -- dress down

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Idioms: dress down -- drive a hard bargain

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| dress down | dress in casual clothes, dress informally | It's a library party, so dress down. Wear something casual. |
| dress rehearsal | the last rehearsal before the performance, dry run | All actors must come to the dress rehearsal - our last practice. |
| dress up | dress in your best clothes, put on glad rags | Everybody got dressed up for the banquet. Roy wore his new suit. |
| dressed fit to kill | dressed in party clothes, dolled up , dress up , gussied up | In walks Erica, dressed fit to kill. She looked terrific! |
| dressed to the nines | dressed in high fashion, gussied up | Here I am in jeans. Everybody else is dressed to the nines. |
| dribs and drabs | (See in dribs and drabs) | |
| drink like a fish | drink a lot of liquor every day | If Hal is coming to visit, buy lots of beer. He drinks like a fish. |
| drink up | drink your wine etc., bottoms up | Drink up, my friends. It's Buddy's birthday! |
| drink you under the table | drink more liquor than you, drink and not pass out , put you away | After three glasses of beer, you're nearly drunk. I bet I can drink you under the table! |
| drive a hard bargain | pay a low price, negotiate firmly | When buying land, Cal drives a hard bargain. He pays low prices. |

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Idioms: dress down -- drive a hard bargain

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Idioms: drive around -- drive you to distraction

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| drive around | drive a car up and down the streets, tooling around | At night we drove around town, looking for something to do. |
| drive it home | make a message clear, say it so they understand | When you talk about safe sex, drive it home. Stress safety. |
| drive me batty | cause me to be insane, drive me crazy | The noise from that motorcycle is driving me batty! |
| drive me crazy | cause me to feel crazy, bug me a lot | That TV commercial drives me crazy! It's on every channel! |
| drive me to the edge | cause me to be nearly mad or insane | When those chipmunks sing, it drives me to the edge! |
| drive me up the wall | cause me to feel anxious; go around the bend | I won't babysit at the Kaplans. The kids drive me up the wall. |
| drive standard | shift gears on a car or truck | Can you drive standard? My car has a five-speed transmission. |
| drive you | hit you, punch you, cream you | If you get pushy, he'll drive you. He's got a bad temper. |
| drive you nuts | cause you to feel crazy, drive you crazy (see drive me crazy) | Working for Harry will drive you nuts. He's a perfectionist. |
| drive you to distraction | cause you to lose thoughts, drive me up the wall | Her continual chatter will drive you to distraction. |

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Idioms: drive around -- drive you to distraction

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Idioms: a head start -- a hit

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|--|
| a head start | a chance to start ahead of the other runners etc. | Give the smallest runner a head start. He can't run very fast. |
| a heavy day | a busy day, a hard day | At the end of a heavy day he likes to sit on the patio and read. |
| a heavy hitter | a person who can hurt you, a heavyweight | Al is a heavy hitter. Don't try to cheat him. |
| a heavyweight | a person with a lot of power, a heavy hitter , a shogun , VIP | If you're promoted to vice-president, you'll be a heavyweight - a powerful person! |
| a hell of a time | a difficult task, an awful time, a dickens of a time | When he's drunk I have a hell of a time getting his car keys. He doesn't want to give me his keys. |
| a hell of a time | a great time, a wonderful event, a blast | "How was the party?" "I wish you had come - we had a hell of a time!" |
| a helping hand | help with a job or task, lend a hand | May was always ready with a helping hand. |
| a hill of beans | a small amount, very little | The money he lost doesn't amount to a hill of beans. |
| a hit | a popular song or movie, an idea everybody likes | Remember the song <i>Michelle</i> ? It was quite a hit. |
| a hit | a drug dose, drugs from a needle | When she's depressed, she'll do anything for a hit. |

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Idioms: drive you to drink -- drop charges

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| drive you to drink | cause you to drink alcohol or want to be drunk | His critical attitude will drive you to drink. I had to resign. |
| drop | stop taking a subject, withdraw, drop out | You wouldn't drop English! It's the key to other subjects. |
| drop a bundle | lose money by gambling, lose your shirt | I dropped a bundle at the track last night. I lost every bet. |
| drop a hint | suggest, give a sign | When he was hungry, he'd drop a hint, like point at the fridge. |
| drop a line | write a letter, send a postcard | Be sure to drop us a line from Paris. Tell us about your trip. |
| drop a log [B] | have a bowel movement, take a shit [B] | What a smell! Open a window after you drop a log, eh. |
| drop a name / drop names | pretend you know famous people, name-dropper | He was dropping names at the interview - Klein, Clinton, etc. |
| drop back | run slower than before, run further behind | Our horse dropped back to fourth place and lost the race. |
| drop behind | run further behind, lose ground | Our party has dropped behind in the polls. We're in second place. |
| drop charges | withdraw complaints, not press charges | I realized it was an accident, so I dropped the charges. |

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Idioms: drive you to drink -- drop charges

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Idioms: drop dead -- drop off

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| drop dead | you are badly mistaken, go to hell [B] | If you think I'm getting on that motorcycle, you can drop dead. |
| drop her/him | leave her, not date her anymore, tube her (see tube him) | She wouldn't quit smoking, so I dropped her - told her it was off. |
| drop him like a hot potato | leave him, not associate with him | If she finds out you're not rich, she'll drop you like a hot potato. |
| drop in | visit, go to see, drop over | When you come to Edmonton, be sure to drop in for a visit. |
| drop-in | visitor, one who drops in | He was a drop-in at the Seniors' Centre. He liked to go there. |
| drop in the bucket | (See a drop in the bucket) | |
| drop it | stop talking about it, do not say any more | When I mentioned his accident, he told me to drop it. |
| drop like flies | dying in great numbers, falling dead on the floor | When a pox infected the tribe, people were dropping like flies. |
| drop off | deliver, drive and leave a parcel | I'll drop off the parcel today. What's your address? |
| drop off | go to sleep, doze, fall asleep | I only dropped off for a second. I was awake for the news. |

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Idioms: drop dead -- drop off

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Idioms: drop off -- drugstore cowboy

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| drop off | reduce, diminish, slip , slow down | Sales have dropped off recently. Maybe we should advertise. |
| drop out | quit, stop attending | I have decided not to drop out of school. I'm going to continue. |
| drop out of sight | disappear, not be seen for awhile | After the scandal, he dropped out of sight. I haven't seen him. |
| drop over | visit, come and talk | Our friends dropped over last night for a cup of coffee. |
| drop the ball | fail to do or complete a task, not follow through | Who dropped the ball? I'll tell you who! We dropped the ball - you and I. We need to take responsibility for our lives and our world! |
| drop the other shoe | (See wait for the other shoe to drop) | |
| drop your drawers | take your pants down, remove your shorts | Don't you hate it when you have to drop your drawers for a nurse? |
| drop your gloves (hockey) | remove your gloves to fight with your fists | Don't drop your gloves in this game. There's no fighting. |
| drown your sorrow | drink until the sadness goes away | Jay drowned her sorrow in wine. Then she had a headache. |
| drugstore cowboy | a boy or man dressed like a cowboy, a fake cowboy, dude | "Are you a drugstore cowboy?" "No sir. I got Wrangler jeans an' dung on my boots - I chew tobacco an' I c'n spit real good!" |

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Idioms: drum up -- ducky

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| drum up | create interest in, recruit, find some customers | We have a million widgets to sell. Let's drum up some customers. |
| dry out | stop using alcohol, on the wagon | She's drying out at a treatment centre. It's a four-week program. |
| dry run | complete rehearsal, walk through | Let's do a dry run of our play so I can add the background music. |
| dry up | stop talking, be quiet | I wish he'd dry up. He talks too much. |
| dubs | everyone pays for his own food; Dutch treat | If we go to the cafe, it's dubs. We each pay for our own treat. |
| duck out | leave, run away, desert, skip out , jam | "Where did you go?" "I ducked out when the gang walked in." |
| duck soup | easy, quick, a piece of cake | If you know how to move the decimal point, calculating a percentage is easy - it's duck soup! |
| duck's guts | (See it's the duck's guts) | |
| ducks in a row (ducks in order) | organized, planned; each person knows his job | I have to get my ducks in a row before the sale on Tuesday. |
| ducky | great, fine, lovely | "Somebody left the gate open and the horses are gone!" "That's ducky, just ducky!" |

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Idioms: dude -- dump on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| dude | a man who dresses like a cowboy or rancher to impress people, any guy who dresses and acts cool, drugstore cowboy | Hey dude! Got your party clothes on? You look real pretty! |
| due north | straight north, directly north | Follow the winding road west to the junction; then go due north. |
| duh | how stupid, do you know anything? go figure , ignorance is bliss | I didn't know how to spell comeuppance. Duh! |
| duke it out | fight with your fists, punch each other | Gerry wanted to duke it out with the referee - tried to punch him. |
| duke's mixture | (See a duke's mixture) | |
| dumb as a sack of hammers | (See as dumb as a sack of hammers) | |
| dumbbell | one who does not think, an airhead , knucklehead | What a dumbbell I am! I locked the keys in the car. |
| dumbo | a person who acts stupid, a fool, a dipstick | Hey, dumbo! You're driving on the wrong side of the road! |
| dump her/him | leave her or him, drop her , tube her (see tube him) | Sid and Marie had a fight, so he dumped her and began seeing me. |
| dump on | unload the dirty jobs, give what is left over | They dump on Karen too much. They give her the large classes. |

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Idioms: dude -- dump on

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Idioms: Dumpster diving -- dying seconds

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| Dumpster diving | searching in the garbage to find bottles etc. | No. This college does not offer a course in Dumpster diving. |
| durn | (See darn) | |
| dust | ruined, dead, done for , toast | If you smuggle drugs into the US, you're dust. You'll go to jail. |
| dust bunny | ball of dust on the floor, dust that looks like fur | On Saturday morning I vacuum up the dust bunnies before I go out. |
| dust devil | small whirlwind, twister | Dust devils seemed to follow us as we walked across the field. |
| dust-up | (See a dust-up) | |
| Dutch treat | everyone pays for his/her own lunch etc.; dubs | When we go for eats, let's go Dutch. That's fair, eh. |
| duty calls | it is my duty, I must do a task | "Duty calls," he said, opening a book to begin his homework. |
| dyed in the wool | confirmed, certain of his beliefs, card-carrying ... | A dyed-in-the-wool democrat - that's me. I believe in democracy. |
| dying seconds | (See the dying seconds) | |

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Idioms: dying to know -- dying to know

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---|
| dying to know | wants to know, is very curious | Amy is dying to know the name of the guy in the leather jacket. |

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Idioms: each to his own -- ears pinned back

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| each to his own | (See to each his own) | |
| eager beaver | a person who wants to work | Joan is the eager beaver in this class. She likes to work. |
| eagle eyes | a person who can see details or errors | We call him <i>Eagle Eyes</i> because he finds so many lost golf balls. |
| ear candy | music that is pleasant, beautiful music | The theme music in the movie <i>Out of Africa</i> is ear candy. |
| ear to the ground | (See keep your ear to the ground) | |
| earful | (See an earful) | |
| early bird | (See the early bird gets the worm) | |
| ears are burning | the "ears" in your mind hear people talking about you | "How did you know we were talking about you?" "Because my ears were burning!" |
| ears lowered | (See have my ears lowered) | |
| ears pinned back | told to behave, disciplined | The rowdy kid needs his ears pinned back. Tell him to behave. |

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Idioms: ease up -- eat humble pie

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|--|
| ease up | work or play slower, take it easy on | Ease up on the younger players, eh. Don't work them too hard. |
| ease up | not push as much, reduce the pressure, let up | You can ease up on the gas pedal when we reach 100 km per hour. |
| easy as pie | very easy to do, a piece of cake | That math problem is easy as pie. I'll show you how to do it. |
| easy come, easy go | if we get things free we do not worry when we lose them | As Ming was spending his lottery money, he said, "Easy come, easy go." |
| easy pickings | an easy task or job, a piece of cake | It was a multiple-choice test - easy pickings if you studied. |
| easy street | an easy life, a life with lots of money to spend | Win five million dollars and we'll be on easy street. |
| easy time of it | not much work to do, an easy life | While living with his wealthy aunt, he had an easy time of it. |
| eat crow | admit you were wrong, take back what you said (see take it back) | When I lost the bet, I had to eat crow - admit I was wrong. |
| eat high off the hog | (See high on the hog) | |
| eat humble pie | admit I did not play well, feel humble after defeat | Ben had to eat humble pie after he finished fourth in the race. |

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Idioms: eat it up -- eat you out of house and home

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| eat it up | finish eating some food, eat all of the food | That's a good boy. Eat it up and then you can go out to play. |
| eat it up | believe a story, eat out of the palm... | The children were eating it up - every word the teacher said. |
| eat like a horse | eat a lot, pig out | Barney eats like a horse. He has a monstrous appetite. |
| eat my hat/shirt | be very surprised or shocked if it is true | If the Vancouver Canucks win the Cup, I'll eat my hat! |
| eat out | eat at a restaurant, eat at a cafe | On Friday evenings we eat out, usually at a Greek restaurant. |
| eat out of the palm of your hand | do whatever you ask, obey you, win the hearts | If you tell the children a story, you'll have them eating out of the palm of your hand. |
| eat that | believe that, buy that , swallow that | After listening to the UFO scientist, my uncle said, "Are we supposed to eat that?" |
| eat up | begin to eat, continue to eat, dig in | Eat up, folks. We have lots of pancakes. |
| eat you for breakfast | defeat you easily, have you for breakfast | In a game of racquetball he'll eat you for breakfast. He's quick. |
| eat you out of house and home | eat all your food, pig out | Our son's team came to dinner and ate us out of house and home! |

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Idioms: eat it up -- eat you out of house and home

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Idioms: a hollow leg -- a hotdog

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| a hollow leg | space for a lot of drink, room for a lot of beer | Parl drank six bottles of beer. He must have a hollow leg! |
| a holy pile | a lot, very much, tons | To feed 20 people, you need a holy pile of spaghetti. |
| a hoot | a time of laughter, a good time, a riot | Last night we went to Maude's party. It was a hoot. |
| a horse of a different color | a different matter, a separate issue | If he wants to <i>buy</i> the land, that's a horse of a different color. |
| a horse's ass [B] | a fool, a jerk | After three drinks he was acting like a horse's ass. |
| a hot hand | lucky in card games or at gambling | Walter's got a hot hand tonight. He's won four games of poker. |
| a hot number | a couple (or topic) that everyone is talking about | Paul and Rita are a hot number now. They're in love. |
| a hot ticket | a popular item, a product that people want | Anything with James Dean's picture on it is a hot ticket. |
| a hot topic | popular topic, the talk of the town | Sex is a hot topic. Sex will get their attention. |
| a hotdog | one who plays only for the crowd, a show-off | Eddie was a hotdog - always trying to excite the crowd. |

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Idioms: a hollow leg -- a hotdog

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Idioms: eat your fill -- eh

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| eat your fill | eat until you are satisfied, eat as much as you can | Eat your fill. You won't have another meal till we get home. |
| eat your heart out | envy my prize, wish that you had one | When Kurt won the Porsche, he said, "Eat your heart out, guys." |
| eat your words | regret what you said, admit you were wrong | He told me the answer, and I had to eat my words. I was wrong. |
| eating you | (See what's eating you) | |
| edgy | nervous, cranky, touchy | You're kind of edgy today. Did you sleep well last night? |
| eff 'im [B] | fuck him, tell him to fuck off , the F-word | I've had enough of his lack of responsibility! Eff 'im! |
| egg me on | encourage me, tell me to do it | I didn't want to steal the exam, but they egged me on. |
| egg on my face | embarrassed, outsmarted | I made a deal with Jake and ended up with egg on my face. |
| ego trip | feeling of self importance, feeling superior | If you tell him he played well, he'll go on an ego trip. |
| eh | you understand, you know what I am taking about | There were three boys but only two girls, eh. |

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Idioms: eighty-six it -- even a blind pig can find an acorn

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| eighty-six it | take it off the list, it is one too many, smithwright it | Our menu has too many entrees. Let's eighty-six the beef stroganoff. |
| eke out a living | earn or grow enough to survive | On the small farm we were able to eke out a living. |
| elbow room | room to move among people, space in a crowd | On the streets of Hong Kong there wasn't much elbow room. |
| electronic superhighway | a computer network, Internet | We can find more information on the electronic superhighway. |
| end justifies the means | (See the end justifies the means) | |
| end of the line | (See the end of the line) | |
| end up | where you stop or finish, the end of a journey | We often end up sleeping at Ty's house. His mom doesn't mind. |
| enough is enough | it is time to stop, enough already | "Enough is enough!" she said after my sixth piece of pie. |
| even | we do not owe each other, a wash , call it square | I owe you \$20, but I gave you a haircut, so we're even. |
| even a blind pig can find an acorn | if you keep looking and trying you may succeed | "Hey, Bill. Think you'll ever get that car started?" "Maybe. Even a blind pig can find an acorn." |

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Idioms: eighty-six it -- even a blind pig can find an acorn

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Idioms: even keel -- everything old is new again

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| even keel | (See keep an even keel) | |
| even so | regardless, no matter | "He doesn't need the money." "Even so, I must repay the loan." |
| even-steven | equal work or achievement, evenly matched | After one lap, Karim and I were even-steven. We were tied. |
| even up | equal parts, equal pieces for each person | They split the profits even up - 50% to each partner. |
| every cloud has a silver lining | every bad thing has its perks, bad luck is never entirely bad | Mark missed his bus, but when he came in late he found that the class had written a math test. |
| every trick in the book | every method or device, every way of doing it | If you want to find boys, Keiko knows every trick in the book. |
| every walk of life | every occupation, all lifestyles | People from every walk of life attend our church. |
| everything but the kitchen sink | almost everything, the whole works | We put everything in his truck, everything but the kitchen sink! |
| everything from soup to nuts | a lot of food or things, a variety of groceries | His shopping cart was full. He had everything from soup to nuts. |
| everything old is new again | fashions and trends are repeated or revived | Hey, if miniskirts are back, everything old is new again! |

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Idioms: even keel -- everything old is new again

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Idioms: ex -- eyes glaze over

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|--|
| ex | former wife or husband; girlfriend or boyfriend | His ex got the Mercedes; he got the truck. |
| exit stage left | departure, gonzo , out of here (outa here) | When that bull got loose, I did an exit stage left! |
| expand your horizons | experience or discover new ideas or goals or cultures | Travel, read, discuss - expand your horizons! |
| eye candy | something that is nice to look at, a beautiful object | She was eye candy. I've never seen a more beautiful car! |
| eye for an eye | (See an eye for an eye) | |
| eye of a needle | (See the eye of a needle) | |
| eye of the storm | (See the eye of the storm) | |
| eye to eye | (See see eye to eye) | |
| eyeball this | look at this, check this out , peep this | Eyeball this, guys! My hair is curly! |
| eyes glaze over | eyes express disbelief or "I've heard this before" | When I told him I'd pay the rent <i>next</i> week, his eyes glazed over. |

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Idioms: eyes peeled -- eyes peeled

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------|--|---------|
| eyes peeled | (See keep your eyes peeled) | |

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Idioms: F-word -- fair to middling

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| F-word | (See the F-word) | |
| face facts | accept the truth, deal with reality, come to grips | If we face facts, we can see that one salary is not enough. |
| face the music | face the results of our actions, be responsible | If you damage the car, you must face the music - pay for repairs. |
| face up | admit that you did it, own up | If Karl caused the problem, he'll face up. He'll admit it. |
| fag/faggot | gay or homosexual man | Sean is a fag; he admits it. |
| faint of heart | timid, not courageous, chicken , lily-livered | Sky diving is not for people who are faint of heart. |
| fair game | legal to hunt or shoot or criticize, open season | An elected politician is fair game for criticism. |
| fair-haired boy | favorite boy, favorite man | He's the fair-haired boy in this office. They think he's perfect. |
| fair shake | (See a fair shake) | |
| fair to middling | moderately good, about average, so-so | "How's the barley crop this year?" "Oh, fair to middling. Could use a good rain." |

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Idioms: fair-weather friend -- fall for

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| fair-weather friend | a friend who leaves when I have problems, one who does not stand by me | Simon is looking for a loyal friend, not a fair-weather friend. |
| fake it | create the parts you forget, fudge it , make up | If he forgets the words, he fakes it. He thinks of new words. |
| folderol | (See a lot of folderol) | |
| fall apart (at the seams) | be unable to cope or manage, come unglued | After his wife died, he fell apart. He lost interest in everything. |
| fall asleep | begin to sleep, drop off | Don't fall asleep while we're in church. It's embarrassing. |
| fall behind | be unable to run as fast, drop behind | You will fall behind in your work if you miss a week of school. |
| fall between the cracks | (See fall through the cracks) | |
| fall between two stools | not clearly one type or the other, neither fish nor fowl | This vehicle is part bike and part car. It falls between two stools. |
| fall flat on my face | fail completely, embarrass myself, blow it , make a mistake | If I tried to speak Polish, I would fall flat on my face! You would laugh at my poor Polish! |
| fall for | begin to love, fall in love with | When I was in Grade 8, I fell for Miss Kramer. She was beautiful. |

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Idioms: fair-weather friend -- fall for

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Idioms: fall for that -- fall on your sword

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|--|
| fall for that | believe that, eat that | Surely you're not going to fall for that story. It's nonsense. |
| fall head over heels | (See head over heels) | |
| fall ill | to become sick or infected, come down with | Just before the concert, Wolfgang fell ill and was unable to play his last composition. |
| fall in line | do as others are doing, obey orders | Although Barry doesn't like the new rules, he'll fall in line. |
| fall in love | begin to love, feel romantic about, head over heels | Michael and Rose have fallen in love. They're very happy. |
| fall into a trap | be tricked, be deceived | When the lawyer asks questions, don't fall into a trap. |
| fall into my lap | find without looking, receive without asking | Reg got another job offer today. Things seem to fall into his lap. |
| fall off the wagon | become drunk again, return to a bad habit | The old man fell off the wagon. He got drunk last night. |
| fall on deaf ears | talk to people who will not listen, really deaf | If you talk to the workers about management's problems, your message will fall on deaf ears. |
| fall on your sword | quit, resign, pull the pin | I know I caused the problem, but I won't fall on my sword. They'll have to fire me. |

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Idioms: fall for that -- fall on your sword

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Idioms: fall-out -- familiarity breeds contempt

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| fall-out | harmful effects, continuing effects | We still feel the fall-out from his negative speech on abortion. |
| fall short | not able to do as well as planned | I'm falling short of my career goals because I've been ill. |
| fall through | not happen, not succeed, not come off , not pan out | His plans to write a novel fell through because he didn't get a government grant. |
| fall through the cracks | not be included, be overlooked, leave out | These children fell through the cracks. They didn't learn to read. |
| fall to pieces | be unable to talk or reply, be overwhelmed | When I see Mario, I just fall to pieces. He's so handsome! |
| fallen woman | prostitute, hooker | The priest was trying to save the fallen women in his parish. |
| falling in love | beginning to feel love, being in love | They say that falling in love is wonderful - marvelous! |
| falling out | (See a falling out) | |
| false move | (See a false move) | |
| familiarity breeds contempt | a friend may dislike you if you do not respect his or her privacy | Don't call Margaret <i>Maggie</i> . Remember, familiarity breeds contempt. |

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Idioms: family jewels -- fast lane

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| family jewels | (See the family jewels) | |
| family tree | chart of ancestors, record of parents' forefathers | Bo is helping me to research my family tree - my ancestors. |
| famous last words | a prediction that is false - the opposite happens, twist of fate | "We don't need a spare tire. We never have flat tires on this car." "Sure. Famous last words!" |
| fancy footwork | neat maneuvers, clever moves | You did some fancy footwork to answer their questions. Bravo! |
| far cry | (See a far cry) | |
| far out | unbelievable, fantastic, wow | When I wear my bikini, he says, "Far out!" |
| fart around [B] | play instead of work, goof off , hang out | When we were kids we used to fart around at my uncle's store. |
| fart in a windstorm [B] | (See a fart in a windstorm) | |
| fast friends | close friends, permanent friends | Sue and I became fast friends when we were in Grade 4. |
| fast lane | (See life in the fast lane) | |

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Idioms: 'fraid so -- 'fraid so

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------|----------------------------------|---------|
| 'fraid so | (See afraid so) | |

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Idioms: a hothead -- a kept woman

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| a hothead | a person who gets angry easily; hot tempered | Phil, don't be such a hothead. Try to control your anger. |
| a hotshot | a person who displays; show-off , showboat | What a hotshot he is - showing everybody his new car. |
| a household name | a name everyone knows; name of a famous person | Mario Lemieux, the hockey star, soon became a household name. |
| a howling blizzard | a very bad snowstorm, a winter storm | A howling blizzard delayed us. It was snowing and blowing. |
| a humdinger | a beautiful car etc. a well-designed product | Dad, you should see this coupe. It's a humdinger! |
| a into g | (See ass into gear) | |
| a jim dandy | a fine piece of work, a beautiful object | Mom, you should just see this saddle. It's a jim dandy! |
| a.k.a. (aka) | also known as, alias, go by the name of | William O'Connor - a.k.a. Wil, Willie, Billy Boy - was born in Ireland. |
| a keeper | something you want to keep for a long time | "Do you like my leather jacket?" "Ya, man. It's a keeper!" |
| a kept woman | a woman who is paid to live with a man | I'm tired of being a kept woman. I want to be free of him. |

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Idioms: fast track -- faze me out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|--|
| fast track | the quickest route or path, short cut | There is no fast track to success in the field of photography. |
| faster than a minnow can swim a dipper | very fast, faster than a speeding bullet , quicker than you can say Jack Robinson | It hovered for a minute or so, then disappeared - faster than a minnow can swim a dipper! |
| faster than a speeding bullet | very fast, lightning fast , greased lightning | Who changes clothes in a phone booth and flies faster than a speeding bullet? |
| fastball | a baseball pitched at top speed (other pitches: slider, sinker, changeup, etc.) | Judd's fastball travels at about 95 miles per hour. |
| fat cat | rich or wealthy person, rolling in it | They're the fat cats in our town. They've got tons of money. |
| fat chance | very little chance, not likely | Me? Type 100 words per minute? Fat chance! |
| fat lip | a hit on the lip, an injured lip | Where'd you get the fat lip? Did somebody hit you? |
| fate is sealed | destiny was known, fate was determined | When you said you loved me, that's when your fate was sealed. |
| faze me | bother me, affect me, not take it in stride | When the announcer said that Rajesh had won the lottery, it didn't faze him. He just smiled and said, "That's nice." |
| faze me out | confuse me, surprise me, throw me for a loop | The new expressions fazed me out. They confused me. |

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Idioms: feast or famine -- feel for

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| feast or famine | we either have too little or too much, boom or bust | When we were in business we'd have years of profit followed by years of loss. It was feast or famine. |
| feast your eyes on | enjoy looking at, get a load of | I opened a box of diamonds and said, "Feast your eyes on these!" |
| feather a pass (hockey) | pass a puck accurately but softly | Nilsson could feather a pass better than the other players. |
| feather in your cap | (See a feather in your cap) | |
| feather your nest | make a comfortable place, prepare your future place, nest egg | Charles became a professor and began to feather his nest at the University of Manitoba. |
| fed up | tired of, disgusted with, had enough | He's fed up with their laziness. I think he's angry with them. |
| feedback | reply, response, reaction to a plan, splashback | "What is the feedback on our plan to cut education funds?" "Negative. People disapprove." |
| feel a draft | feel the air from someone who is talking too much | When Jake talks too much, Pete asks, "Does anyone feel a draft?" |
| feel blue | feel sad, down , low | When Mara goes away, Don feels blue. He's lonely and sad. |
| feel for | feel sympathy or pity for someone | I feel for kids who are homeless. I want to help them. |

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Idioms: feel free -- fender bender

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| feel free | feel that you may do it, by all means | Feel free to use the library. You can read and study there. |
| feel myself | (See not feeling myself) | |
| feel the pinch | feel a little bit poorer, feel there is less money | Now that we have only one income, we feel the pinch. |
| feeling bum | feeling lazy or negative, lacking energy | I'm feeling kind of bum today. I didn't sleep well last night. |
| feeling good | a little bit drunk, buzzed , had a few | After drinking a few beers Pat was feeling good. |
| feeling his oats | feeling energetic, feeling strong | Look at that cowboy dance! He's feeling his oats tonight. |
| feeling no pain | half drunk, half-corked | After three drinks of rum, Alex was feeling no pain. |
| fence sitter | a person who supports both sides in an argument, middle ground | Many politicians become fence sitters because they want to please everyone. |
| fend for yourself | be independent, care for yourself | Soon you'll know the city, and you can fend for yourself. |
| fender bender | minor car accident, collision | I had a little fender bender with your car, Dad - just a scratch. |

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Idioms: feel free -- fender bender

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Idioms: fever breaks -- fifth wheel

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| fever breaks | fever stops, fever begins to go down | His fever broke last night. He's going to be alright. |
| few and far between | very few, rare, the odd one | Canada still has timber wolves, but they are few and far between. |
| fib | small lie, white lie | "What's a fib, Dad?" "It's a lie. It's the same as a lie." |
| Fibber McGee's closet | a closet or cupboard so full of stuff that some of it falls out when the door is opened, everything but the kitchen sink | My brain is like Fibber McGee's closet. If you ask me a question, a whole bunch of stuff comes tumbling out! |
| fickle finger of fate | (See the fickle finger of fate) | |
| fiddlesticks | oh no, damn , nuts , rats , shucks | Fiddlesticks! I forgot to get the mail! |
| fido | effort, drive, get the lead out | I wouldn't say he's lazy, but he needs more fido! |
| fifth business | an unimportant player, an extra member | You are fifth business, Dunny. Anyone can play your part. |
| fifth column | an inside group of supporters of an outside force, possibly traitors; the fifth column definition provided by Claudia Crowley | Our children prevented our divorce. They knew who was causing our breakup - they were like a fifth column! |
| fifth wheel | (See a fifth wheel) | |

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Idioms: fight fire with fire -- fill in for me

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| fight fire with fire | fight with the same weapon the enemy uses | If he uses statistics, you use statistics. Fight fire with fire! |
| fight tooth and nail | fight hard, fight like an animal | Canadian women fought tooth and nail for the right to vote. |
| fighting chance | (See a fighting chance) | |
| figure out | analyse and understand, discover why | Can you figure out why the car stalled? Is the gas tank empty? |
| figurehead | a person who calculates but does not control | Shamir is just a figurehead; if you want a decision, see Ali. |
| file 13 | the garbage can or wastebasket | This letter goes in file 13 - in the can in the corner. |
| fill her up | fill the tank with gasoline, a fill-up | He drove up to the gas pumps and said, "Fill 'er up, please." |
| fill his shoes | do his work as well as he does | If Mia leaves, it won't be easy to fill her shoes. She does two jobs. |
| fill in | complete by writing, write in the spaces | Fill in the blanks, please. Then give the form to Ms. Kiraly. |
| fill in for me | do my job, do my work | Will you fill in for me while I'm away? Just answer my phone. |

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Idioms: fight fire with fire -- fill in for me

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Idioms: fill me in -- find a way around

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|--|
| fill me in | tell me the details, tell me more | Fill me in when I get home. I'd like to hear what happened. |
| fill out | complete by writing, fill in | Fill out the application, sign it, and mail it to the college. |
| fill the bill | do the job, fill the gap , serve the purpose | If we need an extra cashier for the sale, Bert will fill the bill. |
| fill the gap | fill an empty space, help where there is work to do | Pam filled the gap when I got injured. She played in my place. |
| fill up | fill to the top | You fill up the salt shaker, okay? |
| fill-up | (See a fill-up) | |
| fill your face | eat, put a lot food in your mouth, pig out | Imagine yourself in a chocolate factory, filling your face! |
| filthy lucre | money, dollars | Filthy lucre - that's what people want - cash, moola, lettuce. |
| filthy rich | very rich, wealthy, rolling in it | She was filthy rich after she got married. She was a millionaire. |
| find a way around | find a way not to pay, avoid a rule, get around | If you want to find a way around a tax law, talk to Sammy. |

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Idioms: fill me in -- find a way around

Idioms: find fault -- finger

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| find fault | look for faults and mistakes, criticize | I don't want to be around a guy who is always finding fault. |
| find my tongue | think of something to say, think of a reply | When she told me she had AIDS, I couldn't find my tongue. |
| find out | discover, learn | We found out he was a member of a cult. His sister told us. |
| find your voice | discover your personal style | Write, write, write until you find your voice - your own style. |
| find your way | find the correct path or road | A bus driver will help you find your way. Ask for directions. |
| find yourself | be surprised by what happens to you | If I don't brush my teeth, I may find myself without friends. |
| fine-feathered friend | nice-looking friend, dear friend, old acquaintance | Now, my fine-feathered friend, tell me the story of your escape. |
| fine-toothed comb | (See a fine-toothed comb) | |
| fine-tune | cause it to work very well, cause it to run smoothly | Sandro fine-tuned my Peugeot. Now it purrs like a kitten. |
| finger | accuse, blame | He was fingered for the crime, but he didn't steal anything. |

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Idioms: find fault -- finger

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Idioms: fingers the size of bananas -- firm hand

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| fingers the size of bananas | very large fingers, giant fingers, humongous | This guy was huge! He had fingers the size of bananas! |
| finish off | eat the remaining amount, eat the last piece | The kids finished off the cake when they got home. |
| finish off | kill, strike the final blow | The spider finished off the fly and began to eat it. |
| finishing touch | the final move, the act that completes the task | As a finishing touch, the baker added a maraschino cherry. |
| fink | fool, jerk , nerd | You fink! You sat on my pizza! |
| fink | tattle, snitch , tell on | You're the only one who knows I did it. Don't fink! |
| fire | dismiss from a job, terminate employment | "What happened to Larry?" "He got fired for stealing funds." |
| fire away | ask questions, comment, criticize, shoot | After speaking in favor of gun control, he invited the men to fire away. |
| fired up | enthusiastic, motivated, gung ho | The boys are fired up and ready to play. They're really excited. |
| firm hand | (See a firm hand) | |

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Idioms: fingers the size of bananas -- firm hand

Idioms: firm market -- first off

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| firm market | strong market, seller's market | A firm market in the automotive industry is good for the American economy. |
| first and foremost | first and most important, firstly | The speaker began by saying, "First and foremost... ." |
| first class | high quality, excellent | Pam's meals are first class. She's an excellent cook. |
| first come, first served | whoever comes first gets served first | If tickets are selling on a first-come basis, let's buy ours now. |
| first crack at | first turn, first chance to do it | I want first crack at solving the problem. I want to try first. |
| first dibs | first person to use it, first chance to use it | When we get to the motel, I get first dibs on the shower. |
| first down/first and ten | first try to gain ten yards (in football) | The Lions have a first down on their own 35-yard line. |
| first hand | being there to see or hear it, in person | I want to see the Pantheon first hand. I want to see its dome. |
| first light | (See at first light) | |
| first off | first on the list, the first thing to do | First off, we should define the problem. Then we can solve it. |

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Idioms: first pancake is always spoiled -- five o'clock shadow

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|--|
| first pancake is always spoiled | (See the first pancake is always spoiled) | |
| first up | first on the list, the first thing to do | On our list of things to do, the broken copier is first up. |
| fish and company stink after three days | fish should be eaten while it is fresh, and guests should not stay too long | Grandfather had this sign on the wall of his garage: <i>Fish and company stink after three days!</i> |
| fish for a compliment | hint that he wants a compliment | If Al mentions cars, he's fishing for a compliment on his Jaguar. |
| fish or cut bait | do it instead of talking about it, less talk and more action, shit or get off the pot | You've been bragging about what a great cook you are, so <i>you</i> make dinner. It's time to fish or cut bait! |
| fishy | not right, not fair, something smells | "Why don't you like this deal?" "Because it's fishy. Nobody sells a Mercedes for such a low price." |
| fit as a fiddle | very fit, in good physical condition | Uncle Doug is fit as a fiddle. He does aerobic exercises. |
| fit to be tied | very angry, mad, see red | He was fit to be tied when you said the accident was his fault. |
| fits and starts | moving unevenly, stop and go | The new crew worked in fits and starts, not at a steady pace. |
| five o'clock shadow | visible whisker growth toward the end of the day | "If we're going out tonight I better shave my five o'clock shadow." "Don't bother, honey. You look good showing some beard." |

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Idioms: a lady-killer -- a little steep

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| a lady-killer | handsome man; a man who charms the ladies; hunk | "Liam Neeson! He's gorgeous!" she said. "What a lady-killer!" |
| a leg up | a start, a beginning, the first leg | If I take a night class, I'll have a leg up on my diploma. |
| a level playing field | a place where everyone has an equal chance, level the playing field | A level playing field includes equal pay for equal work for all men and women. |
| a lick and a promise | a hasty plan, a quick cleanup, give it the once-over | We don't have time to do a thorough cleaning. We'll just give it a lick and a promise. |
| a lift | energy, a positive feeling, a shot in the arm | When I need a lift, I watch <i>Oprah</i> . She makes me feel good. |
| a little bird told me | someone told me, one of your friends told me | "How did you know that I play chess?" "Oh, a little bird told me." |
| a little hair off the dog | (See hair off the dog) | |
| a little off | not quite sane, a bit crazy, one brick short... | When Clem started eating grass, we knew he was a little off. |
| a little off | not quite centered, not level | The picture above the table is a little off. Let's straighten it. |
| a little steep | a little high in price, too much money to pay | I'd like to buy that leather coat but the price is a little steep. |

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Idioms: fix you -- flat

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| fix you | punish you, get back at | "I'll fix you," he shouted at us. "I'll build a fence to keep you off my property!" |
| fix your wagon | hurt you, get back at , get revenge | If you make him angry, he'll fix your wagon. He'll get revenge. |
| fixing to | preparing to, getting ready to | Andy's fixing to cut some logs for the fireplace. |
| flag a cab | wave at a cab driver to come, hail a cab | The bus was late, so we flagged a taxi that was going by. |
| flake | phony, not real | The salesman was a flake. What he said was phony. |
| flake out | lie down and sleep, conk out | Grant flaked out on the couch after lunch. He was really tired. |
| flap your gums | talk, speak, gab | Don't just stand there flapping your gums. Help with supper. |
| flash a smile | smile at someone for only a second | Andy flashed a smile at me when the teacher asked to see his work. |
| flash in the pan | (See a flash in the pan) | |
| flat | not motivated, lacking energy, not up for it | In the second game, the team was flat. They lacked energy. |

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Idioms: fix you -- flat

Idioms: flat broke -- flew the coop

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| flat broke | having no money, out of cash | By the end of my first term at university, I was flat broke. |
| flat out | as fast as possible, pedal to the metal | Scott was driving flat out most of the way - over 180 km per hour. |
| flatfoot | policeman, a constable who walks the streets | Ted is a flatfoot in Regina. He works for Regina City Police. |
| flatfooted | (See caught flatfooted) | |
| flatliner | a person whose emotions do not change | The doctor is a flatliner. His face shows no joy, no sorrow. |
| flattery will get you nowhere | saying nice things will not help you, kiss the blarney stone | When I complimented Anna on her hair, she said, "Thanks, but flattery will get you nowhere." |
| fleeting glance | (See a fleeting glance) | |
| flesh out | add information, make complete | Here's the outline, Pat. You can flesh it out later. |
| Fletcherize your food | chew your food many times, chew your food until it is easy to digest | "Here, Fletcherize this." "Yuk, your pancakes are as tough as leather!" |
| flew the coop | departed, left home | Brian flew the coop last night. He packed a suitcase and left. |

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Idioms: flip -- Florida green

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| flip | be surprised, freak out | Mom nearly flipped when I told her we got married. |
| flip-flop | change of opinion, move to the other side | We often see politicians do a flip-flop after they're elected. |
| flip you for it | flip a coin to decide who pays | When our food check arrived, Al said to me, "I'll flip you for it." |
| flip your lid | become angry, blow your stack | If you get another speeding ticket, Dad will flip his lid. |
| flipping | consarned , darn , friggin , | If you don't like the flippin' rules, you don't have to play. |
| float your boat | arouse you, interest you, to each his own , turn you on | Personally, I'm not into athletic girls, but whatever floats your boat. |
| flog a dead horse | (See beat a dead horse) | |
| floor it | push the gas pedal down, pedal to the metal | Buddy floors it from every stoplight. He drives too fast. |
| floor you | surprise you, shock you, bowl you over (see bowl me over) | The odor from a turkey farm is enough to floor you. |
| Florida green | yellow traffic light, amber warning light | Oops! I just drove through a Florida green. Any cops around? |

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Idioms: flip -- Florida green

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Idioms: flunk out -- fold

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| flunk out | fail a school program, fail a course | If you flunk out of college, you will have to find a job. |
| fly-by-night | bad, dishonest, not to be trusted | He put his money in a fly-by-night company and lost it all. |
| fly by the seat of your... | (See by the seat of your pants) | |
| fly in the face of | contradict, be opposite to | These errors fly in the face of our reputation for accuracy. |
| fly in the ointment | small problem, troublesome detail | The fly in the ointment is that a boy saw you kissing Lola. |
| fly low | drive a vehicle very fast, drive so fast you nearly fly | On the freeway I was flying low - going over 200 km per hour. |
| fly off the handle | become angry suddenly, lose your temper | After Charlie flew off the handle he apologized for his temper. |
| fly on the wall | (See a fly on the wall) | |
| foggiest | (See haven't the foggiest) | |
| fold | quit, stop operating | The store folded during the recession - went bankrupt. |

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Idioms: follow me -- footloose and fancy free

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| follow me | understand what I am saying, understand my meaning, get my drift | "Do you follow me?" "Yes, except for the idioms." |
| follow the rules | read the rules and do what they say, toe the line | If everybody follows the rules, we'll have fewer accidents. |
| follow through | do what you promise, see it through | If you promise to help, try to follow through. |
| food for thought | ideas worth considering, interesting suggestions | Your comments on Quebec have given me food for thought. |
| fool and his money... | (See a fool and his money are soon parted) | |
| fool around | play, play around, goof off , horse around | We don't fool around in her class. She's very strict. |
| fool around | have sex with someone who is not your spouse, have an affair | Rita asked Jon for a divorce. She knows he's been fooling around. |
| fool you | trick you, deceive you | Paul was fooling you. He owns a Ford, not a Ferrari. |
| foot the bill | pay all of the expenses, pay the shot | It's not right for Dad to foot the bill for your trip to Vegas. |
| footloose and fancy free | carefree, not committed, devil-may-care | When the kids moved out, we were footloose and fancy free! |

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Idioms: for a dog's age -- for gosh sake

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| for a dog's age | a long time, 10-15 years, in a coon's age | We haven't seen Aunt Sophie for a dog's age - for years. |
| for a song | for a little money, for a low price | Look at this sweater. I got it for a song at a second-hand store. |
| for all the tea in China | (See not for all the tea in China) | |
| for better or worse | during good times and bad times, through thick and thin | When you marry someone for better or worse, you hope for better but prepare for worse. |
| for crying out loud | before I start crying, for gosh sake | For cryin' out loud will you stop playing those drums! |
| for dear life | to save your life, because a life is in danger | When the bear stood up on its hind legs, we ran for dear life. |
| for good | forever, permanently | Remember, a tattoo stays on your skin for good - forever. |
| for good measure | adding enough or a bit more than required | For good measure, we added a bottle of wine to the punch. |
| for goodness sake | for the good of everyone, please | For goodness sake, don't drive so fast! The roads are icy. |
| for gosh sake | for god's sake for goodness sake | For gosh sake! Where did you get that monstrous hat? |

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Idioms: for heaven's sake -- for the fun of it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| for heaven's sake | for the sake of everyone, for goodness sake | For heaven's sake, don't give her a teapot. She has four! |
| for kicks | for fun, for enjoyment | "What do you guys do for kicks?" "I play computer games." |
| for laughs | for fun, for amusement | For laughs, we watch old movies. |
| for long | for a long time, for many minutes or days | She wasn't in the water for very long - just a couple of minutes. |
| for love nor money | not for any reason, never, no way | I won't skydive for love nor money. It's too dangerous. |
| for openers | as a first activity, to begin | For openers, let's discuss the budget. It's very important. |
| for Pete's sake | for the good of "Pete" and everybody, please | For Pete's sake, don't talk when your mouth is full of food! |
| for sure | yes, certainly, no doubt | I'll pay you back tomorrow for sure. I promise. |
| for the birds | poor quality, crummy , the pits | It was a beautiful wedding, but the food was for the birds. |
| for the fun of it | for fun, for a good time, for laughs | "Why did you take my bike?" "Just for the fun of it." |

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Idioms: for heaven's sake -- for the fun of it

Idioms: for the life of me -- four-letter words

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| for the life of me | it is a mystery to me, why in the world | For the life of me, I don't know why she stays with him. |
| force of habit | from habit, because of a habit | She still cooks enough food for five people. It's force of habit. |
| foregone conclusion | (See a foregone conclusion) | |
| forever and a day | for a long time, for an eternity | This treaty will last forever - forever and a day. |
| forget it | do not continue, stop it, I do not want it, drop it | I'm not interested in joining the club. Forget it. |
| forget your manners | forget to be polite, forget to say <i>please</i> etc. | When I reached in front of Mac, he said, "Forget your manners?" |
| fork over | pay, pay up | They said, "Fork over, man. Pay your share of the bill." |
| found money | money found on the street, money saved by nature | Wind power is like found money. I save what I paid for electricity. |
| found out | discovered, caught | If you cheat on the exam, you'll be found out. They'll see you. |
| four-letter words | bad words, profanity: damn, hell, shit etc. [B] | He gave a good speech, but he used a lot of four-letter words. |

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Idioms: for the life of me -- four-letter words

Idioms: fraidy cat -- freeze wages

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|---|
| fraidy cat | a child who is afraid to jump etc., chicken | "Fraidy cat, fraidy cat!" the boys shouted. "Ali's afraid to jump!" |
| frame | cause you to look guilty, set you up | He framed you. He lent you his car, then reported it as stolen. |
| frame of mind | mood, mental attitude, state of mind | I'm not in the right frame of mind to listen to your poem. |
| frazzled | having tired nerves, going in circles | I'm frazzled! Gift shopping takes all my nervous energy. |
| freak/freak out | show surprise or disbelief, flip , go ballistic | Mom will freak when I tell her we're married. |
| free-for-all | (See a free-for-all) | |
| freebie | a free ticket etc., a sample | Some drug companies advertise through freebies - free pills. |
| freeload | receive free food or rent, a handout | Do social programs encourage freeloading? It's a good question. |
| freeze-up | when the lakes and ground freeze (November) | We want to dig the hole for the basement before freeze-up. |
| freeze wages | keep wages the same, not increase wages, dig in their heels | To control spending, the board is going to freeze our wages - no salary increases for one year. |

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Idioms: fraidy cat -- freeze wages

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Idioms: fresh -- from day one

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| fresh | (See get fresh) | |
| fresh legs | players who are rested, players who are not tired | "We need fresh legs out there!" the coach yelled. "They're tired!" |
| fresh out | do not have any, all used up | I wish I could lend you some rice, but I'm fresh out. |
| fresh pair of eyes | (See a fresh pair of eyes) | |
| fresh start | (See a fresh start) | |
| freshen up | wash your hands etc., use the washroom | If you want to freshen up, you can use our bathroom. |
| friends with | a friend of, a good friend | "Are you friends with Carla?" "Yes. She's my best friend." |
| friggin | damn, cotton-picking , darn , flipping | Then the friggin string broke and the friggin marbles fell all over the friggin floor! |
| frightened to death | very afraid, scared spitless , scared stiff | She said she was frightened to death when she heard the shot. |
| from day one | from the beginning, from the first day | From day one, Carol has been a good employee. |

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Idioms: a little thick -- a lucky break

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|--|
| a little thick | too much praise, too many nice statements, kiss the blarney stone , over the top | His praise for the governor was a little thick, a bit too much, I think. |
| a long shot | a poor chance of winning, a slim chance | The Leafs winning the Stanley Cup - now that's a long shot. |
| a loose cannon | unpredictable employee, one who may embarrass | The President is sensible, but the Vice President is a loose cannon. |
| a losing streak | losing several times in succession | The Leafs are on a losing streak. They've lost seven games! |
| a lost cause | a goal or project that is not worth working for | That video store is a lost cause. It has never made a profit. |
| a lot of bunk | a lot of lies, a lot of bull , a pack of lies | The President's speech was a lot of bunk. It contained no facts. |
| a lot of folderol | a lot of foolish talk, a lot of bunk | When you hear me speak Latin, you'll think it's a lot of folderol. |
| a lot on the ball | intelligent, smart | Melvin may not look intelligent, but he's got a lot on the ball. |
| a love tap | a gentle hit with the hand, a light push or bump | I didn't hit you very hard. It was just a love tap. |
| a lucky break | good luck, good fortune, stroke of good luck | Finding that money was a lucky break. It was our good fortune. |

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Idioms: from hand to mouth -- from the frying pan into the fire

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| from hand to mouth | poor, spending every cent on necessities | They lived from hand to mouth, never enjoying luxury or travel. |
| from hunger | poor quality, poor taste, the pits | Tanya can sing, but her hair style is strictly from hunger. |
| from pillar to post | from one problem to another | After getting fired, he went from pillar to post - more bad luck. |
| from rags to riches | from poverty to wealth, from bum to millionaire | She went from rags to riches when she gambled in Vegas. |
| from scratch | (See start from scratch) | |
| from soup to nuts | (See everything from soup to nuts) | |
| from square one | (See back to square one) | |
| from stem to stern | from top to bottom, from head to tail | The '64 250 GTO was Enzo's masterpiece: Ferrari from stem to stern! |
| from the bottom of my heart | sincerely, with deep feeling | For your kindness, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. |
| from the frying pan into the fire | from bad to worse | I went from farming to fishing - from the frying pan into the fire! |

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Idioms: from the get-go -- fuck off [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| from the get-go | from the beginning, from day one | First, a dog has to learn who's boss - right from the get-go. |
| from the horse's mouth | (See straight from the horse's mouth) | |
| from the word go | from the beginning, from the start | You knew I worked for the KGB. You knew it from the word go. |
| from time to time | once in awhile, occasionally | They visit us from time to time - every year or two. |
| front man | one who performs before the star goes on stage | Mic is the front man for Dolly. He sings before she does her act. |
| front me | lend me money for now, put up the money | If you will front me, I can buy the car and then repay you. |
| front runner | leader, one of the best | With this new model, Nissan will be a front runner again. |
| frosty Friday | (See that'll be the frosty Friday) | |
| fuck all | nothing, zero, diddly , zip | You know what I get for helping him? Fuck all - that's what. I just do it because I want to. |
| fuck off [B] | go, get out of here, get lost , take off | When I asked him to move his truck, he told me to fuck off. |
| | Some say fuck is an acronym for found under carnal knowledge, but I believe this is an urban myth. The American Heritage Dictionary has more on the use and the etymology of this obscenity. | |

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Idioms: fuck that noise [B] -- full of herself

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|--|
| fuck that noise [B] | that is not a good idea, down with that plan | "Let's return the TVs we stole." "Fuck that noise. Let's sell 'em." |
| fuck up [B] | cause a mistake, make a booboo , screw up | If you fuck up, don't worry - but learn from your mistakes. |
| fucked by the fickle finger of fate [B] | feel that luck is against you; cheated by fate | A flood ruined my business. I was fucked by the fickle finger of fate. |
| fuddle duddle* | fiddlesticks , friggin , nuts , phooey | I did not use the F-word. I said, "Oh, fuddle duddle!" (* This expression is attributed to former Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau speaking in the Canadian House of Commons.) |
| fudge it | create, fake it , make up | If you can't remember a name, fudge it. Answer every question. |
| full as a tick | very full, bloated, plump full | Oh, I drank too much water! I'm full as a tick! |
| full blast | as loud as possible, pull out all the stops | When we got home, the kids had the stereo on full blast. |
| full blown | all the symptoms, every sign | It often takes years for the virus to develop into full-blown AIDS. |
| full Monty | fully nude, completely naked, birthday suit , strip | "Should I take off <i>all</i> my clothes?" "Yes, we want the full Monty!" |
| full of herself | impressed with her own work, too proud of herself | The actor was proud - too full of himself - during the interview. |

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Idioms: full of it [B] -- fun and games

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| full of it [B] | full of lies, full of shit, full of BS | You're full of it if you think I took that watch. I am not a thief. |
| full of piss and vinegar [B] | lively, full of energy | That little kid is full of piss and vinegar. He won't sit still. |
| full out | as fast as you can go, flat out , full tilt | He was skating full out, but he couldn't catch Messier. |
| full plate | (See a full plate) | |
| full steam ahead | as much power as we have, full throttle | I told the Captain about the ice, but he said, "Full steam ahead!" |
| full strength | not weakened or diluted, straight up | Did John Wayne drink bourbon full strength? Without water? |
| full throttle | gas pedal to the floor, pedal to the metal | He drove the Mercedes at full throttle on the freeway. |
| full tilt | as fast as possible, flat out | Were you going full tilt when you passed us - as fast as it would go? |
| full up | full, no more room | This bus is full up. We'll have to wait for the next one. |
| fun and games | a good time, a lot of fun | "How was the office party?" "Oh, fun and games!" |

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Idioms: full of it [B] -- fun and games

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Idioms: funny in the head -- fuzz

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| funny in the head | a little crazy, not rational, a little off , spinny | Poor Mike. He's been funny in the head since his horse died. |
| funny money | counterfeit money, fake money | Don't accept any funny money. We can't spend it. |
| funny stuff | tricks, pranks, monkey business | "No more funny stuff," the principal said as we left his office. |
| fuss over | care for too much, pay much attention to | Bertha's always fussing over her cats. She even warms their milk. |
| future looks bright | future looks good, success will come to you | Vi was promoted to Department Head. Her future looks bright. |
| fuzz | policemen, cops , pigs | The boys ran away when the fuzz drove up in a patrol car. |

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Idioms: gab -- gash

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| gab | talk, visit, flap your gums | Mom and Maria were gabbing as they played cribbage. |
| gadzooks | amazing, holy Moses , wow | "Bev had triplets!" "Gadzooks! How did that happen?" |
| game for anything | ready to try anything, a game one , gung ho | If you're going to the moon, I'll go. I'm game for anything. |
| game one | (See a game one) | |
| game over | finished, complete; the chance is gone | If you've signed the contract, it's game over. You can't change it. |
| Gang of Four | any group of four people that causes trouble or intimidates citizens | A member of the Gang of Four just phoned to complain about the English signs in our town. |
| | Political phrase originating in China: Jiang Qing, Zhang Chunqiao, Wang Hongwen and Yao Wenyan were prominent members of the Communist party and leading forces in the Cultural Revolution (1965-1976). After Mao's death in 1976, the Gang of Four was tried and sentenced to death. The sentence was subsequently reduced to 20 years in prison. | |
| gang up on | several go against one, many fight one | Three boys ganged up on Willie and knocked him down. |
| garage kept | in good condition, kept in a garage when not in use | This car has been garage kept. The body's excellent. |
| gas | a lot of fun, a great party or show, have a blast | We had a great time at Ollen's party. It was a gas! |
| gash | girls, broads , chicks , lovelies | We can't have a party without gash. Let's phone some girls. |

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Idioms: gathering dust -- Generation X

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|---|--|
| gathering dust | not being used, sitting on a shelf, collecting dust | That old coffee tray has been gathering dust for years. |
| gear up | prepare, get ready, find equipment and supplies | After we print this manual we have to gear up for a novel. |
| gee | oh, well, gosh , wow | Gee! What happened to your hair? Did you cut it yourself? |
| gee willickers | oh, golly , gosh | "Gee willickers!" Linda said, legs crossed and eyes bulging, "Are you still in the bathroom!?" |
| gee whiz | golly gee , gosh darn , aw shucks | Gee whiz, Miss Julie. I'd never do anything to hurt you. |
| geek | strange person, scholar, book worm , nerd | Allan reads a lot and stays by himself. He's kind of a geek. |
| geez | darn , gee whiz , gosh | Geez, I hate mosquitoes! |
| geezer | old man, old person, old coot | On one street there was an old geezer begging for money. |
| geezer gap | the differences between people aged 60 and 80 | The word <i>senior</i> includes everyone in the geezer gap. |
| Generation X | people born in the 1970s; a generation that wanted to change the work ethic | Generation X said that the jobs disappeared as they graduated from high school and university. |

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Idioms: get a bang out of -- get a laugh

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| get a bang out of | enjoy, have fun, get a kick out of | Ms. Lau gets a bang out of playing bingo. She loves bingo. |
| get a charge out of | enjoy, is amused by | Ming gets a charge out of Pam's memos. They're humorous. |
| get a fix | use some drugs; a hit | He'll shake until he gets a fix. He's addicted to heroin. |
| get a fix on | calculate, determine, figure out | We should get a fix on the office expenses - the total per month. |
| get a grip | be realistic, be serious, get serious | You expect to get A's without studying? Get a grip! |
| get a grip on yourself | control yourself, do not be so emotional | When he cried, she said, "Get a grip on yourself, Dear." |
| get a handle on | understand, find out about | We have to get a handle on the parking problem - get the facts. |
| get a hold of | talk to, phone | I tried to get a hold of Pierre when I was in Montreal. |
| get a kick out of | get some enjoyment, laugh, get a bang out of | I get a kick out of the way he skates. He's fun to watch. |
| get a laugh | cause people to laugh | Your jokes always get a laugh. |

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Idioms: get a life -- get ahead

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| get a life | change your lifestyle, get it together , get with it | He never goes out - just stays at home and watches TV. I wish he would get a life! |
| get a lift | get a ride, catch a ride | I can get a lift with Brian. He's driving to Moncton. |
| get a load of that | look at that, check that out , feast your eyes | When Marilyn stepped out of the taxi, he said, "Get a load of that!" |
| get a move on | go quickly, vamoose | We're late! Let's get a move on! |
| get a rise | get an answer, get a response | Can you get a rise out of him? He doesn't answer me. |
| get a shot | get a needle from a doctor | You are sick. Maybe you should get a shot of penicillin. |
| get a shot at | shoot at, see the target you want to shoot at | The buck was partly hidden. I couldn't get a shot at it. |
| get a ticket | receive a note stating you parked or drove illegally | If you park your car on the sidewalk, you'll get a ticket. |
| get after | scold, lecture, give you hell [B] | Mom got after us for smoking. She told us it was a bad habit. |
| get ahead | make progress, succeed | Do you want to get ahead in this world? Do you want to succeed? |

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Idioms: get a life -- get ahead

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Idioms: get along -- get axed

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------|---|---|
| get along | co-operate, give and take | Joey gets along with everybody. He is very co-operative. |
| get along | cope, live, manage | I don't know how I'll get along without you. How will I manage? |
| get along | go, do not stay here | Get along now. Go home, please. |
| get around | visit friends and places, socialize | With a full-time job and three kids, I don't get around much. |
| get around it | avoid rules or laws, find a way around | You must obtain a business license. You can't get around it. |
| get around to | do, work at, complete | I haven't got around to calling him yet. I haven't had time. |
| get at | suggest, imply | When you said I was slow, what were you getting at? |
| get at it | do it, get busy , get to it | Well, this work has to be done. Let's get at it. |
| get away with | not obey the rules, not get caught | He gets away with speeding, but the police will soon catch him. |
| get axed | be fired, be dismissed | He got axed for stealing funds. |

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Idioms: a lucky streak -- a must

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| a lucky streak | winning several times in succession | Whenever I wear this ring, I have a lucky streak. I win every game! |
| a major | a poor credit rating from a major credit card company | The bank won't approve your loan if you have a major. |
| a man of few words | a man who says little; who uses few words | Chung is a man of few words, but when he speaks, people listen. |
| a man of the cloth | a minister, a priest, a clergyman | Being a man of the cloth, he has studied the Bible. |
| a man's home is his castle | a man can relax and please himself in his own home | I let Ron think he's king when he comes home from work. He believes a man's home is his castle. |
| a marked man | a person known for political beliefs or criminal acts | When they discovered I had been a Nazi, I was a marked man. |
| a matter of life and death | (See it's a matter of life and death) | |
| a mental block | a problem with learning a subject or concept | I have a mental block when I try to do algebra. I can't think. |
| a month of Sundays | a very long time, many days | It will take a month of Sundays to phone all the students in our school. |
| a must | a necessary experience, a required item | If you like words, you need a dictionary. It's a must! |

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Idioms: get back at -- get cold feet

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|--|
| get back at | return an insult, get revenge | If you don't apologize, he'll get back at you. He's quite angry. |
| get bageled | lose without scoring, get skunked , be shutout | We got bageled. They beat us 11-0! |
| get blood from a stone | do an impossible task, beat your head against... | You'll get blood from a stone before you get money from Ed. |
| get burned | be caught, get blamed, get into trouble | I got burned for helping Bev with her divorce. They blamed me. |
| get busy | begin to work, start to do, get at it | Get busy and cut the grass before your father comes home. |
| get by/scrape by | have just enough money, make do | I can get by on very little money, if necessary. I can be frugal. |
| get carried away | become too emotional, go overboard , go too far | When the kids play hockey, their parents get carried away, yelling at the referees and fighters. |
| get caught | found doing something, caught in the act | Did Vi get caught driving without a license? Did she "get a ticket"? |
| get caught up | do unfinished work, learn what you missed | I have to get caught up on my studies. I missed two classes. |
| get cold feet | cancel a plan, renege, back out , jam | They'll be married next week; that is, if Jack doesn't get cold feet. |

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Idioms: get down to brass tacks -- get her way

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| get down to brass tacks | become serious about it, knuckle down | As soon as I'm feeling better I'll get down to brass tacks. |
| get down to business | work seriously, not waste time or effort | "Let's get down to business," he said. "We have much to do." |
| get even | do the same thing to someone, get back at | When he loses a game, he wants to get even. He wants to win. |
| get fingered | be accused, be blamed | He got fingered for taking the money because he had the key. |
| get fresh | act in a sexual way, come onto her | When he's had a few drinks, he tries to get fresh with me. |
| get-go | (See from the get-go) | |
| get going | go, start moving, get lost | When I stopped to rest, he said, "Get going. Get out of here." |
| get good wood on | shoot the puck hard, hit the ball squarely | Clark got good wood on that shot, but he missed the net. |
| get hell [B] | receive a scolding, catch hell [B], get it | He got hell for breaking a glass. Mrs. Fisk told him he was bad. |
| get her way | get her choice, have her opinion rule, get your way | If she got her way as a child, she'll try to do whatever she wants as your wife. |

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Idioms: get high -- get into her pants [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| get high | feel good, have a special feeling | I get a natural high from jogging. I feel happy and free. |
| get him back | get revenge, get back at | Lyle wants to get me back for seeing Betty. He's jealous. |
| get home | arrive at home, come home | I'm going to bed when I get home. I'm sleepy. |
| get in deeper | cause you more trouble, dig yourself in | Telling another lie will only get you in deeper - make it worse. |
| get in my face | confront me, stand in front of me | When I try to talk to Jodi, her boyfriend gets in my face. |
| get in on it | benefit from it, take advantage of it | Baymart is having a half-price sale, and I want to get in on it. |
| get in on the ground floor | be there at the start, be one of the first people to invest or be hired | If I get in on the ground floor at MING'S, I'll advance quickly. |
| get in shape | exercise until you are physically fit, work out | If you want to play soccer this year, you better get in shape. |
| get in your hair | (See in your hair) | |
| get into her pants [B] | have sex with her, lay her[B] | He wants to get into her pants, but she won't let him. |

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Idioms: get into trouble -- get laid [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| get into trouble | do bad things, break the law | When he's with the Subway Gang he gets into trouble. He's bad. |
| get it | understand, know what is funny | "Get it? Do you get the joke?" "Yes. Ha ha. Ha ha ha." |
| get it | be scolded or punished, get hell [B] | I really got it for taking my brother's car. He was furious. |
| get it off your chest | talk about a problem, complain | He can get it off his chest at the meeting. He can complain there. |
| get it on | kiss and hug in a sexual way, make out | The phone rang just when they were getting it on. |
| get it over with | do it quickly, finish it before it becomes worse | "If you want a divorce," he said, "let's get it over with." |
| get it straight | understand it, catch on , figure out | She doesn't know the difference between boys and girls. I hope she soon gets it straight. |
| get it together | become organized, be effective | I'll get it together this term. I'll improve my grades. |
| get it together | get a well-balanced life; become happy, successful | She's getting it together. She's trying to live a meaningful life. |
| get laid [B] | have sex, get her/him into bed | Most guys take you out expecting to get laid, right? |

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Idioms: get lost -- get off on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| get lost | go, leave, beat it | They told me to get lost, to go home to Mommy. |
| get mad | become angry or cross, lose your cool | When she gets mad, I leave the house. She has a bad temper. |
| get me down | cause me to feel negative; to feel down | What gets me down is the way government wastes our money. |
| get my drift | understand my meaning, dig me | I don't think of you as a sister, if you get my drift. |
| get my kicks | get my enjoyment, have my fun | I get my kicks from coaching kids' teams. I enjoy doing that. |
| get off | not have to pay, not be convicted, get out of | If he's guilty, how did he get off? Why isn't he in prison? |
| get off a few good ones | tell a few jokes, say a few funny lines | When Rob spoke at our wedding he got off a few good ones. |
| get off my back | stop criticizing me, get off my case | If he criticizes you again, tell him to get off your back. |
| get off my case | stop criticizing me, check up on | I told the manager to get off my case - to stop criticizing me. |
| get off on | like to do, enjoy | He gets off on bowling. He loves to knock over those pins. |

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Idioms: get off the ground -- get on your horse

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| get off the ground | succeed at first, begin successfully | For a new product to get off the ground, you need about \$5000. |
| get off to a good start | begin with success, start with confidence | In Math 201, it's important to get off to a good start. |
| get off your high horse | do not act like you are better than everyone else | Colin acts so superior! Tell him to get off his high horse. |
| get off your soap box | stop preaching to us, don't be such a crusader | When Todd made a presentation on corporate charity, one of his co-workers said, "Get off your soap box, Todd!" |
| get on in years | getting older, over the hill | When Mother broke her hip, she was 77 - getting on in years. |
| get on it | do it now, get at it , get to it | Mr. Jarvis wants his car repaired by noon, so let's get on it. |
| get on my good side | (See on my good side) | |
| get on my nerves | bother or irritate me, bug me | Her questions get on my nerves. They're too personal. |
| get on with it | continue working or speaking | When I paused, he said, "Get on with it. Tell the rest of it." |
| get on your horse | move, get started, get a move on | Get on your horse or you'll be late for work. It's nearly 8! |

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Idioms: get out -- get real

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| get out | I do not believe it, you're kidding | Your father played hockey with Bobby Orr? Get out! |
| get out of | avoid doing, not have to do | You can get out of gym class if you say you have a headache. |
| get out of my face | go away, I am sick of you | I didn't ask for your advice. Get out of my face! |
| get out of the road | move, do not stand there | "Get out of the road!" he yelled as he rode his bike down the hill. |
| get out of town | you are mistaken, do not expect us to believe you | You saw a Martian? Get outa town! I don't believe it. |
| get out of your hair | leave, not bother you, get lost | Let me ask one more question; then I'll get out of your hair. |
| get over | move, let me sit beside you, move over | Hey, get over! I was sitting here! |
| get over | travel, go to visit | We hope to get over to the island when we go to Vancouver. |
| get over | forget, stop worrying about | We can help her get over the accident by listening to her. |
| get real | try to see what is really happening, get serious | He wants five million dollars to play hockey? Tell him to get real. |

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Idioms: get out -- get real

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Idioms: get reamed out -- get the finger [B] (get the bird)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| get reamed out | (See ream out) | |
| get revenge | hurt someone who hurt you, get even , pay him back | Do you want to get revenge, or do you want to discuss the problem and forgive him. |
| get rid of | discard, throw away, do away with | First, we have to get rid of the money. Where can we hide it? |
| get rolling | move, go, drive away | If you have to be home by noon, we should get rolling. |
| get screwed | receive unfair treatment, ripped off , taken in | I got screwed when I bought this condo. I paid too much for it. |
| get serious | do not joke, be serious, pay attention | When we discussed water safety he told us to get serious. |
| get shit [B] | get a scolding or a lecture, catch it , get hell [B] | He got shit for drinking beer in school. The principal was mad. |
| get something out of | learn from, benefit from | We always get something out of her class. We learn something. |
| get the drop on | be quicker to start, get the jump on | Stu's very quick. In faceoffs, he gets the drop on his opponents. |
| get the finger [B] (get the bird) | get a bad sign, see the middle finger | Bad drivers get the finger when they cut in front of Randy. |

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Idioms: get the green light -- get the wrinkles out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| get the green light | get approval, it's a go | Don't start construction until we get the green light from the City. |
| get the hang of | learn to do, know the first steps | I'm getting the hang of algebra. I can solve the easy problems. |
| get the jitters | become nervous, begin to shake | When I get up to speak, I get the jitters and I can't think clearly. |
| get the jump on | start faster than the others, quick on the draw | Ben got the jump on the other runners. He led by one stride. |
| get the lay of the land | check the conditions, size up the situation | Before I sell insurance in a town, I like to get the lay of the land. |
| get the lead out | move faster, hurry, move it , shake a leg | The coach told me to get the lead out - to get moving. |
| get the picture | understand, see the way it is | After Jack explained his plan, he said, "Get the picture?" |
| get the point | understand the idea or the message | Did you get the point of his talk? What was the main idea? |
| get the word out | tell the message, spread the word | The easiest way for us to get the word out is on the Internet. |
| get the wrinkles out | improve, revise | When they get the wrinkles out of the electric car, I'll buy one. |

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Idioms: get the green light -- get the wrinkles out

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Idioms: get this monkey off my back -- get together

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| get this monkey off my back | stop a bad habit, be rid of a problem or hang-up | I have to get this monkey off my back. I have to stop gambling. |
| get this show on the road | begin to do something, get down to business , get rolling | After a lot of talk about how to drill a well, the boss said, "Let's get this show on the road." |
| get this straight | understand what is said, get the picture | Let me get this straight. You say there's a moose in your bathtub? |
| get to first base | do the first step, complete the first stage | He was hoping for a kiss, but he didn't get to first base. |
| get to it | do it now, do not delay, get to the point | After listening to her babble for awhile, I said, "Please get to it." |
| get to me | bother me, bug me | The sound of the fan gets to me. It's too loud. |
| get to the bottom of | get the facts, find the cause | Did you get to the bottom of the problem? What is the cause? |
| get to the point | say what is important, come to the point | When answering questions, get to the point. Be direct and brief. |
| get to the root of the problem | find the cause, get to the bottom of | We got to the root of the problem. The children are afraid of the dog. |
| get together | come to visit, have you over | We should get together at Easter. Would you like to visit us? |

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Idioms: a nail-biter -- a pain in the butt

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| a nail-biter | exciting game or movie; having much suspense | Have you seen the movie <i>The Fugitive</i> ? It's a nail-biter. |
| a necktie party | a hanging, a lynching | If the men catch the outlaw, they want to have a necktie party. |
| a new broom sweeps clean | an employee works hard on the first day or two, make a good impression | After my first day working for Grandfather, he said, "A new broom sweeps clean." |
| a new lease on life | a feeling that life will be better, a fresh start | The promotion gave him a new lease on life. |
| a notch below | inferior, not as good | That bicycle is a notch below the Peugeot. It's not quite as good. |
| a nut case | a person who is crazy, crackpot | If you go to work in pajamas, people will say you're a nut case. |
| A-OK | fine, better than average | This restaurant is A-OK. The food and service are good. |
| a pack of lies | many lies, no truth to it | What Gail is saying about Julie is a pack of lies. It's not true. |
| a pain in the ass [B] | a bother, a lot of trouble | Fixing that car every day is a pain in the ass. |
| a pain in the butt | a person who causes problems, a pain in the ass | Hal keeps interrupting me. He's a pain in the butt! |

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Idioms: a nail-biter -- a pain in the butt

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Idioms: get under my skin -- get you down

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| get under my skin | bother me, bug me, get to me | Don't let Bob's teasing get under your skin. Don't let it bother you. |
| get-up | clothes, strange clothing, weird costume | A vest with jogging pants! Are you going out in that get-up? |
| get up a head of steam | generate enough power to move, get up to speed | If I get up a head of steam, I can knock down the door. |
| get-up-and-go | energy, vitality | I feel so lazy. I have no get-up-and-go. |
| get up on the wrong side of bed | be grouchy or cranky, get off to a bad start | Did you get up on the wrong side of bed? Are you in a bad mood? |
| get wind of | hear about, find out about | Did she get wind of our plan? Does she know about it? |
| get with it | become aware, learn how, in the know | Leni, a friend at work, told me to get with it or I'd lose my job. |
| get worked up | feel upset, become angry | He gets worked up about unions. He hates protests and strikes. |
| get you back | (See get back at) | |
| get you down | cause you to feel sad, cause you to be down | Do Mondays get you down? Do you hate going back to work? |

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Idioms: get under my skin -- get you down

Idioms: get your act together -- get your head together

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| get your act together | become organized, get it together | Bill is getting his act together. He's not late anymore. |
| get your attention | cause you to be aware of, catch your eye | When Marylou walked by, that got your attention. |
| get your back up | become upset, get mad | Tim gets his back up when you criticize his work. Be careful. |
| get your buns over here | come here quickly, on the double | Wade, get your buns over here and sign your name. |
| get your dander up | annoy or bother you, bug you | Do barking dogs get your dander up? Does barking irritate you? |
| get your ears pinned back | (See ears pinned back) | |
| get your feet wet | try to do it, attempt it, try your hand at | To become a lawyer, learn the theory; then get your feet wet. |
| get your goat | annoy you, bug you , get to me | Don't let Jason get your goat. He teases everybody. |
| get your head out of the clouds | be more realistic, come down to earth , get real | You can dream at home, but please get your head out of the clouds when you come to work. |
| get your head together | begin to think clearly, get your act together | I need a holiday to get my head together - to think clearly again. |

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Idioms: get your act together -- get your head together

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Idioms: get your hopes up -- get your wires crossed

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| get your hopes up | cause you to be hopeful, pin your hopes on | Now don't get your hopes up, but I plan to appeal your conviction. |
| get your jollies | (See get your kicks) | |
| get your kicks | enjoy yourself, have fun | How do you get your kicks? Do you sing? Dance? Travel? |
| get your knuckles rapped | be punished, get hell , get shit [B] | If I forget to register my guns, I'll get my knuckles rapped. |
| get your mind around | understand, comprehend, wrap your mind around | He explained DNA, but I can't get my mind around it. |
| get your shirt in a knot/ get your shit in a knot [B] | want to hurry or rush, hurry up | If we asked Pop to hurry, he'd say, "Don't get your shirt in a knot!" |
| get your shit together [B] | become organized, make a plan and follow it | A counselor can help you get your shit together. Talk to one. |
| get your tits in a wringer | cause trouble for yourself, get into trouble | If there's hash in your suitcase you could get your tits in a wringer. |
| get your way | do what you want to do, have it your way | You used to get your way with Mom and Dad. They trusted you. |
| get your wires crossed | get the wrong meaning, communicate poorly | We got our wires crossed. I said <i>someday</i> , and you heard <i>Sunday</i> ! |

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Idioms: get your hopes up -- get your wires crossed

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Idioms: get yours -- give 110%

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| get yours | be hurt, get hit or injured | After the fight he said, "You'll get yours! Just wait!" |
| getting on in years | (See get on in years) | |
| ghetto blaster | portable radio, boom box | Loud rock music came from a ghetto blaster on the steps. |
| gibberish | nonsense, bafflegab , bunk | Did he say <i>disregardless</i> ? I wish he wouldn't talk gibberish! |
| gift of the gab (gift of gab) | (See the gift of the gab) | |
| gild the lily | decorate a beautiful object, improve a work of art | Decorating that Scotch pine would be gilding the lily. |
| gimme a break | do not tell me to do that, that is unreasonable | You expect me to spell every word correctly. Gimme a break! |
| girl Friday | girl employee who does a variety of office jobs | Jan is our girl Friday. She does the important jobs in our office. |
| git | go, leave, get going , get lost | When our cat dug in his flower garden, he said, "Git! Go on!" |
| give 110% | work harder than required, do more than asked | If we want to win this game, everyone has to give 110%. |

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Idioms: get yours -- give 110%

Idioms: give a black eye -- give her

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|---|
| give a black eye | cause a loss of respect for a person or organization, pride goeth before a fall | When a priest is convicted of sexual assault, it gives the Catholic Church a black eye. |
| give a damn / give a shit / give a fuck [B] | care about, don't give a damn , give a hoot | Look at his hair. He doesn't give a damn about his appearance. |
| give a hoot | care; show interest, show concern | The problem with Julio is that he doesn't give a hoot about family. |
| give a little | be flexible, do not be so firm | When you discuss the divorce terms, try to give a little. |
| give a shit [B] | care, feel interest or concern, don't give a damn | Sometimes I wonder if you give a shit - about anything! |
| give an arm and a leg | give a lot, pay a lot, give my eye teeth | She'd give an arm and a leg to have her baby back. |
| give an inch | concede a little bit, compromise, let up | We asked Dad to change his rule, but he wouldn't give an inch. |
| give and take | win and lose, give something to get something | Marriage works on a give-and-take basis - more give than take. |
| give head [B] | give oral sex to a man, perform fellatio | Can you catch AIDS from giving head? |
| give her | use more power, give it all you've got | If the foreman wants us to work faster, he yells, "Give 'er!" |

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Idioms: give her credit -- give in

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|---|
| give her credit | say that she helped or contributed | Give Jane credit for staying with Tarzan all these years. |
| give her shit [B] | try hard, play hard, go fast, give her | Give 'er shit, guys. We can beat this team. |
| give her the eye | look at her with interest, come-on | At the school lunch table, Kevin would smile and give her the eye. |
| give him a taste of his own medicine | do to him what he does, an eye for an eye | If Jim is sarcastic, give him a taste of his own medicine. |
| give him an inch and he'll take a mile | give him a little freedom and he will take a lot | He lacks self-discipline. Give him an inch and he'll take a mile. |
| give him enough rope and he'll hang himself | allow him enough freedom and he will hurt himself or be caught | If he's bad, give him enough rope and he'll hang himself. The police will stop him. |
| give him the brush-off | turn away from someone, reject someone | When Don asked Jane for a date, she gave him the brush-off. |
| give him the evil eye | look fierce or evil, stare in a bad way | When I testified in court, the prisoner gave me the evil eye. |
| give him the slip | leave him, ditch him | We gave him the slip while he was in the washroom. |
| give in | not try anymore, yield | Emily always gives in; she won't disagree with me. |

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Idioms: give it a rest -- give me a call

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| give it a rest | do not say that anymore, stop complaining | Give it a rest, eh. All you talk about is religion. |
| give it a whirl | try to do something, try your hand at | When I saw the others dancing, I decided to give it a whirl. |
| give it all you've got | try very hard, do all you can | When I say "push," give it all you've got. |
| give it the once-over | look at it quickly, do a hasty job, a lick and a promise | We drove by the house and gave it the once-over. It looks nice! |
| give it to him | lecture him or hit him, tell him off | If he touches me again, I'm really going to give it to him! |
| give it to me straight | give me the facts, do not beat around the bush | "I have some bad news, man." "Tell me. Give it to me straight." |
| give it your best shot | do the best you can, try your hardest | If you want to win, you have to give it your best shot. |
| give me a bad time | tease me, bug me, give me a rough time (see give you a rough time) | I wish you wouldn't give me a bad time about my low grades. |
| give me a break | give me a chance to win, gimme a break | When we play tennis, give me a break. Don't play your best. |
| give me a call | phone me, ring me | I'll give you a call when I have a minute. I have your number. |

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Idioms: give it a rest -- give me a call

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Idioms: give me a dingle -- give my right arm

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| give me a dingle | phone me, call me, give me a ring | Give me a dingle sometime. My number's in the phone book. |
| give me a hand | help me, lend a hand | Please give me a hand with this math problem. I can't solve it. |
| give me a hint | tell me part of the answer, say a word to help me | I can't guess the name of your new boyfriend. Give me a hint. |
| give me a lift | give me a ride, pick you up | Can I give you a lift to school? Want to ride with me? |
| give me a lift | give me a happy feeling, cause me to feel better | Pat's jokes give me a lift. When I laugh, I feel much better. |
| give me a ring | phone me, call me, ring me | Give me a ring when you get home from work, eh. |
| give me the creeps | cause me to feel scared or uncomfortable | Damon looks like a ghost. He gives me the creeps. |
| give me the third degree | question me carefully, haul up on the carpet | The police ask a lot of questions. They give you the third degree. |
| give my eye teeth | give something valuable, give my right arm | Does he like me? I'd give my eye teeth to know if he likes me. |
| give my right arm | give something valuable, give my eye teeth | What a voice! I'd give my right arm to be able to sing like that. |

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Idioms: give me a dingle -- give my right arm

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Idioms: give no quarter -- give you a boost

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| give no quarter | not co-operate or concede, drive a hard bargain | When he negotiates a contract, he gives no quarter. He's firm. |
| give notice | give a letter that says you are leaving or quitting | If I want to leave the position, I give them two weeks notice. |
| give off an odor | smell, have an odor | After sitting in the sun, the dead fish gave off a strong odor. |
| give out | break, stop operating, conk out | After three hours of steady use, the pump gave out. It just quit. |
| give them a hand | clap your hands, applaud | Let's give them a hand, folks. They sang very well. |
| give them what for | give them a lecture, scold them, give you hell | After the team lost a game, the coach gave 'em what for. |
| give up | stop trying, not try any more | I give up. I can't remember who invented the telephone. |
| give up the blueline (hockey) | let opponents cross the blueline before you check them | If we give up the blueline, they will get more shots on goal. |
| give up the ghost | stop hoping after a long time | When will she give up the ghost? Her son has been gone for years. |
| give you a boost | cause you to be confident, encourage you | Winning that award will give her a boost. It will encourage her. |

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Idioms: give you a hard time -- give you shit [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| give you a hard time | tease you, criticize you, a hassle you | Did the class give you a hard time about losing their papers? |
| give you a line | tell you a false story, hand you a line | Don't believe him. He's giving you a line about being wealthy. |
| give you a ribbing | tease you, bug you, give you a hard time | When I got stuck in the lake, my friends gave me a ribbing. |
| give you a rough time | tease you, hassle you (see hassle me) | The players gave me a rough time about scoring on my own goalie. |
| give you a run for your money | compete with you, try to defeat you | I'm not the best skier, but I'll give you a run for your money. |
| give you an out | give you an excuse, allow you to beg off | You don't have to work. Your sore back will give you an out. |
| give you flack | tell you what you did wrong, criticize you | He gave me flack for smoking in his car. The smell bothers him. |
| give you hell [B] | lecture you, scold you, tie into you | She'll give you hell if you come late to her class, so be on time. |
| give you odds | if I lose the bet, I pay you more money than you bet | I'll give you odds that Montreal will win. I'll bet \$2; you bet \$1. |
| give you shit [B] | lecture you, be angry with you, give you hell | If you spend too much money he'll give you shit. |

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Idioms: give you a hard time -- give you shit [B]

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Idioms: a paltry sum -- a piece of cake

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| a paltry sum | a small amount of money, chicken feed , peanuts | What did I pay for this painting? A paltry sum - I bought it at a garage sale. |
| a paper trail | a series of memos or letters that record events | A business merger leaves a long paper trail - many documents. |
| a party to that | a person who helps to do something bad | Jane said she didn't want to be a party to computer theft. |
| a pat answer | a planned or memorized answer, a canned answer | You won't get the job if you give a pat answer to every question. |
| a penny for your thoughts | tell me what you are thinking about | When I'm quiet, she will say, "A penny for your thoughts." |
| a perfect stranger | a person you have never seen, a total stranger | In New York, a perfect stranger asked her to sleep with him. |
| a pick-me-up | something that gives me energy or new life | On a hot afternoon, a glass of iced tea is a great pick-me-up. |
| a picture is worth a thousand words | a picture is easier to understand than a report or essay | Instead of more talk, I'll draw thousand words a diagram. A picture is worth a thousand words. |
| a piece of ass [B] | sex, intercourse, nookie | If it's just a piece of ass you want, why don't you find a prostitute? |
| a piece of cake | easy to do, it's a snap , no problem | Solving the puzzle was easy. It was a piece o' cake. |

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Idioms: give you static -- give your best

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| give you static | criticize what you did, give you flack | He gave me static for failing the exam. He said I can do better. |
| give you the axe | fire you, dismiss you, get the axe (see get axed) | "Why did they give her the axe?" "For stealing company money." |
| give you the benefit... | (See the benefit of the doubt) | |
| give you the boot | fire you, dismiss you, down the road | If you drink liquor at work, they'll give you the boot. |
| give you the cold shoulder | be unfriendly toward you, turn away from you, stand away | If you forget her birthday she'll give you the cold shoulder. |
| give you the gears | fool you, tease you, josh you, pull your leg | When Dad said you would have to pay for cleaning the carpet, he was giving you the gears. |
| give you the runaround | (See the runaround) | |
| give you the shirt off his back | give you anything he owns to help you, bend over backwards | Christian is a compassionate person. He will give you the shirt off his back. |
| give you what for | lecture you, give you hell | If you miss hockey practice, the coach will give you what for. |
| give your best | (See give it your best shot) | |

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Idioms: give you static -- give your best

Idioms: give your word -- glued to the set

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|--|
| give your word | promise, say that you agree, count on what you say | If you gave your word, do whatever you promised. A person is only as good as his word. |
| glad rags | best clothes, dress clothes | I'll come to your concert. I'll do my hair and put on my glad rags. |
| glassy eyed | dazed, not alert | When I saw him he was glassy eyed. I think he was drunk. |
| glitch | fault, problem, snag | That printer is full of glitches. It isn't working right. |
| glom onto | grab, take | Don't leave any donuts around, or Bubba will glom onto them. |
| gloss over | cover faults or errors, cover up | Jill won't gloss over your errors. She'll tell you about them. |
| gloves are off | (See the gloves are off) | |
| glow on | (See a glow on) | |
| glowing terms | (See in glowing terms) | |
| glued to the set | watching TV, interested in a TV show | Jack loves sports. He's glued to the set every Saturday. |

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Idioms: gnashing of teeth -- go around the bend

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| gnashing of teeth | anger, complaining | When the hospital closed, there was much gnashing of teeth. |
| go against the grain | oppose the natural way, do it the hard way | Moe has always been perverse - always going against the grain. |
| go all-out | do your best, give it all you've got | He'll go all-out at the Olympics. He wants to win a medal. |
| go all the way (sex) | have intercourse, make love | "When I go all the way, I want to feel loved," she said. |
| go all the way (sports) | win a final series, win the cup or trophy | If the Leafs beat us, they'll go all the way. |
| go along for the ride | (See along for the ride) | |
| go along with | agree to, co-operate with | If you go along with the crime, you'll be as guilty as they are. |
| go along with | pretend you do not know, play along | If we have a surprise party for Kay, will you go along with it? |
| go ape | become extremely excited, go bananas | The girls would go ape when they saw the Beatles. |
| go around the bend | (See around the bend) | |

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Idioms: gnashing of teeth -- go around the bend

Idioms: go around with -- go by the boards

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| go around with | be friends with, hang out with | At the time, I was going around with a girl named Diane. |
| go at a good clip | (See at a good clip) | |
| go back on | reverse a decision, break a promise | Mat wouldn't go back on his word. He's very dependable. |
| go bad | spoil, become sour | Milk will go bad if it's left in the sun. It will taste sour. |
| go ballistic | become very upset, freak out | When I told Mom I was pregnant she went ballistic. |
| go bananas | become very excited, act crazy, go nuts | When Elvis swiveled his hips, the girls went bananas. |
| go berserk | become insane, go crazy | With ten kids, it's a wonder the poor woman didn't go berserk. |
| go bonkers | lose control of emotions, freak out , go crazy | He went bonkers because there was too much pressure at work. |
| go bust | go bankrupt, go under | Two of his companies went bust within a year. |
| go by the boards | become less important, be neglected or omitted | When he returned to school, his social life went by the boards. |

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Idioms: go around with -- go by the boards

Idioms: go by the name of -- go figure

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| go by the name of | has the name of, is called, a.k.a. | The zebra also goes by the name of "tiger horse." |
| go crazy | lose control, go bananas , go wild | If I don't leave this place I'll go crazy! It's boring here. |
| go down | lie down, go to bed, go to sleep | Our baby goes down early - and gets up early. |
| go down for the third time | drown, die, fail | In Calculus 101, I'm going down for the third time. I'm failing. |
| go down on [B] | give oral sex to a woman or a man | "Do you want to go down on me?" she whispered. |
| go downhill | fail and lose, down and out | It's too bad. After getting out of prison he just went downhill. |
| go downtown [B] | have intercourse, go all the way | If I go up to your room, it doesn't mean you can go downtown. |
| go easy on | do not ask him to work hard, ease up on | Go easy on Billy, please. He's not well today. |
| go easy on | do not take too much, use less | Go easy on the jam, please. Leave some for me. |
| go figure | you find the answer, the answer is <i>no</i> | He said he quit smoking, then he asks for a cigarette. Go figure. |

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Idioms: go by the name of -- go figure

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Idioms: go for -- go hog wild

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| go for | believe, accept | I said I was late because of a flat tire, but Dad didn't go for that. |
| go for | admire, desire | Burt goes for Dolly, but Dolly doesn't like Burt. |
| go for a spin | go for a ride in a car, take a drive | Clyde stops the car and says to Bonnie, "Want to go for a spin?" |
| go for broke | try your hardest, go all-out | On my last jump I'll go for broke. I'll beat my best mark. |
| go for it | try it, attempt it | When he asked if he should climb the tree, we yelled, "Go for it!" |
| go for the jugular | strike at the vital location, make the killing action, killer instinct | From the lion we have learned to go for the jugular, to defeat our opponents without mercy. |
| go-getter | (See a go-getter) | |
| go great guns | (See going great guns) | |
| go haywire | break, not work properly, break down | They said they fixed the car, but it went haywire again the next day. |
| go hog wild | have a wild celebration, go wild | When the Stampeders won the Grey Cup, the fans went hog wild. |

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Idioms: go hungry -- go off half-cocked

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| go hungry | not have enough to eat, continue to be hungry | We may be poor, but we never go hungry. |
| go in circles | walk around but not work, work in confusion | I'm going in circles. I have to stop and plan my work. |
| go into detail | give details in a story or report | Don't go into detail right now. Just tell us how much it costs. |
| go jump in the lake | go away and do not return, take off | If he expects us to write a 50-page report, he can go jump in the lake. |
| go like crazy | work fast and hard, be very busy, like crazy | We've been going like crazy trying to feed fifty people! |
| go like stink | go fast, accelerate quickly | That Mustang goes like stink. It's a fast car. |
| go mad | become insane, go crazy , go nuts | If he doesn't stop playing those drums, I'll go mad. |
| go nowhere fast | be unable to advance, be stuck where you are | Without a diploma, you'll be going nowhere fast. |
| go nuts | become insane, go bonkers , go crazy | If another mosquito bites me, I'll go nuts! |
| go off half-cocked | speak without thinking, rush into action | Dar is sensible, but he goes off half-cocked when he plays ball. |

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Idioms: go off the deep end -- go over

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| go off the deep end | do something strange, go overboard | Now don't go off the deep end and hit somebody. |
| go on | happen, occur, what's going down | What's going on here? Why is your bike in the bathtub? |
| go on | it cannot be true, you're kidding | "Ted drove the car into the lake!" "Go on! Ted wouldn't do that!" |
| go on about | talk steadily, ramble, run off at the mouth | "What was he saying?" "Oh, he was going on about taxes and the price of wheat." |
| go one better | do more, hit harder, outdo yourself | If he gives her candy, I'll go one better and give her flowers. |
| go out of your mind | (See out of your mind) | |
| go out of your way | do special things to help, put yourself out | Hilda went out of her way to help us when Dad was sick. |
| go out on a limb | promise too much, risk, take a chance | Don't go out on a limb. Don't say the company will pay for it. |
| go out with | be a boyfriend/girlfriend, date , see | Jerry asked me to go out with him. I think he likes me. |
| go over | read, practise | Did you go over your notes? Are you ready for the quiz? |

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Idioms: go off the deep end -- go over

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Idioms: go over -- go strong

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------|--|---|
| go over | be liked, be accepted | Free drinks will go over with the students. They'll like that idea. |
| go overboard | do it too much, go off the deep end | He goes overboard if he likes a girl - buys her flowers every day. |
| go places | succeed, do well, make it big | When Percy got his degree, we knew he was going places. |
| go pound salt | leave, go away, go tell your mother she wants you | We don't allow babies in our gang. Go pound salt! |
| go public | tell the public, tell a reporter | If he goes public, everybody will know that we had an affair. |
| go-round | a turn, a try, a cowboy's ride | In the second go-round, he scored a 79, better than his first try. |
| go soft | be gentle, be considerate | I've learned to go soft when I return papers with low grades. |
| go steady | date only one person, go out with only one | Tony and Pearl are going steady. They're faithful to each other. |
| go straight | change from a criminal to a law-abiding citizen | When he's released from prison he plans to go straight. |
| go strong | (See going strong) | |

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Idioms: go over -- go strong

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Idioms: go tell your mother she wants you -- go to hell [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| go tell your mother she wants you | go away, you're not welcome here, get lost | Mikey, you always cry when you don't win. Please go home - go tell your mother she wants you! |
| go the distance | finish the race, complete the course | If Mat begins a project, he'll go the distance - he'll complete it. |
| go the extra mile | work longer or harder than expected, give 110% | If you are willing to go the extra mile, you can be the top student. |
| go the way of the dodo | become extinct like the dodo bird, die off | If we don't protect our language, it will go the way of the dodo. |
| go through | say, read, run through | Could you go through the steps one more time, please. |
| go through the roof | become very angry, blow your stack | Mr. Tse will go through the roof when he sees all these mistakes. |
| go to any trouble | work to make us welcome, put yourself out | Please don't go to any trouble for us. Don't change your plans. |
| go to bat for | help someone by talking to managers or authorities, put in a good word for | Uncle Bob works for the City. If your tax bill is too high, maybe he'll go to bat for you. |
| go to great lengths/ go to any lengths | do whatever is necessary, never give up | Cynthia will go to any lengths to find a dress designed by Voz. |
| go to hell [B] | leave, go, drop dead , take off | When I asked him to move his car, he told me to go to hell. |

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Idioms: a piece of my mind -- a play on words

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| a piece of my mind | my criticism of what you did, a tongue-lashing | If <i>my</i> son stayed out all night, I'd give him a piece of my mind. |
| a piece of piss | an easy task, an easy thing to do, a piece of cake | Changing the oil? A piece o' piss - I'll show you how. |
| a piece of tail [B] | (See a piece of ass) | |
| a piece of the action | a share of the profit or prize or loot | Those who paid for the winning ticket get a piece of the action. |
| a pig in a poke | a risk, a gamble, taking a chance (see take a chance) | If you don't test drive the car, you're buying a pig in a poke. |
| a pinch of coon shit [B] | very little or no value, worthless | That Rambler ain't worth a pinch o' coon shit. It's a lousy car. |
| a pinch of salt | a bit of salt, the salt held between thumb and finger | Hector uses a pinch of salt when he makes chocolate fudge. |
| a pinch to grow an inch | on your birthday, guests pinch you to help you grow taller | "Happy birthday, Sal. Here's a pinch to grow an inch!" "Ouch!" |
| a pine float | a glass of water with a toothpick floating on the water | "What's that?" "You ordered a pine float - a toothpick floating in a glass of water!" |
| a play on words | a pun, a word or phrase that has two meanings | When a man says he'll <i>give you a ring</i> , it may be a play on words. |

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Idioms: a piece of my mind -- a play on words

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Idioms: go to hell in a handbasket -- go wild

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| go to hell in a handbasket | go to hell feeling peaceful or unconcerned, ignorance is bliss | We don't get involved in issues. We're wasting our lives and going to hell in a handbasket! |
| go to pieces | (See fall to pieces) | |
| go to pot | (See gone to pot) | |
| go to town | (See going to town) | |
| go to trouble | (See go to any trouble) | |
| go to your head | (See let it go to your head) | |
| go too far | become too excited, get carried away | Some soccer fans go too far. They fight and cause damage. |
| go under | fail, be unable to continue, go bankrupt | Companies that can't make loan payments will go under. |
| go up in smoke | burn, be destroyed in a fire | You need fire insurance. What if your condo goes up in smoke? |
| go wild | act wild, run and squeal etc. | When the teacher leaves the room, the kids go wild. |

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Idioms: go with the flow -- going gets rough

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| go with the flow | do what others do, do what helps everybody | Don't always try to be different. Go with the flow sometimes. |
| go without | not have any, not have money, do without | When Dad lost his job, we had go without steak. |
| go wrong | choose wrong answers, make a mistake | Where did we go wrong with our budget? Did we miscalculate? |
| god awful | ugly, shabby | I won't wear that god-awful suit! It looks like a garbage bag! |
| God bless the Duke of Argyle | something to say when scratching your back | Oh, that feels good! God bless the Duke of Argyle! |
| God rest his soul | (See rest his soul) | |
| gofer | the employee who must <i>go for</i> supplies, mail, coffee, etc., | "Are you the gofer in this office?" "Ya, I gofer this and I gofer that, and soon I'm gonna gofer a holiday! Ha ha!" |
| going concern | (See a going concern) | |
| going down | (See what's going down) | |
| going gets rough | (See the going gets rough) | |

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Idioms: going great guns -- golden years

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|--|
| going great guns | working very well, going strong | We were going great guns till our goalie got hurt. Then they scored. |
| going rate | (See the going rate) | |
| going strong | doing well, succeeding | The party was going strong - lots of dancing and laughter. |
| going to the mountains | going home, returning to the place you call home | "Where did John go when he left here?" "He said he was going to the mountains - going home." |
| going to town | working or talking hard, protesting, sounding off | One man was really going to town, speaking against taxes. |
| gol dang/gol darn | frustrating, dad-blamed , darn | The gol dang cord is tangled. It's full of knots. |
| golden age | best years, time of most prosperity | He said the decade after World War II was Canada's golden age. |
| golden opportunity | (See a golden opportunity) | |
| golden rule | (See The Golden Rule) | |
| golden years | 65 years of age or older, sunset years | Dad is retired now, enjoying his golden years. |

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Idioms: golly -- good bet

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| golly | oh, gee , gosh | Golly! I've never seen so much snow. |
| golly gee | oh, gee whiz , wow | Golly gee! Nobody ever did that to me before. |
| gone to pot | in poor condition, neglected, run down | The farmyard had gone to pot. There was junk everywhere. |
| gone to the dogs | not well maintained, in very poor condition | My garden has gone to the dogs. It's full of dandelions and weeds. |
| goner | (See a goner) | |
| gonzo | gone, not here, out of here | On June 30, school's over and I'm gonzo! |
| good afternoon | hello, hi , good day | Answer the phone this way: "Good afternoon, Ko speaking." |
| good and dead/mad/sick | very dead or mad or sick etc. | That rodeo bull was good and mad. He tried to gore the rider. |
| good arm | (See a good arm) | |
| good bet | good team or horse or person to bet on | The Leafs look like a good bet to win the series. They should win. |

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Idioms: good day -- good hands

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| good day | hello, good morning , good afternoon | "Good day, Mrs. Hardy." "How do you do, Mr. Lane." |
| good egg | (See a good egg) | |
| good for a loan | willing to lend money, able to lend money | Let's ask Mike for some money. He's usually good for a loan. |
| good-for-nothing | not useful, useless | I'll be glad when we sell that good-for-nothing truck. |
| good for you | good work, 'at a boy , good on you | When Dad saw my high marks, he said, "Good for you, Nick." |
| good going | good work, 'at a girl , way to go | Good going, Judy! You passed the exam! |
| good golly | oh, gosh , wow | Good golly, Miss Molly. You are the prettiest girl in the county! |
| good gravy | oh, how surprising, gosh | Good gravy! I've got BINGO! I won! |
| good grief | what a shame, oh no, too bad | Good grief! You're injured! Your hand is bleeding! |
| good hands | skillful hands; ability to pass, catch, shoot; feather a pass | He's not a fast runner, but he's got good hands. |

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Idioms: good head -- goodies

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|---|
| good head | (See a good head) | |
| good morning | hello, hi, good day | We said, "Good morning, Miss Keele," as we entered the room. |
| good on you | that is good, you did good work, good for you | If you can tie a kangaroo down, good on ya, mate! |
| good riddance | good that someone or something goes away | When the manager resigned, we all said, "Good riddance!" |
| good show | that is good, you performed well | Good show, I say. Jolly good show! Let's see another trick. |
| good sport | (See a good sport) | |
| good time | a good experience; an enjoyable party, visit, etc. | There were lots of people at the wedding and everybody had a good time! |
| good to go | ready to go, ready to leave | You have the saddle and I have the horse. We're good to go! |
| good wood on it | (See get good wood on it) | |
| goodies | cookies, candy, cake, etc. | Grandma always had a plate of goodies on the table for us. |

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Idioms: goodies -- gosh darn (gol darn)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| goodies | accessories: air, cruise, sun roof, etc.; loaded | He likes the Buick because it has a lot of goodies - a lot of extras. |
| goodness gracious | oh my, oh dear, gosh | Goodness gracious! That sauce is hot! |
| goof off | play, fool around , horse around | We were goofing off in the hall before class - joking and stuff. |
| goof up | do it poorly, screw up | If I goof up again, I'm going to use a different typewriter. |
| goose egg | zero, no score, skunked | They got three goals. We got the goose egg. |
| goose is cooked | chance is gone, plan has failed, game over | If we don't win this game, our goose is cooked. |
| goose it | press the gas pedal down, pedal to the metal | When a car tries to pass us, don't goose it. Slow down. |
| goosed | (See Canada goose) | |
| gosh | oh, gee , golly , wow | Gosh! I didn't know you had a twin sister! |
| gosh darn (gol darn) | frustrating, darn , friggin | Where is that gosh-darn pen? Who took my pen? |

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Idioms: gospel truth -- got it made

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|---|
| gospel truth | (See the gospel truth) | |
| got a corner on | got most of the business, corner the market | Bata's got a corner on the shoe business in Ontario. |
| got a crush on | feel romantic about, sweet on | Wayne's got a crush on Miss Kramer. He loves Miss Kramer! |
| got a light | got a match, have a cigarette lighter | I lost my matches. Have you got a light? |
| got guts | have courage, have nerves of steel | She's got guts to try skydiving. It's a dangerous sport. |
| got him covered | point a gun at him, prevent him from going | "I've got you covered!" the boy said, pointing a toy gun at me. |
| got it bad | feels it very much, has a case of | Poor Jenny. She loves Stuart. She's got it bad for him. |
| got it coming | deserve to get hurt, should get hell [B] | If you drive drunk, you should be punished - you've got it coming. |
| got it in for | dislike, is unkind to, is on my case | I think Mr. Yee's got it in for me. He's very critical of my work. |
| got it made | be happy and successful and rich | Brandy's got it made: she has a career, wealth and a loving family. |

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Idioms: got my eye on -- got you by the balls [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| got my eye on | am interested in, want to know him/her, want to buy it | A Corvette? No. I've got my eye on a Fiat Spyder. |
| got my hands full | am very busy, plate is full | I'd like to help with your project but I've got my hands full. |
| got no business | do not have the right, have no claim | Charlie's got no business telling us how to manage our farm. |
| got rocks in your head | have no sense, make bad decisions | If he swims with sharks, he's got rocks in his head. |
| got the balls [B] | got the courage, got what it takes | He wants to enforce gun control, and he's got the balls to do it. |
| got the blues | feel sad, feel blue | Zora's got the blues because her lover was untrue. |
| got the hots for | desire, feel passion for | She's got the hots for Tony. See how she touches him. |
| got the rags on [B] | menstruate, have your period | Lana doesn't feel like going out tonight. She's got the rags on. |
| got what it takes | got what is needed, got the balls [B] | We need a person to manage the office. Ko's got what it takes. |
| got you by the balls [B] | got you so you can't move or quit or back out | If you signed the contract, they've got you by the balls. |

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Idioms: got my eye on -- got you by the balls [B]

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Idioms: got you by the short hairs -- grand slam

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| got you by the short hairs | has a painful hold on you, has an advantage, gotcha | "What can I do about a bad credit rating?" "Not much. They've got you by the short hairs." |
| got you cornered | make it difficult to move or answer | "I've got you cornered," he said, pointing at the checker board. |
| got your number | know how to manage you; how to get her way | She's got your number, Bill. She knows you'll do anything she asks. |
| gotcha (got you) | tricked you, defeated you | When I don't know the answer, he says, "Gotcha!" |
| gotches | men's shorts, men's underwear | Uh oh, no clean gotches. It's time to do my laundry. |
| grab a bite to eat | eat a lunch or meal, have a bite | We were so busy we didn't have time to grab a bite to eat. |
| grab a chair | sit down, have a seat , take a load off your feet | After I introduced everybody, I said, "Grab a chair and sit down." |
| grain belt | a region or area that produces cereal crops | The grain belt got very little rain this year. The land is dry. |
| grain of salt | (See take it with a grain of salt) | |
| grand slam | a home run with runners on all bases, a major score | It was 5-1. Then Carter hit a grand slam and tied the game, 5-5. |

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Idioms: got you by the short hairs -- grand slam

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Idioms: a pocket of resistance -- a redneck

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| a pocket of resistance | a small group resisting, a few people not on side | There's a pocket of resistance in one district. A few disagree. |
| a poker face | a face with no expression; showing no emotion | Judge Brady has a poker face. He doesn't show his emotions. |
| a pop | per person, per ticket | "How much are the tickets?" "Fifty dollars a pop." |
| a pretty penny | a lot of money, a high price | I bet she paid a pretty penny for that coat. It looks expensive. |
| a question of | the important factor, the issue | For them, it's a question of faith. They believe in the Bible. |
| a quick study | a person who tries to learn much in a short time, a crash course | When my wife was elected to city council, I became a quick study in municipal politics. |
| a quickie | a quick game or visit, a short time of play | I love to play chess. Do we have time for a quickie before dinner? |
| a raw deal | an unfair contract, paying too much, taken in | If he's charging too much rent you're getting a raw deal. |
| a red-letter day | a special day, a memorable day | This is going to be a red-letter day. I found my lost keys! |
| a redneck | a person who is intolerant of other opinions and cultures, a bigot | If you ask a redneck he'll say, "Find a job or starve - and if you don't like it, too bad." |

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Idioms: grandfather -- greasy kid's stuff

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| grandfather | to exempt from new rules, to keep it the same, grandfather clause | This new law prohibits restaurants from serving french fries, but restaurants that now serve fries have been grandfathered. |
| grandfather clause | a written statement that protects an employee, a right, a privilege, etc. | They can't demote him or delete his position because he has a grandfather clause. |
| granola | a person who believes in less government and a natural way of living | Pat is mostly granola. She wants to join a commune, grow gardens and protect the environment. |
| grapevine | (See through the grapevine) | |
| grass is greener... | (See the grass is greener on the other side of the fence) | |
| gravy train | a profitable product, the rest is gravy | In 1928, coal was Alberta's gravy train. |
| grease my palm | pay me, give me money | If you want good service, grease his palm. Give him a tip, eh. |
| greased lightning | very, very fast; faster than a speeding bullet | Oh, I've slowed down a bit over the years. When I was a teenager they used to call me Jimmy "greased lightning" Fraser. |
| greaser | a young man with greasy hair, a hoodlum, a hood | Two greasers were hanging out behind the school. |
| greasy kid's stuff | heavy hair dressing, thick hair oil | None of that greasy kid's stuff on my hair. I use a natural product. |

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Idioms: greasy spoon -- green thumb

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| greasy spoon | small cafe that serves greasy food | I eat at the greasy spoon. The food ain't great, but it's cheap. |
| great guns | (See going great guns) | |
| Great One | (See The Great One) | |
| great Scot | good gravy , gosh , heavens | When Dale gets excited, he says, "Great Scot!" |
| great shakes | (See no great shakes) | |
| Great White Hope | (See The Great White Hope) | |
| Great White North | (See The Great White North) | |
| Greek to me | (See it was Greek to me) | |
| green stuff | dollars, money, lettuce , moola | In those days we had plenty of green stuff, so I bought a Lexus. |
| green thumb | good gardener, naturally good with plants | Willie is the green thumb in our group. He's the gardener. |

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Idioms: green with envy -- grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| green with envy | envious, wishing to have someone else's property | How I wish I owned your Acura. I'm green with envy. |
| greenback | American dollar, money, buck | If we're going to Vegas, we need our pockets full of greenbacks. |
| grey area | unclear topic, vague statement | There are many grey areas in the legal system - many vague laws. |
| grey matter | brains, brain capacity, intelligence, smarts | "Sometimes I wonder if he has any grey matter." "Oh, he has it, but maybe he doesn't use it." |
| grey power | the large numbers of seniors or older people | An increase in life span causes an increase in grey power. |
| grill you | ask you a lot of questions, pointed questions , the third degree | Do your parents grill you when you come home late? |
| grim reaper | (See The Grim Reaper) | |
| grind to a halt | stop with regret and problems | If he quits, the project will grind to a halt. It depends on him. |
| grinding halt | unplanned stop, forced stop | When Andy lost his job, their marriage came to a grinding halt. |
| grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads | grinning widely, having a broad grin | Them boys was grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads - they done outwitted the sheriff again! |

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Idioms: groaty to the max -- grow up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| groaty to the max | very nice, way cool , totally awesome | That bike is groaty to the max. I love those wide tires! |
| groovy | stylish, cool , neat , with it | That's a groovy T-shirt, man. I like the purple parrot. |
| ground me | keep me at home, not allow me to go out | If I don't pass all my subjects, my parents will ground me. |
| grounded | not allowed to go out, forced to stay in | Pam was grounded for a week because she stayed out all night. |
| Group of Five | (See The Group of Five) | |
| Group of Seven | (See The Group of Seven) | |
| grouse | complain, a bitch [B] | The mayor said everybody's grouching about high taxes. |
| grow a tail | need to defecate, drop a log | Have you seen a washroom? I'm growing a tail. |
| grow on you | you like it more each day, gradually like it more | In time, you will appreciate Lang's poetry. It grows on you. |
| grow up | live during childhood, become a young adult | He grew up on a farm in Alberta. He was a farm boy. |

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Idioms: grow up -- gussied up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| grow up | become mature, accept responsibility | Grow up, Jerry. Put away that water pistol and act like an adult. |
| grunge (fashion) | youth clothing designed for grunge music fans | The kids go to parties dressed in grunge. That's cool. |
| grunge (music) | alternative rock music, distorted sound of rock | When we visited Seattle, every radio station was playing grunge. |
| grunge | dirt and grease, grime | Let's remove the grunge from the motor. It's really dirty. |
| guard is down | not ready for a fight, not protecting yourself | I wasn't ready for her criticism. My guard was down. |
| gun down | shoot, kill with guns | He was gunned down as he left his apartment - shot in the back. |
| gun it | step on the accelerator, floor it , goose it | When a car tried to pass him, he gunned it. He sped away! |
| gung ho | very enthusiastic, very interested | Barb's gung ho about our trip to Greece. She's excited about it. |
| gussied up | groomed and dressed for a party | Sally was all gussied up when he arrived for their date. |

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Idioms: grow up -- gussied up

Idioms: hack/hacker -- had it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| hack/hacker | writer, journalist, computer guru | Some hack wrote a story about the mayor's son being on drugs. |
| had a bellyful | had too much, do not want to receive any more | I've had a bellyful of the Reborn Party. What a bunch of bigots! |
| had a belt | had a drink of alcohol, had a couple | Ragnar had a belt or two at the tavern in town. |
| had a couple | had two or more drinks of alcohol, tipsy | She was laughing a lot - like she'd had a couple. |
| had a few | a little drunk, buzzed | He staggered a bit when he walked - like he'd had a few. |
| had better | should, ought to | I'd better call and explain why we didn't attend the reception. |
| had enough | endured, fed up , put up with a lot | After ten minutes of his talk, she's had enough. She leaves. |
| had his bell rung | hit hard, bodychecked, knocked out | Pat had his bell rung by No. 4. He was unconscious for awhile. |
| had it | had too much of, frustrated with, fed up | I've had it with politicians who waste our money. It's sickening. |
| had it | worn beyond use, shabby , worn out | My bike's had it: the frame's broken and the gears slip. |

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Idioms: hack/hacker -- had it

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Idioms: had it up to here -- half-assed [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| had it up to here | upset too many times, had enough | I've had it up to here with his smoking! Yuk! |
| had the bird | worn or broken, wear out | These shoes are full of holes. They've had the bird. |
| hail a cab | wave your hand to stop a cab, flag a cab | We missed the bus, so we hailed a cab. |
| hail-fellow-well-met | friendly man, a good head , jolly good fellow | "Bert is a social person." "Yes, he's hail-fellow-well-met, I say." |
| hair off the dog that bit you | remedy that uses the cause, fight fire with fire | The theory of penicillin is to use the hair off the dog that bit you. |
| hair stand on end | be very scared, very frightened, scared stiff | Adriana, your hair is standing on end! Have you seen a ghost? |
| hairbrain | not sensible, irrational, crazy, kooky | Eric is talking about a hairbrain plan to train ants as employees. |
| hairdo | hairstyle, coiffure | Did you see Eileen's hairdo? She looks lovely in tight curls. |
| hale and hearty | healthy and enthusiastic, in the pink , in your prime | "Bob looks hale and hearty these days." "Yes, he's healthy and active." |
| half-assed [B] | incomplete, half missing | There's a guy at the door with a half-assed invention for sale. |

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Idioms: had it up to here -- half-assed [B]

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Idioms: half-bad -- half-snapped

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------|--|---|
| half-bad | quite good, okay, ain't half-bad | Here, have one of these chocolates. They aren't half-bad. |
| half-baked | not well planned, not developed | Satellite schools? Sounds like a half-baked idea to me. |
| half-cocked | (See go off half-cocked) | |
| half-corked | half drunk, buzzed , feeling no pain | Andy was at the bar for awhile. He's half-corked. |
| half-cut | (See half-corked) | |
| half-hearted | using half your ability, not giving enough effort | He made a half-hearted attempt to find our luggage: one phone call. |
| half-lit | (See half-corked) | |
| half-pint | a child, a person who is half the size of an adult | When you were a boy - just a half-pint - your hair was yellow. |
| half-shot | (See half-corked) | |
| half-snapped | (See half-corked) | |

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Idioms: half the battle -- hand in hand

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| half the battle | half of the task completed, half of the job done | You've done the research for the report. That's half the battle. |
| half-there | idiotic, stupid, nitwit | I couldn't think. My words sounded like grunts. People must have thought I was only half-there. |
| ham | humorous person, comedian, joker | When you imitate John Candy, you're quite a ham. |
| ham hands | large hands, huge hands | When the coach saw my big hands he called me <i>Ham Hands</i> . |
| ham it up | act funny and tell jokes, play the ham | Robbie likes to ham it up when he talks to a group - he tells jokes. |
| hammer and tongs | angrily, furiously, fight tooth and nail | The two men were arguing - going at it hammer and tongs. |
| hammered | very drunk, pissed , sloshed | You were hammered, so I took your keys and drove you home. |
| hand down | told by the elders to the children | The story about the loon was handed down for generations. |
| hand in | give to the teacher or manager, turn in | If we hand in an essay before it's due, teacher gives us a 5% bonus. |
| hand in hand | related, together | Math and science go hand in hand. They're related subjects. |

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Idioms: hand me down -- handout

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|--|--|
| hand me down | clothes that belonged to an older family member | Bobby said he's tired of wearing hand-me-down clothes. |
| hand out | give to the class or audience, pass around | Cory, please hand out the song books - one to each member. |
| hand over | give them to me, fork over | Hand over the keys to the safe - give them to me now! |
| hand over fist | as fast as possible, one after the other | The T-shirts are selling hand over fist. Everybody wants one. |
| hand to mouth | (See from hand to mouth) | |
| hand you a line | tell you a false story, give you a line | Some politicians try to hand you a line about how busy they are. |
| handful | (See a handful) | |
| handle herself | protect herself, been around | Dolly has worked with men before. She can handle herself. |
| handout | page of information for students | If you want to know more about Brazil, read the handout. |
| handout | (See a handout) | |

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Idioms: a regular guy -- a sack of hammers

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| a regular guy | an average man, a good guy | David? Well, he's honest and easy to live with - a regular guy. |
| a riot | a lot of fun, a good time, a hoot | You should've gone to Maude's party. It was a riot! |
| a rip-off | unfair price or rule, priced too high | The price of drinks was a rip-off. A small Coke cost \$3! |
| a roll in the hay [B] | making love, having sex | I asked her if she wanted a roll in the hay, and she said, "Sure. Do you have a condom?" |
| a rolling stone gathers no moss | a person who is always moving has few possessions | "Look at me. I have nothing to keep me in one place." "Yes, but it seems you have always been a rolling stone." |
| a rough time | a lot of teasing, a lot of bugging | Did your friends give you a rough time about your funny haircut? |
| a rough time of it | a time of stress or bad luck, a tough time of it | After the divorce he had a rough time of it. |
| a royal pain | a feeling of irritation, a pain in the ass | When he brags about his wealthy family, he gives me a royal pain. |
| a run for your money | strong competition, an opponent | I should enter the election and give him a run for his money. |
| a sack of hammers | a dead weight, a heavy object | Don't throw me in the lake! I'll sink like a sack of hammers! |

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Idioms: hands are tied -- hang on like grim death

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| hands are tied | be unable to act because others are in control, out of our hands | I'm in favor of public health care but my hands are tied. I have to wait for a government decision. |
| hands down | easily, no contest | The captain of the team said, "We won hands down - 6 to 1." |
| hands on | practice doing a task by working with your hands | In shop class, we get hands-on experience in car maintenance. |
| hands up | put your hands above your head, reach for the sky | "Hands up, everybody!" the thief shouted as he entered the bank. |
| hang around | stay near, be with, hang out | Don't hang around with that gang. They steal cars. |
| hang in there | continue, persevere, be patient, keep on | Hang in there until the doctor comes. He'll relieve your pain. |
| hang loose | be calm, relax, do not be uptight | In Hawaii, they tell the tourists to hang loose - to relax. |
| hang on | wait, hold on | Hang on a second. I have one more question to do. |
| hang on every word | listen carefully to every word that is said | When Mr. Frye spoke, we would hang on every word. We listened. |
| hang on like grim death | be determined or resolute, not quit | In the presidential election, Gore was hanging on like grim death. |

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Idioms: hang out -- happy as a clam/lark

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| hang out | play with, be with, spend time with | Cal hangs out with Aaron. They go to the gym every day. |
| hang ten (surfing) | let your toes hang over the edge of the surf board | When you get tired of standing on the board, just hang ten. |
| hang tough | continue to try, be strong and determined | As we returned to the field, the coach said, "Hang tough, guys." |
| hang-up | a fear or phobia, a personal problem | For me, marriage is a hang-up. I can't commit to one person. |
| hang you out to dry | defeat you, convict you, throw the book at | If you're caught shoplifting, they'll hang you out to dry. |
| hang your hat | live here, live with us | You can hang your hat here for awhile - until you rent a room. |
| hangover | feeling ill or nausea the day after you are drunk | Is it true that vodka doesn't cause a hangover? |
| hanky-panky | unfair deal, cheating, underhanded plan | There is no hanky-panky in the contract we signed. It's okay. |
| happy as a box of birds | joyful, very happy | When we go to the lake, the kids are as happy as a box of birds. |
| happy as a clam/lark | very happy, carefree | When Tim is working on his car, he's happy as a clam. |

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Idioms: hang out -- happy as a clam/lark

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Idioms: happy as a peacock -- hard done by

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| happy as a peacock | very happy, very pleased | If you tell Alice she's beautiful, she'll be happy as a peacock! |
| happy as a pig in shit [B] | very happy, contented | "Does Caleb like farm life?" "He's happy as a pig in shit." |
| happy camper | a person who is happy most of the time | Jack's a happy camper today. He's smiling and whistling. |
| happy hour | an hour (or hours) when bar drinks are cheaper | Adam has invited me to the lounge for happy hour. |
| happy motoring | have a good trip in your car | The slogan of the auto club is <i>Happy Motoring!</i> |
| hard as nails | tough, not sympathetic | The lawyer was as hard as nails. He felt no pity for anyone. |
| hard at it | working hard, as busy as a beaver | When the foreman returned, the workers were hard at it. |
| hard copy | printed page(s), paper with printed words or pictures | You can check your work on the computer screen, but it's easier to find errors on hard copy. |
| hard day | (See a hard day) | |
| hard done by | overworked, asked to do too much | With all the help Bonnie gets, she's not hard done by. |

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Idioms: happy as a peacock -- hard done by

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Idioms: hard feelings -- hard row to hoe

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|--|--|
| hard feelings | unfriendly feelings, resentment | After the argument, Bill said, "I hope there are no hard feelings." |
| hard line | statement or policy that a person refuses to change | The principal takes a hard line on school attendance. I must attend. |
| hard liquor | strong liquor (rum etc.) with 40 % alcohol | The bar was serving beer, wine and several kinds of hard liquor. |
| hard nosed | firm, tough; refusing to lower his price or standard | Ms. Bond is hard nosed. If you plagiarize, you fail the course. |
| hard of hearing | not able to hear very well, partly deaf | Now that Grandpa's in his 80s, he's quite hard of hearing. |
| hard-on [B] | (See a hard-on) | |
| hard on me | makes me work hard, tough on me | That job was hard on me. My back is sore from the lifting. |
| hard pressed | challenged, faced with a hard task | They'll be hard pressed to find a person who doesn't drink coffee. |
| hard put | unable to answer easily, stump me | He was hard put to answer the questions on cold fission. |
| hard row to hoe | (See a hard row to hoe) | |

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Idioms: hard feelings -- hard row to hoe

Idioms: hard sell -- hardware

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|--|
| hard sell | using much pressure to sell, trying hard to convince the customer to buy, soft sell | He was giving us the hard sell. He almost forced us to sign the contract. |
| hard skill | skill that can be measured, track record | I think we should offer the position to Linda. Look at the hard skills listed on her resume! |
| hard stuff | (See hard liquor) | |
| hard times | a time of poverty and drought and famine | We endured hard times in the 1930s. We were all poor. |
| hard to believe | not easy to believe, difficult to believe | It's hard to believe that you're a grandfather. You look so young. |
| hard to get | (See play hard to get) | |
| hard to swallow | hard to accept, hard to take | She said, "He has custody of the children. It's hard to swallow." |
| hard to take | difficult to tolerate, hard to swallow | Her cruel words hurt me. Her sarcasm is hard to take. |
| hard up | poor, unable to pay, in the poorhouse | After the war, our family was so hard up we couldn't buy meat. |
| hardware | computer machines and accessories | The printer is an important part of your computer hardware. |

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Idioms: harum-scarum -- hat trick

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| harum-scarum | careless, disorganized, pell-mell | Tag is a harum-scarum kind of game - no rules or referee. |
| has a mind of his own | (See mind of his own) | |
| has-been | someone who has been skilled or famous | Bobby now plays on a team of has-beens: The Old Timers. |
| has the cat got your... | (See cat got your tongue) | |
| has the makings | has the potential, has the ingredients | Darcy has the makings of a good teacher. He explains things well. |
| hash it over | talk about it, discuss it, talk it over | If I mention the lawsuit, he says, "We can hash it over later." |
| hassle | (See a hassle) | |
| hassle me | bother me, bug me, give me a bad time | If you hassle me about my kinky hair, I'll cut it all off. |
| hat in hand | humble, almost begging | If he doesn't find a job in town, he'll return to us, hat in hand. |
| hat trick | one player scoring three goals in one hockey game | Brad scored a hat trick in the game against the Blades. |

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Idioms: hatchet man -- have a boo

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| hatchet man | the man who does the bad jobs: firing, layoffs, etc. | Uh oh, there's Jake, the hatchet man. Who's getting fired now? |
| hats off | a tribute or honor; praise and thanks | And hats off to Mr. Singh for coordinating the volunteers. |
| haul ass [B] | do it, hurry, get going | If you want a magazine, haul ass. You can buy one at the drugstore. |
| haul up on the carpet | questioned, disciplined, give me the third degree | If you don't obey every rule, you will be hauled up on the carpet. |
| have a ball | enjoy the activity, have a blast , have fun | We had a ball at Yolanda's party. It was lots of fun. |
| have a bird | be overcome with excitement or grief, beside myself , have a fit | When you told her the boys had been rescued I thought she was going to have a bird! She was almost hysterical. |
| have a bite | eat lunch, eat some food | We can have a bite at a restaurant after we finish shopping. |
| have a blast | have a great party; enjoy the dance etc. | "How was the dance?" "Super! We had a blast!" |
| have a boo | go to the bathroom, go to the can | Let's stop at the next service station so Cory can have a boo. |
| have a boo | have a look, have a peek | Have a boo with my binoculars. You can see one of the planets. |

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Idioms: have a case of -- have a flat

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| have a case of | be sick from, have a disease | I was in bed. I had a bad case of the flu. |
| have a chair | please sit down on a chair, have a seat | "Please have a chair," my aunt said, and the man sat down. |
| have a clue | know about the answer, know about the topic | I didn't have a clue about the answer to Question 2. |
| have a conniption | become very upset, have a fit | Stop playing your violin, or Mom will have a conniption! |
| have a crush on | (See got a crush on) | |
| have a cow | (See don't have a cow) | |
| have a drag | draw smoke through a cigarette, have a drag | I'm out of cigarettes. Can I have a drag of yours? |
| have a fit | become very excited, have a conniption | Promise me you won't have a fit if I fail math. |
| have a fix | take some drugs, get a fix , shoot up | After he's had a fix, he's happy. The heroin satisfies his need. |
| have a flat | have a hole in a tire, have a flat tire | If you have a flat, phone a service station for help. |

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Idioms: have a fling -- have a puff

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| have a fling | live a wild life as a young person | Dad, did you have a fling when you were young? |
| have a go | try to do, attempt | You have a go at this puzzle. See if you can solve it. |
| have a good time | be happy, enjoy yourself, have a blast | You should come to the party. We'll have a good time. |
| have a heart | do not be cruel, have some feeling | Have a heart when you coach the kids. Be gentle with them. |
| have a hitch in your getalong | limp, walk with a limp | Since he broke his ankle, he's had a little hitch in his getalong. |
| have a laugh | laugh, chuckle | Phan and Lo had a laugh about their early birthday parties. |
| have a leak [B] | urinate, take a pee [B] | When you go camping, it's okay to have a leak in the woods, eh. |
| have a looksee | look at something, look for something | Pete thinks he can find the cow. He went to have a looksee. |
| have a mind to | am considering, may do this | I have a good mind to tell his wife he's been with a prostitute. |
| have a puff | (See have a drag) | |

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Idioms: have a say -- have an attack

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| have a say | be allowed to state a view, help to make the decision | Only the investors will have a say in the price of the product. |
| have a seat | sit down, please be seated, have a chair | The farmer pointed to a chair and said, "Have a seat." |
| have a shot at | have a chance or a try, qualify to compete | If Scotty wins this fight, he'll have a shot at the boxing title. |
| have a sip | have a small taste, drink through a straw | Can I have a sip of your cherry drink? Just a little sip? |
| have a smash | have a drink of liquor, have a sip | Here, Jon. Have a smash of the brandy before it's all gone. |
| have a soft spot for | have a caring feeling for, have sympathy for, feel for | I've always had a soft spot in my heart for Martha. She was so kind to me as a child. |
| have a whiz | go to the toilet, visit the john | We were so busy we didn't even stop to have a whiz! |
| have a word with you | talk to you, discuss with you | As I left the room, Mr. Lee said, "May I have a word with you?" |
| have an affair | see a lover who is not your spouse, fool around | "Liz is having another affair." "Who is she seeing? Bart?" |
| have an attack | feel sudden pain from a disease or illness | She can hardly breathe. I think she's having an asthma attack. |

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Idioms: have a say -- have an attack

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Idioms: a sad sack -- a shogun

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| a sad sack | well-meaning, but unable to accomplish | "If you assign this task to Andy, it won't be done. He's a sad sack." |
| a scandal is brewing | an evil story is being told, there are rumors of a scandal | A scandal is brewing in the Pacific Ocean. A whale and a shark are living together without a marriage license! |
| a score to settle | an argument to finish, a bone to pick | I have a score to settle with him. He owes me a month's rent. |
| a screw loose | a little bit crazy, one brick short... | Sometimes I think he has a screw loose - like when he eats paper. |
| a send-up | a mockery or satire, a takeoff on | The speaker did a send-up of the way Canadians talk. |
| a shadow of his former self | much lighter than he was before, very thin and weak | After twenty years in prison, he was a shadow of his former self. |
| a sharp tongue | a tendency to reply sharply or sarcastically | Karly is a beautiful girl, but her sharp tongue may be a problem. |
| a sharp wit | an ability to say funny things at the right time | Mr. Mills is 85, but he still has a sharp wit. His mind is quick. |
| a shitload | a lot, a large quantity, make a bundle , tons | Ray made a shitload of money at the races - thousands of dollars! |
| a shogun | a powerful business person, a tycoon, a heavyweight | Mr. Fuji is a business magnate - a shogun - known for his interest in robots. |

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Idioms: have an inkling -- have it in hand

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| have an inkling | know, be aware of, have a clue | I didn't have an inkling that you loved him. I didn't know. |
| have at me | criticize me, scold me, give you hell [B] | Every time I come home late, my parents have at me. |
| have deep pockets | have lots of money, be wealthy or well off | Some people say the government has deep pockets, but we are the government. Do we have deep pockets? |
| have designs on | want to take away from, envy, covet | I have no designs on your job. Believe me. I don't want it. |
| have fun | enjoy an activity or event, have a good time | Did you have fun at the party? Did you enjoy it? |
| have half a mind to | (See have a mind to) | |
| have it both ways | let it go and still have it, have your cake... | You can't be married and single. You can't have it both ways. |
| have it coming | deserve it, ask for it | If you get fined for driving too fast, you have it coming. |
| have it in for | (See got it in for) | |
| have it in hand | be able to control it, have it under control | A fire started in the kitchen, but it's okay. We have it in hand. |

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Idioms: have it made -- have the balls [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| have it made | have achieved success, have everything you want | Viv has a new home, two cars and a career. She has it made. |
| have it out | argue, fight, settle it | Jake and Dan had it out. They argued for more than an hour. |
| have it your way | do what you want to do, get your way | Have it your way. Choose the movie <i>you</i> want to see. |
| have my ears lowered | get a haircut, have my hair cut | When my hair is long, I go and have my ears lowered! |
| have my eye on | (See got my eye on) | |
| have my work cut out | have a difficult task to do; a problem I must solve | Our goal is to win the cup, so we have our work cut out for us. |
| have nookie | have sexual intercourse, have sex , make love | All he wants to do is have nookie - all the time! |
| have one on me | have a drink and I will pay for it, this one is on me | Put your money away, please. Have one on me. |
| have sex | have sexual intercourse, make love | She said that it's dangerous to have sex with several partners. |
| have the balls [B] | (See got the balls) | |

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Idioms: have it made -- have the balls [B]

Idioms: have the final say -- have you for breakfast

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|--|
| have the final say | make the final decision, call the shots | The children want a pony, but John has the final say. |
| have the floor | it is your turn to speak to the group | You have the floor, Mai. Please tell us about your idea. |
| have the makings of | (See the makings of) | |
| have things in hand | (See have it in hand) | |
| have to | must, cannot avoid | Jill <i>has</i> to go to the meeting. She's the president. |
| have to go | need to visit a washroom, have to whiz | Can we find a washroom? I have to go. |
| have to go some | must try harder, have to improve | You'll have to go some to get an A. It's a difficult course. |
| have to hand it to you | must admit that you can do it, give you credit (see give her credit) | I have to hand it to you. You did every problem correctly. |
| have what it takes | (See got what it takes) | |
| have you for breakfast | defeat you easily, cut you to ribbons | Don't try to beat the gangsters. They'll have you for breakfast. |

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Idioms: have the final say -- have you for breakfast

Idioms: have you over -- hawk

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| have you over | invite you to visit us, drop over | When we move into our new home we want to have you over. |
| have your cake and eat it, too | have something after you have eaten or spent it, have it both ways | You want to spend your money and still have it. You can't have your cake and eat it, too! |
| have your period [B] | menstruate, got the rags on | I get stomach pains when I have my period. Do you? |
| haven't got a hope | do not have a good chance of succeeding | If you don't study for exams, you haven't got a hope. |
| haven't got a hope in hell | have no chance to win or succeed or survive etc. | If the parachute doesn't open, I haven't got a hope in hell. |
| haven't got the stomach for it | dislike it, do not enjoy it | She likes to dissect frogs, but I haven't got the stomach for it. |
| haven't seen hide nor hair | have not seen a person, have seen no sign of him | We haven't seen hide nor hair of Jack since he borrowed \$1000. |
| haven't the foggiest | have no idea what the answer is, do not know the answer, have a clue | "What's a googol?" "A googol! I don't know. I haven't the foggiest!" |
| havoc strikes | problems happen, crises occur suddenly | Farmers plant their crops, and havoc strikes in hailstones. |
| hawk | a person who likes war; wants to make war | The hawks were pleased when the US declared war on Iraq. |

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Idioms: haywire -- head in the sand

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| haywire | (See go haywire) | |
| hazard a guess | guess at the answer, take a a shot in the dark | How many beans are in the jar? Do you want to hazard a guess? |
| he who hesitates is lost | if you hesitate you may not get another chance | If you want to marry Ko, ask her. He who hesitates is lost. |
| head (headbanger) | a person who uses drugs, junkie | That school has no heads. Not one student is using drugs. |
| head | (See skids) | |
| head and shoulders | superior, better, a cut above | Her work is superior - head and shoulders above the others. |
| head down there | go there, travel south, head up there | Have you been to Chile? I'm going to head down there for the winter. |
| head honcho | boss, foreman, manager | Who's the head honcho here? I have a package for him - or her. |
| head in the clouds | dreaming, wondering, not practical | Shelly is a daydreamer. She's got her head in the clouds. |
| head in the sand | unable to see, unwilling to look | The minister hasn't noticed their poverty. His head is in the sand. |

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Idioms: haywire -- head in the sand

Idioms: head is spinning -- health nut

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| head is spinning | mind is confused, boggle your mind | The lawyer asked me so many questions my head was spinning. |
| head on | directly, without hesitation | Lynn meets her challenges head on, but Vera tries to avoid them. |
| head out | leave, depart | We should head out soon. We have a long way to go. |
| head over heels | in love with, crazy about | Lan's head over heels for Chan. She's crazy about him. |
| head up | lead, manage | Rod will head up the project. He can get the job done. |
| head up there | go there, travel north, head down there | I've always wanted to go to Alaska. Let's head up there. |
| headhunter | a person who looks for professional employees | The headhunters are looking for good computer programmers. |
| heads or tails | choose one or the other, which side of the coin? | "Heads or tails?" the gambler asked as he flipped the coin. |
| heads will roll | people will be dismissed, people will be fired | When the manager hears about the damage, heads will roll. |
| health nut | a person who eats health foods and does exercises to become healthy | Gary is a health nut. He eats fruit and granola, and jogs five to ten kilometres every day. |

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Idioms: hear me out -- heavy duty

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| hear me out | listen to all that I have to say, do not interrupt me | Please, hear me out. Wait until I finish before you comment. |
| heart is in the right place | people who encourage you even if they cannot help | Max is too old to help us now, but his heart's in the right place. |
| heat is on | (See the heat is on) | |
| heaven forbid | we should not do it, we are not permitted | Grandma said, "Heaven forbid! Don't play hockey on Sunday!" |
| heaven help us | we are facing a crisis, we need a lot of help | Heaven help us if we have an accident with Dad's Mercedes. |
| heavens | goodness, oh dear, gosh | Heavens! You weren't supposed to arrive until Friday! |
| heavens to Betsy | oh no, heavens | Heavens to Betsy! I can't find my purse! |
| heavy | very serious, not fun | War is a heavy topic because it involves death and destruction. |
| heavy day | (See a heavy day) | |
| heavy duty | very difficult, demanding | I have to work hard at math. It's a heavy-duty course. |

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Idioms: heavy foot -- hell of a time

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| heavy foot | driving fast, pedal to the metal | Your heavy foot is causing a financial problem for us. Speeding fines are costly! |
| heavy going | difficult part, hard work, heavy going | I'm glad we have Al on our team. He likes the heavy going. |
| heavy heart | sad, sorrowful | It was with a heavy heart that he attended his father's funeral. |
| heavy hitter | (See a heavy hitter) | |
| heavy metal types | (See skids) | |
| heck | hell, shucks | She asked me to come in, but heck, her boyfriend was there. |
| hedge your bets | bet safely, bet on two or more horses etc. | If you hedge your bets, you have a better chance of winning. |
| hell bent for election | going fast, determined to get somewhere | There goes Joe, driving hell bent for election - always in a hurry. |
| hell in a handbasket | (See go to hell in a handbasket) | |
| hell of a time | (See a hell of a time , one hell of a time) | |

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Idioms: hell to pay [B] -- here's to

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| hell to pay [B] | angry people to face, questions to answer | When I come in at 4 a.m. there's hell to pay. |
| hell's bells | I can't believe it, good grief , jumping Jehoshaphat | Hell's bells! Where have you been? We've been looking all over for you! |
| hell's half acre [B] | (See all over hell's half acre) | |
| hellish [B] | bad, awful, unfair | If we have to pay our medical bills, it's a hellish arrangement! |
| help out | help someone, lend a hand | The Wongs are good neighbors - always willing to help out. |
| help yourself | please take some, dig in , eat up | Help yourself to hamburgers. Don't wait to be served. |
| helping hand | (See a helping hand) | |
| hemming and hahing | saying "ahem...ah" while thinking what to say, beat around the bush | When we asked him about the missing money, there was a lot of hemming and hahing. |
| here's mud in your eye | here is a toast to you, drink up | It's good to have a drink with you. Here's mud in your eye. |
| here's to | I salute, we recognize, we praise, cheers | Here's to Tim Ko on his 75th birthday! Congratulations, Tim! |

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Idioms: hey -- high

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------|--|--|
| hey | listen, I am calling you | Hey, Ron. Where are you going? |
| heyday | best years, in your prime | In his heyday, Pele was the best soccer player in the world. |
| hi | hello, howdy | Hi, Kelly. How are you? |
| hi there | hello, hi | Hi there. Do you know the way to Monterey? |
| hick | rural person, local yokel , rube | Wearing overalls and a straw hat, he looked like a hick. |
| hidden agenda | secret plan to control the meeting or decisions | The board has a hidden agenda. We don't know their real plans. |
| hidden talent | a talent or skill you do not show very often | Oh, you play the harmonica! Got any more hidden talents? |
| hide nor hair | (See haven't seen hide nor hair) | |
| high | drunk, feeling happy after using a drug, stoned | Look into his eyes to see if he's high. Are his eyes clear? |
| high | (See natural high) | |

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Idioms: 'round the clock -- 'round the clock

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|--|
| 'round the clock | all hours, twenty-four hours, around the clock | We worked 'round the clock to harvest the crop before it snowed. |

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Idioms: a shoo-in -- a slip of the tongue

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| a shoo-in | the person/horse/team that is certain to win, a sure thing | Ralph's a shoo-in to win the next election. He'll win easily. |
| a short one | a small drink, a small amount of liquor | "Can I pour you a drink?" "Yes. A short one, please." |
| a shot in the arm | energy, encouragement, a lift | Billy Graham's sermon was inspiring - a shot in the arm. |
| a shot in the dark | a wild guess, a try, hazard a guess | His answer was incorrect. It was a shot in the dark. |
| a sick building | a building with polluted air or insufficient oxygen | This is a sick building. The air contains toxic fumes. |
| a sight for sore eyes | something or someone you are happy to see | Well, my friend, you are a sight for sore eyes. Good to see you! |
| a silver spoon... | (See born with a silver spoon in his mouth) | |
| a sitting duck | an easy target, a person who is easy to deceive | The old lady was a sitting duck for the salesman. It was an easy sale. |
| a slim chance | very little chance, not likely to happen | "Is it going to rain today?" "Maybe. There's a slim chance." |
| a slip of the tongue | a spoken error or mistake, a word that slips out | I said <i>brew</i> instead of <i>blue</i> . It was a slip of the tongue. |

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Idioms: high and mighty -- highball it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|--|
| high and mighty | better than other people, snobbish, upper crust | After she married the judge, she acted kind of high and mighty. |
| high five | celebrating by slapping each other's raised hand | After scoring a goal, the players exchanged high fives. |
| high handed | superior, above other people | We don't like managers who are high handed - high and mighty. |
| high-hat | proud, snobbish, pompous | Cynthia looks high-hat, but she's really very friendly. |
| high hopes | expecting the best, hoping for success | Todd has high hopes for his son, including a college education. |
| high on the hog | having expensive things, in luxury | If I win the lotto, we'll live high on the hog - in a mansion! |
| high roller | a person who spends a lot on gambling and betting | This is a game for high rollers. You need a hundred grand to play. |
| high strung | nervous and sensitive, easily upset | Jacqueline won't speak in public because she's very high strung. |
| high time | late, past due, about time | It's high time you got a job, Ty. What kind of work do you like? |
| highball it | drive fast, boot it | The big truck was highballin' it, speeding down the freeway. |

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Idioms: higher than a kite -- His Royal Highness

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| higher than a kite | drunk, natural high , sloshed | Don't let him drive - he's higher than a kite. |
| highfalutin | proud, pretentious | We need a musician, not some highfalutin rock star! |
| hightail it | leave in a hurry, run away | If the bull gets loose, you hightail it for the house. |
| hill of beans | not very much, very little | What I lose in the poker games doesn't amount to a hill of beans. |
| hip | sophisticated, fashionable, cool , groovy , with it | It ain't hip to say <i>doll</i> . You got to say <i>chick</i> now. |
| hip hop (generation) | young adults in the rap-music era with their own slang and subculture | I'm hip hop and if you don't like rap you're "wack"! |
| hire on | get work, get a job, catch on | Norm was hired on as a roughneck with an oil company. |
| his nibs | a man who acts high class, His Royal Highness | We were having fun till his nibs walked in and told us to be quiet. |
| his own man | independent man, one who makes his own decisions | Ken will do his job, but he does it his way. He's his own man. |
| His Royal Highness | the king, His Majesty | His Royal Highness would like you to play your lute for him. |

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Idioms: history -- hit me

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| history | fired, dismissed, gone, down the road | If you refuse to do a job, you're history, pal. |
| hit | (See a hit) | |
| hit and miss | some right and some wrong, trial and error | Hiring good help is still a hit-and-miss procedure. |
| hit and run (baseball) | a play in which the batter tries to hit as the base runner runs | On the next pitch, the Mets tried a hit and run, but the batter missed the ball. |
| hit and run (traffic) | an accident in which the driver leaves the scene of the collision | Was your car involved in a hit-and-run accident? Did you fail to stop after hitting someone? |
| hit home | become very meaningful, affect you personally, touch you | When they see hungry Canadian children on TV, the message about poverty will hit home. |
| hit it off | relate well, be friends immediately | Gus and Bert seem to hit it off. They've been talking for hours. |
| hit man | hired killer, a person who is paid to commit murder | The hit man who killed the president is a terrorist. |
| hit me (card games) | give me another card; yes, I'll have another one | The old man looked at his cards carefully, then said, "Hit me." |
| hit me | the meaning becomes clear to me, I understand | It hit me later that she was a teacher, not a student. |

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Idioms: hit me -- hit speeds of

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| hit me | tell me, say it now, give it to me straight | When I said it was bad news, he said, "Hit me. Let's have it." |
| hit me for a loan | ask to borrow money, ask me for a loan | Hit me for a loan on payday. Then I'll have some money. |
| hit me with your best shot | shoot or hit as hard as you can, sock it to me | Hit me with your best shot. Serve the ball as hard as you can. |
| hit my funny bone | cause me to laugh, crack me up | The word <i>pollywog</i> always hits my funny bone. Ha ha ha, ha ha. |
| hit on | think of, come up with | Ko was a nurse until she hit on the idea of selling jewelry. |
| hit on | talk to in a sexual manner, come onto | When he hit on a waitress, we asked him to stop. |
| hit on all cylinders | running smoothly, operating well, hit it off | At first our company wasn't running very smoothly, but now we're hitting on all cylinders. |
| hit paydirt | become rich, win money, make a lot of money | When Helen began selling chocolate, she hit paydirt. She's rich! |
| hit rock bottom | feel very unfortunate, feel very depressed | After his farm was seized, he hit rock bottom - lost all hope. |
| hit speeds of | travel at speeds of, do (a speed) | The stolen car was hitting speeds of 120 km per hour in the city. |

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Idioms: hit the bar -- hit the nail on the head

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| hit the bar | go to the bar to buy some drinks | Every night after work he hit the bar and stayed for hours. |
| hit the books | begin to study, crack a book | Exams begin next week. It's time to hit the books. |
| hit the bottle | drink liquor, get drunk to forget problems | When Laura left him, he hit the bottle, drinking to forget her. |
| hit the brakes | step on the brakes in a car or vehicle, try to stop | When I saw that the other car couldn't stop, I hit the brakes. |
| hit the bricks | go to jail, be sentenced to a jail term, in the tank | That was the last time he hit the bricks. He never went to jail again. |
| hit the ceiling | become very angry, lose your cool | The third time we were late for class, she hit the ceiling. |
| hit the ground running | be able to work effectively when you begin a new job, self-starter | We need someone who can hit the ground running, a person who needs no training. |
| hit the hay | go to bed, crash | After supper he hit the hay. He was exhausted. |
| hit the high notes | sing high notes, play high notes | Can you hit the high notes on your trumpet? High C? |
| hit the nail on the head | say the right word, suggest a good idea | Your comment hit the nail on the head. You spoke the truth. |

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Idioms: hit the road/trail -- hokey Dinah

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| hit the road/trail | travel, leave | Let's hit the road early. We have many miles to go. |
| hit the skids | begin to fail, go downhill | After losing his job and his wife he hit the skids - became a bum. |
| hit the spot | taste right, is satisfying | Sometimes tea hits the spot. It satisfies me. |
| hit town | arrive in town | It was 2 a.m. when we hit town. |
| hitch in your getalong | (See have a hitch in your getalong) | |
| hobnob | associate with, be a friend of | Per likes to hobnob with artists because he likes to draw. |
| Hobson's choice | accept what is offered or you get nothing; tight spot | If I don't agree to accept half the money, it will all go to charity. It's a Hobson's choice. |
| hogwash | false statements, bull , bunk , hot air | He told you I have a pet python? That's a lot of hogwash! |
| hoity-toity | a bit snobbish, high and mighty | Pamela is a classy lady, but she is not snobbish or hoity-toity. |
| hokey Dinah | gosh , holy cow , wow | Every time you hit the ball Wendy says, "Hokey Dinah!" |

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Idioms: hit the road/trail -- hokey Dinah

Idioms: hold a candle -- hold-out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| hold a candle | do as well, compare with, measure up | The Buick is nice, but it can't hold a candle to the Cadillac. |
| hold a grudge | stay angry for a long time, bad blood | He gets mad, but he never holds a grudge. He forgives easily. |
| hold a meeting | organize and conduct a meeting | The club will hold a meeting on Monday at 7:30 p.m. |
| hold down | keep, stay at | He has shown that he can hold down a job. He's reliable. |
| hold forth | talk at length about one subject, lecture | "If you mention his favorite topic--ants--he'll hold forth for hours!" |
| hold her liquor | drink but not get drunk, hold your drinks | Thelma can hold her liquor. She looks sober after five drinks. |
| hold it | stop, this is important, hold on , wait a minute | "You and I will swim over to - " "Hold it! I can't swim. I didn't agree to swim anywhere!" |
| hold me responsible | say that I am responsible, carry the can , lay the blame | Because I'm the cashier, the manager holds me responsible for missing cash. |
| hold on | wait, do not begin, we are not ready | Hold on! We haven't fastened our seat belts. |
| hold-out | a person who does not agree | There are two hold-outs, but both people are willing to negotiate. |

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Idioms: hold out for -- hold you up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| hold out for | wait to get full price, drive a hard bargain | He'll hold out for the full price of his car. He'll wait. |
| hold that over my head | remind me of my mistake, judge me by a failure | My parking ticket - is he going to hold that over my head? |
| hold the fort | manage until we return, look after things | The manager asked me to hold the fort while he was gone. |
| hold the phone | wait a minute, let me think about it | "Dad, I'm going to quit school." "Hold the phone! Let's talk." |
| hold the purse strings | control how much is spent, decide when to spend | He does the talking, but she holds the purse strings. |
| hold up | stall, be unable to go, be unable to continue | The plane was held up because of a snowstorm - delayed an hour. |
| hold up | use a gun in a robbery, mugged | A robber held up the store and took the money from the till. |
| hold up | cope, not cry, not lose control of your grief | Teri has endured a lot of pain. How's she holding up? |
| hold water | be logical, be sensible | He can't be in two places at once. His story doesn't hold water. |
| hold you up | delay you, cause you to be late | Did the traffic hold you up? Is that why you were late? |

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Idioms: hold out for -- hold you up

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Idioms: hold your drinks -- hole in one (golf)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| hold your drinks | drink liquor but not be rude or foolish | You may be able to hold your drinks, but you can't drive my car. |
| hold your hand | help you when you are afraid, baby-sit you | When you go to college, who's going to hold your hand? |
| hold your horses | wait a minute, hold on , hold the phone | When I said the accident was his fault, he said, "Hold your horses!" |
| hold your mouth the right way | if you shape your mouth the right way you can do it, the way you hold... | "I can't tie a reef knot." "Sure you can - if you hold your mouth the right way." |
| hold your nose | accept it but not like it, look the other way | This plan is better than no plan, so hold your nose and vote for it. |
| hold your own | be equal to the others, keep pace | She can hold her own with the best skiers. She's excellent. |
| hold your temper | control your temper, do not lose your temper | Try to hold your temper when you work with the children. Don't get angry because they learn from watching you. |
| hold your tongue | be polite, do not talk back | When your father is talking, you hold your tongue. You be quiet. |
| holding the bag | left alone to finish the work or be responsible | Mom says we leave her holding the bag - to finish jobs alone. |
| hole in one (golf) | hit the ball from the tee into the cup in one stroke | There's a \$50 prize for a hole in one at the Pines Golf Course. |

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Idioms: hole up -- home stretch

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| hole up | hide and wait, find a place to stay until it is safe | The robbers were holed up in a motel on Hastings Street. |
| hollow leg | (See a hollow leg) | |
| holy cow | that is exciting, geez , gosh , wow | Holy cow! That car just about crashed into us! |
| holy Moses | that is amazing, gosh , holy Toledo , wow | Holy Moses! What a lot of birds! There must be a million! |
| holy pile | (See a holy pile) | |
| holy smoke | what a sight, holy cow , wow | Holy smoke, he was weird! He had purple hair! |
| holy Toledo | how exciting, holy Moses , wow | Holy Toledo, he has big muscles! They're huge! |
| home free | finished a job, free to go home or away | Two more newspapers to deliver and we're home free - finished. |
| home run (baseball) | the batter scores a run on one hit (See grand slam) | I remember the game when Rusty hit three home runs. |
| home stretch | the last part of the journey or race | On the home stretch we drove slower. We wanted to feel relaxed when we got home. |

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Idioms: a slippery slope -- a state secret

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| a slippery slope | a path that leads to problems, a risky plan | Nationalism is a slippery slope. It often leads to racism. |
| a slow day | not productive, not many customers | Tuesday is a slow day in the car market - very few sales. |
| a slug | a group, a bunch | A slug of bats hung from a rock jutting out of the cave's ceiling. |
| a snap | (See it's a snap) | |
| a snootful | a lot to smell or drink, get wind of | When the coyotes get a snootful of our campfire, they'll run. |
| a snow job | a false story, a phony deal, a rip-off | I knew it was a snow job. They said if I ordered some pens, I'd receive a new TV. |
| a snowball's chance in hell | little or no chance to succeed | If I write the test now, I won't have a snowball's chance in hell. |
| a soft touch | a person who will not refuse, an easy mark | Barry's a soft touch. Let's ask him for a loan. |
| a spot of tea | a small cup of tea, a drink of tea | When I visit Mrs. Smith, we always have a spot of tea. |
| a state secret | (See it's not a state secret) | |

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Idioms: a slippery slope -- a state secret

Idioms: honest-to-goodness -- hook, line and sinker

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| honest-to-goodness | genuine, real, the real McCoy | It's not a fake! It's an honest-to-goodness Van Gogh painting! |
| honestly | truthfully, in fact , upon my word | Honestly, I don't understand you. I really don't. |
| honesty is the best policy | telling the truth is the best plan, honesty pays off | Above the teacher's desk is this sign: <i>Honesty is the best policy.</i> |
| honey | dear, darling, sweetie pie | Honey, where are the tomatoes? Do we have any tomatoes? |
| honky | white person, Caucasian | Then this honky gave us a ride. Some whites are nice, eh. |
| hoo-haw [B] | penis, dork , prick | "Yes, I've seen a hoo-haw," she said. "I have three brothers." |
| hooch | liquor, booze , homebrew, screech | Arne brought a bottle of hooch to the dance. |
| hood | teenage boy involved in crime, hoodlum | Ron looks like a hood, but he's a good boy - and a good student. |
| hook up with | join, travel together | In Calgary, I hooked up with a guy from Montreal. |
| hook, line and sinker | completely, fully, without hesitation, fall for that | Martina believes my story - hook, line and sinker! She believes everything I tell her. |

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Idioms: honest-to-goodness -- hook, line and sinker

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Idioms: hooker -- horse around

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------|--|---|
| hooker | prostitute, fallen woman | As I walked along 3rd Avenue, a hooker asked me if I was lonely. |
| hoosegow | (See in the slammer) | |
| hoot | laugh, laugh your head off , split a gut | When I said I live in Moose Jaw, he hooted. He laughed at me. |
| hop up | increase the power, supercharge , tweak | "What are you driving?" "A hopped-up Ford. It flies!" |
| hopes dashed | plans ruined, dreams lost | Her hopes were dashed when she failed the entrance exam. |
| hopping mad | very angry, hot | She was hopping mad when you laughed at her wig. |
| hork | vomit, puke, barf , throw up | Somebody horked on the floor of my car! Yuk! |
| horn in | interfere, intrude, butt in | We were playing a game of tag, and the big guys tried to horn in. |
| horny [B] | ready for sex, wanting to have sex, aroused | How come you're never horny when I am? |
| horse around | play, joke, fool around , goof off | Don't horse around in the lab. You could spill some acid. |

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Idioms: hooker -- horse around

Idioms: horse feathers -- hot air

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| horse feathers | lies, false stories, bull , a bunch of malarkey | When she told her dad she saw a ghost, he said, "Horse feathers!" |
| horse of a different color | (See a horse of a different color) | |
| horse sense | being sensible, logical; common sense | He's got horse sense to rent a condo before he buys one. |
| horse shoes up his ass [B] | very lucky, always winning | He's got horseshoes up his ass! He won six games of bingo! |
| horse's ass [B] | (See a horse's ass) | |
| horseplay | just having fun, fooling around | Don't worry. The boys aren't fighting. It's just horseplay. |
| hose it down/ hose it off | spray with water from the hose, wash down | If the rubber mat is muddy, lay it on the sidewalk and hose it off. |
| hoser | Canadian guy, neighbor | Hey, hoser. What're you doin' in my garden? |
| hot | angry, mad, pissed [B] | She was really hot when you said her wig was crooked. |
| hot air | false talk, bragging, bull , hogwash | Steve brags about winning the marathon, but he's full of hot air. |

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Idioms: horse feathers -- hot air

Idioms: hot and bothered -- hot ticket

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| hot and bothered | upset, getting angry, ready to speak angrily | You know that Dad gets hot and bothered when you stay out late. |
| hot goods | stolen products, items obtained illegally | I won't buy a watch from him because he sells hot goods. |
| hot hand | (See a hot hand) | |
| hot off the press | paper that has just been printed | As the boy handed me the paper he said, "Hot off the press!" |
| hot on the trail | following the trail, looking for evidence | The police are hot on the trail of the bank robbers. |
| hot on your heels | following close behind, not far behind | If you begin to run, the bear will be hot on your heels. |
| hot potato | (See drop him like a hot potato) | |
| hot stuff | very popular person, very sexy person | When Arlana was in high school she was hot stuff - very sexy! |
| hot tempered | quick to become angry, lose your temper | He's hot tempered - very impatient and often angry. |
| hot ticket | (See a hot ticket) | |

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Idioms: hot topic -- how are you doing

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|--|
| hot topic | (See a hot topic) | |
| hot under the collar | upset, becoming angry, hot and bothered | It's only a joke. Don't get hot under the collar. |
| hotdog | cooked wiener inside a long bun | Two hotdogs with mustard, please. And two coffees - black. |
| hotdog | (See a hotdog) | |
| hothead | (See a hothead) | |
| hotshot | (See a hotshot) | |
| hound | keep asking or demanding, harass, browbeat | If you'll stop hounding me, I'll go to the doctor! |
| household name | (See a household name) | |
| how about that | that is interesting, you don't say | How about that! We ran ten kilometres! |
| how are you doing | are you feeling fine? is life good to you? | How are you doing, Chan? I haven't seen you for awhile. |

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Idioms: how are you fixed for -- how it plays out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| how are you fixed for | do you have enough? how many do you have? | How are you fixed for diapers? May I borrow one? |
| how are you getting along | are you able to do it? are you okay ? how are you doing | "How are you getting along at the new school, Gail?" "Fine. I like my subjects." |
| how are you making out | are you able to do the job? have you made progress? how are you doing | The manager came to my office and said, "How are you making out? Finished the report?" |
| how come | why? how do you explain it? | How come you're going home? Don't you want to play? |
| how do you do | hello, nice to meet you, good day , howdy | "Mr. Grant, I'm Ken Blair, the new bank manager." "How do you do, Mr. Blair." |
| how do you like them apples | do you like this better? do you like that choice? tough bananas | If you don't like the bed, you can sleep on the floor. How do you like them apples? |
| how does that grab you | how do you feel about that? | A holiday in Greece - how does that grab you? |
| how goes it | is your life good? how are you doing | "How goes it?" said my friend. "Not bad," I replied. |
| how goes the battle | are you winning the battle of life? are you okay ? | "How goes the battle?" Jo asked. "I win and I lose," Pat replied. |
| how it plays out | how it happens, how it ends how it pans out | The new policy is supposed to improve sales, but we'll see how it plays out. |

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Idioms: how so -- hump day

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| how so | explain how, how come | When I told him the game was canceled, he said, "How so?" |
| how time flies | how quickly time passes, how short the time seems | How time flies when I visit you. The hours pass too quickly. |
| how you hold your... | (See the way you hold your mouth) | |
| how's that again | what did you say? come again | When Grandpa doesn't hear me, he says, "How's that again?" |
| how's tricks | is life okay? are you learning new skills? | When Andy sees me, he always says, "How's tricks?" |
| howdy | hello, good day, how do you do | The old cowboy says, "Howdy, ma'am," when he meets a lady. |
| huh | what did you say? pardon? | "Did you wash your ears?" "Huh?" |
| humdinger | (See a humdinger) | |
| humongous | huge, very large | My uncle has this humongous dog. It's as big as a calf! |
| hump day | Wednesday, the middle of the work week, over the hump | Brian says if you can get through hump day, the rest of the week is easy. |

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Idioms: how so -- hump day

Idioms: hungover -- hyah

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|--|
| hungover | having a headache after drinking liquor, hangover | The next day he was hungover, so he rested and drank coffee. |
| hungry thirties | (See dirty thirties) | |
| hunk | a gorgeous man, a very attractive male | Matty thinks Robert Redford is a hunk. She dreams about him. |
| hunker down | get ready to lift or work, prepare to make an effort | To achieve our sales goals, we all have to hunker down. |
| hurl | vomit, puke, barf , hork , woof your cookies | After eating two raw eggs, she hurled - all over my sheepskin! |
| hurry up | do it quickly, make it snappy | Hurry up with the dishes. We want you to play cards with us. |
| hurt my feelings | make me feel sad, offend me | You hurt my feelings when you said I waddle like a duck. |
| hush up | do not talk, be quiet, keep quiet | "Mommy, there's the man who kissed you!" "Hush up, child." |
| hushed up | not talked about, keep a secret | In the 1950s, if a teen-age girl got pregnant, it was hushed up. |
| hyah | hello, hi , hi there | Hyah, Bill. What's new with you? |

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Idioms: hungover -- hyah

Idioms: I smell where you're stepping -- if that doesn't beat all

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| I smell where you're stepping | I understand the direction of your thought, follow me , get my drift | "Do you understand?" "Yes, please continue. I smell where you're steppin'" |
| I'll be a monkey's uncle | I cannot believe it, I must be dreaming | When Farley won the new car, he said, "I'll be a monkey's uncle!" |
| I'm afraid so | (See afraid so) | |
| icing on the cake | a bonus, extra benefit, the rest is gravy | We've sold enough tickets to pay for the trip. This money from the Elks Club is icing on the cake! |
| idiot lights | warning lights on the instrument panel of a car | Kim wants a car with gauges, not idiot lights. |
| if a mussel doesn't open don't eat it | if you force things to happen you may regret it, leave well enough alone | If you force a child to talk, you may regret it. As they say, <i>If a mussel doesn't open, don't eat it.</i> |
| if looks could kill | the look on your face was evil or hateful | If looks could kill, I'd be dead. Are you mad at me or something? |
| if my memory serves me correctly | if I can remember well, if I have a good memory | Your name is Jose - if my memory serves me correctly. |
| if only | I wish, we wish | If only we'd phoned before we came. There's nobody home! |
| if that doesn't beat all | that is the best/biggest/worst I have ever seen | Fifty people in a phone booth - if that doesn't beat all! |

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Idioms: if the shoe fits, wear it -- in a bit

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|--|
| if the shoe fits, wear it | if there is a lesson for you, learn it | When I listen to you preach, I wonder if the shoe fits me. |
| if you can't cut it, you can't stay | if you cannot do the work you will have to leave; shape up or ship out | When I complained about long days, the foreman said, "If you can't cut it, you can't stay." |
| if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen | if you do not like the pressure you can leave; if you can't cut it, you can't stay | In the boardroom someone had written on the flip chart <i>If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen!</i> |
| if you're born to hang, you won't drown | fate controls how we die; we do not control the time and cause of our death | After rescuing the swimmer, he said to me, "If you're born to hang, you won't drown." |
| if you're not with us you're against us | if you do not support us you are against us; can't have it both ways | War divides us into allies and enemies. If you're not with us, you're against us. |
| ignorance is bliss | ignorant people have nothing to worry about | The teacher said, "Ignorance is bliss - until you write exams." |
| in a bad way | feeling sad or downhearted | After the accident, Val was in a bad way. She was very depressed. |
| in a big way | with a lot of style and expense | Pam does things in a big way. She hired a band for her party. |
| in a big way | very much, a lot | My son likes to play computer games - in a big way! |
| in a bit | in a minute, within a short time | "Can we go?" asked the girl. "In a bit," her mother replied. |

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Idioms: a steal -- a sweet tooth

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| a steal | a bargain; purchased for a very low price | How much did I pay for my new coat? Very little. It was a steal. |
| a stiff upper lip | (See keep a stiff upper lip) | |
| a stitch in time saves nine | a small repair may prevent a large repair | I believe in maintenance. <i>A stitch in time saves nine.</i> |
| a stitch of clothes | (See didn't have a stitch of clothes on) | |
| a stone's throw | a short distance, 25 metres | A deer came into the yard, just a stone's throw from our door. |
| a sucker for punishment | one who allows himself to be hurt or blamed | If I accept blame for a team loss, I'm a sucker for punishment. |
| a suicide pass (hockey) | a pass behind the player causing him to look back | Older players always stop when receiving a suicide pass. |
| a sure bet | certain to win, a good choice to bet on | The Lions are a sure bet in the final game. They'll win easily. |
| a sure thing | a predictable result, sure to happen | For them, success is a sure thing. They plan for success. |
| a sweet tooth | a need to eat candy, a craving for sugar | After dinner we'll serve mints. Daddy has a sweet tooth, eh. |

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Idioms: in a blue moon -- in a jam

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|---|
| in a blue moon | (See once in a blue moon) | |
| in a cold sweat | very nervous or scared, scared spitless | As Doug waited to speak to the audience he felt breathless and shaky. His hands felt cold and damp. He was in a cold sweat! |
| in a coon's age | in many years, for a long time, for a dog's age | Hello, Uncle Henry! I haven't seen you in a coon's age! |
| in a family way | pregnant, a bun in the oven | Carey's in a family way. She's due to have her baby soon. |
| in a fix | in a bad situation, in a jam | Without matches or food, the lost boys were in quite a fix. |
| in a flap | worried or upset, in a hurry | Kate is in a flap again. Her dog is sick. |
| in a flash | very quickly, in no time | If you're in trouble, Superman will be there in a flash. |
| in a flutter | (See in a tizzy) | |
| in a funk | in a bad mood, frustrated, in a snit | Rick is in a funk today because Muriel hasn't called him. |
| in a jam | in a difficult position, in trouble | I was in a jam. I had no money to pay the rent. |

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Idioms: in a jiffy -- in a split second

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|--|
| in a jiffy | in a minute, very soon, in a sec | When Dad says he'll be there in a jiffy, he means 20 minutes. |
| in a long time | for months or years, for a dog's age | I haven't seen you in a long time. Where have you been hiding? |
| in a pickle | in a difficult situation, in a jam | When the motor on our boat quit, I knew we were in a pickle. |
| in a pig's ass [B] | not true, unbelievable, bull , full of it | You wrote <i>War and Peace</i> ? In a pig's ass! |
| in a pinch | in a difficult situation, in a jam | I was in a pinch because I had no money to pay for the meal. |
| in a rut | always doing it the same way, never changing the method or style | After ten years in the same job with the same manager in the same building, he was in a rut. |
| in a sec | in a second, very soon, in a jiffy | Wait. I'll be there in a sec. |
| in a slump | not performing well for several days | Wayne's in a slump. He hasn't scored a point in four games. |
| in a snit | upset, worried, in a stew | Ms. Mak is in a snit because she lost her cat. |
| in a split second | in less than a second, in a flash | In a split second, the cat twisted and landed on its feet. |

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Idioms: in a stew -- in broad daylight

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| in a stew | concerned and upset, in a tizzy | Dad gets in such a stew when Mom is sick. He really worries. |
| in a tight spot | in a difficult position, in a pinch | Mom told me to go, and Dad told me to stay. I was in a tight spot. |
| in a tizzy | upset, flustered, in a flap | Aunt Lottie gets in a tizzy when she can't find her wig. |
| in agreement | believing or feeling the same things | When we discuss Canadian unity, we're in agreement. |
| in any way, shape or form | in any way, at all , in the least | Winning the award didn't affect her in any way, shape or form. She hasn't changed at all. |
| in bad faith | not sincere, not really trying to agree | The workers accused management of bargaining in bad faith. |
| in bad shape | not feeling well, out of it | The day after the party I was in bad shape. How my head ached! |
| in black and white | written and signed, in writing | If they say the car is guaranteed, get it down in black and white. |
| in brief | briefly, without giving details | In brief, all flights have been canceled. |
| in broad daylight | easy to see, not trying to hide | The man undressed right there on the street - in broad daylight. |

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Idioms: in a stew -- in broad daylight

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Idioms: in cahoots -- in dire straits

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| in cahoots | like partners, helping each other | I think the judge and lawyer are in cahoots - working together. |
| in charge | responsible for, in control | Who's in charge here? Who is the manager or supervisor? |
| in clover | becoming wealthy, receiving lots of money | We were in clover! We bought a ranch, a car, and a house in town. |
| in cold blood | without feeling, without mercy | He's accused of killing a "Mountie" in cold blood. |
| in control | able to manage, in charge | Mr. Blum is not in control of his pets. They run all over town. |
| in-crowd | (See the in-crowd) | |
| in deep doo-doo [B] | in serious difficulties, in deep shit , in deep trouble | He's a member of parliament and has been caught twice for tax fraud. Now he's in deep doo-doo. |
| in deep shit [B] | in bad trouble, likely to be punished | If you shoot a bear in a national park, you are in deep shit, man. |
| in deep trouble | in serious trouble, sure to catch hell | Driving without a license could get you in deep trouble. |
| in dire straits | in debt, having no money | If we don't get a good crop this year, we'll be in dire straits. |

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Idioms: in cahoots -- in dire straits

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Idioms: in dribs and drabs -- in his blood

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| in dribs and drabs | a few at a time, little by little | Many came to the sale, but they arrived in dribs and drabs. |
| in fact | to state a fact, as a matter of fact , to be perfectly honest | When some people hear the word <i>gravity</i> , they think of falling bodies; in fact, gravity keeps us from falling. |
| in full flight | going full speed, flat out | The cyclist was in full flight when he passed the cars. |
| in glowing terms | with much praise, praise you to the skies (see praise him to the skies) | Your manager spoke of you in glowing terms. He praised you. |
| in good faith | sincerely, hoping to reach a fair agreement | The union president said that he always bargained in good faith. |
| in good hands | cared for by a friend, with a trusted person | If Darlene is caring for your dad, he's in good hands. |
| in hand | able to control, under control | Some fans began fighting, but the police have things in hand. |
| in heaven's name | if we think of heaven, for heaven's sake | Why in heaven's name did we come to Canada? It's cold here! |
| in her good graces | being liked by her, doing what she likes | If you are in her good graces, you will be invited to her tea party. |
| in his blood | an important part of him, in his personality | The prairie is his blood. He's a prairie boy. |

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Idioms: in his good books -- in my good books

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| in his good books | among those he likes, on his list of good people | She's in his good books because she praised his painting. |
| in hock | in debt, owing money, having a large mortgage | We were in hock after buying the property. We had a large debt. |
| in hot water | needing discipline or correction, in deep shit | My son took his pet snake to school, and now he's in hot water. He could be suspended from classes. |
| in keeping with | following the rules or customs | Refunds are not in keeping with company policy. No refunds. |
| in leaf | having new leaves, growing leaves | Poplar trees were in leaf, wild roses in bloom. |
| in love | feeling romantic love, fall in love | Peter's in love with Wendy, but Wendy's in love with Tom. |
| in mind | thinking of, remembering, keep you in mind | When she wrote the story about the lawyer, she had you in mind. |
| in mint condition | in new condition, as new | The Nash was in mint condition. It looked like a new car. |
| in my care | for me to protect, under my wing | The children were in my care when the dog chased us. |
| in my good books | among the people I like, on my good side | To get in my good books, you can help me with my homework. |

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Idioms: in no time -- in point of fact

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| in no time | very soon, in a sec | We'll be there in no time. We have less than a kilometer to go. |
| in no uncertain terms | definitely, clearly, call a spade a spade | They told us about sex and drugs in no uncertain terms. |
| in one ear and out the other | not listening, hearing but not paying attention | The kids don't listen to me; it's in one ear and out the other! |
| in one fell swoop | in one action, in one attack, at once | Our TV ad is effective. In one fell swoop we create doubts about the other products and sell our own. |
| in order | to make it possible, to help it happen | In order to win, we have to work as a team. |
| in over your head | unable to win, competing against better players | If you play chess against Boris, you'll be in over your head. |
| in person | being there yourself, first hand | Dad saw the wall come down. He was there in person. |
| in place | in the correct position or location, available | Be sure to have the money in place before you buy a house. |
| in plain view | easy to see, where all can see, in broad daylight | In Daqing, some of the men urinated in plain view - very close to the street. |
| in point of fact | (See in fact) | |

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Idioms: in no time -- in point of fact

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Idioms: in seventh heaven -- in the bag

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| in seventh heaven | in a very good mood, feeling very happy | When Smitty asked me to marry him, I was in seventh heaven. |
| in sick bay | very sick, very ill, as sick as a parrot , as sick as a dog | "Where's Mel?" "In sick bay after last night's pub crawl." |
| in step | doing things in a similar way, together | Are you in step with our youth? Do you understand how they feel? |
| in stir | (See in the tank) | |
| in stitches | laughing hard, crack me up | I was in stitches before she finished telling the joke. |
| in store for | in the future, going to happen | Carlos didn't know what was in store for him in Canada. |
| in stride | (See take it in stride) | |
| in that vein | similar, on the same topic, along those lines | The prime minister talked about the sacrifices we had to bring in the present economic situation. Even the opposition went on in that vein. |
| in the back of my mind | in my memory, in your mind's eye | In the back of my mind I could see our dog - asleep by the fire. |
| in the bag | drunk, loaded , sloshed | Two drinks and she'll be in the bag. She gets drunk easily. |

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Idioms: in the bag -- in the drink

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|--|
| in the bag | already won or decided, a sure thing | Don't worry. The game is in the bag - we'll win easily. |
| in the ball park | close, near the total | My offer wasn't even in the ball park. He wanted \$500, not \$300. |
| in the black | showing a profit, in a sound financial position | After one year our company was in the black - showing a profit. |
| in the boonies | out of town, out in the country | Lan lives in the boonies - fifty kilometres from Calgary. |
| in the buff | naked, nude | At our house, we walk around in the buff. Nude is natural, eh. |
| in the clink | in prison, in jail, behind bars | If you get drunk you may be thrown in the clink overnight. |
| in the dark | unaware, not informed | I was in the dark about the trip to Ireland. No one told me. |
| in the doghouse | having your friend or spouse angry at you | I'm in the doghouse. I forgot her birthday and she's mad at me. |
| in the drink | in the sewer, lost | If you leave your ring on the sink it will soon be in the drink. |
| in the drink | failing, bankrupt, up the creek | In the drink - that's where I'd be without you. A total failure. |

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Idioms: in the bag -- in the drink

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Idioms: in the driver's seat -- in the lap of luxury

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| in the driver's seat | controlling events or decisions, in charge | Money and talent will put you in the driver's seat - in control. |
| in the fast lane | (See life in the fast lane) | |
| in the flesh | the person (not a photo or recording of the person) | Julia was there - in the flesh, standing right in front of me! |
| in the gutter | having dirty thoughts or ideas | Pornography puts his mind in the gutter - lusting after flesh. |
| in the hole | having lost money when gambling or investing | By the time he left the poker game he was \$500 in the hole. |
| in the hole | in solitary confinement, in a dark jail cell | If a prisoner tries to escape they put him in the hole. |
| in the hoosegow | (See in the slammer) | |
| in the jug | (See in the slammer) | |
| in the know | informed, knowledgeable, (compare) in the dark | Ask Joan about global warming. She's in the know. |
| in the lap of luxury | living in comfort, living high on the hog | If I win the lottery, we'll be rich. We'll live in the lap of luxury. |

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Idioms: a takeoff on -- a tongue-lashing

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| a takeoff on | similar to, based on the same idea, a send-up | The school play was a takeoff on Shakespeare's <i>Hamlet</i> . |
| a talking to | a scolding, a personal lecture | If he has a poor attitude, Dan will give him a talking to. |
| a tall one | a large drink of liquor, a strong drink | After he heard the bad news, he poured himself a tall one. |
| a tempest in a teapot | a lot of excitement about a small problem | The argument was over quickly. It was a tempest in a teapot. |
| a thorn in my side | one who thwarts you, one who irritates you, bug | He's always been a thorn in my side - always critical of me. |
| a three-bagger (baseball) | a hit that allows the batter to run to third base | Molitor hit a three-bagger in the sixth game of the World Series. |
| a three-bagger | a person who needs three bags over his head because he looks so scary | "What did he look like?" "He was at least a three-bagger. He also needed a bath." |
| a titch | (See just a titch) | |
| a token gesture | a small sign of thanks or recognition | To thank us, they put our names in the paper - a token gesture. |
| a tongue-lashing | a scolding, a lecture, a talking to | When Sis came home drunk, Dad gave her a tongue-lashing. |

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Idioms: in the least -- in the mood

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| in the least | in any way, at all | Oil prices went up, but the price of gas didn't change in the least. |
| in the long haul | after several years, for the long term | In the long haul, you'll earn more money if you have a degree. |
| in the long run | planning for the future, looking many years ahead | In the long run, real estate is a good investment. |
| in the loop | on the list of people who receive information, the in-crowd | I hope you'll keep me in the loop. I want to hear the latest news. |
| in the lurch | facing a problem alone, holding the bag | True friends won't leave you in the lurch, will they? |
| in the making | developing, growing | Raj is a talented pianist. Is he a Glenn Gould in the making? |
| in the meantime | for now, meanwhile | Someday I want to own a yacht. In the meantime, I have a canoe. |
| in the money | wealthy, rich, loaded | If my lottery number is drawn, I'll be in the money. |
| in the Monford lane | driving fast, in the passing lane, pedal to the metal | We got a rush order, so we was in de Monford lane all de way. |
| in the mood | feeling that you want to do something | I'm in the mood for pizza. Let's order a large one - loaded! |

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Idioms: in the least -- in the mood

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Idioms: in the nick of time -- in the running

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| in the nick of time | nearly too late, just in time , under the wire | They jumped from the burning boat in the nick of time - just before it sank. |
| in the nude | naked, in the buff | Sleeping in the nude has advantages and disadvantages. |
| in the offing | ready to happen, soon to be | A great event was in the offing: the discovery of penicillin. |
| in the picture | part of the scene, a factor | As Mr. Martin lost the election, he's not in the picture. |
| in the pink | looking and feeling healthy and happy | Last time I saw Barb, she was in the pink. She looked great. |
| in the pipe five by five | in the chamber and ready to fire, missiles in firing position | "Check missiles!" "In the pipe five by five, sir!" |
| in the poorhouse | poor, having little money, as poor as a church mouse | In 1936, they were in the poorhouse. They couldn't grow crops, and nobody had a job. |
| in the red | showing a financial loss, losing money | Last year our business was still in the red - still showing a loss. |
| in the road | blocking the way, preventing movement | We'll have to move the table. It's in the road. |
| in the running | competitive, could win, give you a run for... | With ten games remaining, the Expos are still in the running. They have a chance to win. |

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Idioms: in the nick of time -- in the running

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Idioms: in the slammer -- in tough

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| in the slammer | in jail, in prison | Marv's been in the slammer four times. He knows prison life. |
| in the tank | in jail, in prison, in the slammer | While he was in the tank, he studied science and history. |
| in the throes | in the middle of some work, caught up in a process | We're in the throes of repairing an old house. What a job! |
| in the wink of an eye | very quickly, in a split second | In the wink of an eye, the coin disappeared from the man's hand. |
| in the works | in the plans, to be built | I've heard there's a housing project in the works. |
| in the worst way | very much, a lot | Hal wants a Porsche in the worst way. He loves sports cars. |
| in these parts | in this part of the country; neck of the woods | We haven't seen a bear in these parts for years. |
| in time | before the deadline, within the time limit | The check arrived just in time. We flew to Hawaii the next day. |
| in touch | phone or write a letter, keep in touch | Have you been in touch with your family in China? |
| in tough | in a difficult battle, against a tough opponent | If you play Ivan in the tennis tournament, you'll be in tough. |

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Idioms: in the slammer -- in tough

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Idioms: in trouble -- in your mind's eye

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| in trouble | accused, arrested, punished | If you steal, you'll be in trouble. You'll be arrested. |
| in tune (music) | at the correct pitch, not sharp or flat | It was an excellent concert. Even the children sang in tune. |
| in tune | believing the same, on the same wavelength | He's in tune with our religious beliefs. He believes in God. |
| in two shakes (of a lamb's tail) | very soon, in a couple of seconds, in a sec | I'll be with you in two shakes. I just have to turn off the lights. |
| in writing | written and signed, in black and white | The company guarantees this pen for life. I have it in writing. |
| in your bad books | one of the people you do not like | If I don't agree with you, I'll be in your bad books, right? |
| in your corner | hoping you will win, on your side | Hey, man, I'm in your corner. I'll help you get your diploma. |
| in your face | placed in front of you, right in front of you | Every time I turn on the TV, that ad is in my face. I'm sick of it. |
| in your hair | bothering you, bugging you | If you have too many kids in a class, they get in your hair. |
| in your mind's eye | in a picture in your mind, in your memory | In my mind's eye, I can see her face - clearer than a photo. |

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Idioms: in trouble -- in your mind's eye

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Idioms: in your prime -- Internet

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| in your prime | during your best years, when you are strongest | When he was in his prime, he played professional soccer. |
| in's and out's | (See the in's and out's) | |
| information leak | (See have a leak [B]) | |
| inhale | eat quickly, wolf down | I rushed home, inhaled my lunch and drove to the airport. |
| inside information | facts available to those inside an organization | I can get inside information. My friend works for the FBI. |
| inside joke | a joke that is understood by only those who work or play together, inside joke | "Would you like to buy some of our "liveware"?" I asked. She frowned. "Never mind," I said. "It's an inside joke. Ha ha." |
| inside out | (See know inside out) | |
| inside story | (See the inside story) | |
| inside track | (See the inside track) | |
| Internet | a system of computers, World Wide Web | If you want to know more about any topic, get on the Internet. |

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Idioms: into fitness/dancing etc. -- is you is, or is you ain't my baby

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| into fitness/dancing etc. | involved in fitness etc., enjoying a hobby | They're really into fitness. They exercise and jog a lot. |
| into hock | (See in hock) | |
| into the sauce | drinking alcohol, off the wagon | Uncle has been into the sauce. I can smell liquor on his breath. |
| into the tank | into business failure, into bankruptcy | Two companies went into the tank because of free trade. |
| into thin air | disappearing like a ghost, vanishing like steam | When I moved closer, the flying saucer vanished into thin air. |
| invite you over | (See have you over) | |
| iron out | solve, work it out | She ironed out the problem with the school. Jeff is back in class. |
| irons in the fire | very busy, plate is full | I can't help with your project. I have too many irons in the fire. |
| is that so | is that true? no kidding | Every time I tell Mr. Pratt some news, he says, "Is that so?" |
| is you is, or is you ain't my baby | are you my love? I want to know if you love me | Pearl is singing to Toby: "Is you is, or is you ain't my baby?" |

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Idioms: into fitness/dancing etc. -- is you is, or is you ain't my baby

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Idioms: it ain't over till it's over -- it makes no difference

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|---|
| it ain't over till it's over | a game is not finished until time has expired, never say die | A few fans stayed to watch the end of the game. "It ain't over till it's over," one man said. |
| it ain't over till the fat lady sings | an event is not finished until the final bell, don't give up | The tying goal was scored in the final second. It ain't over till the fat lady sings! |
| it appears to me | this is what I see, I believe this happened | It appears to me that this car swerved to avoid a collision. |
| it don't make no nevermind | it does not matter, it is not important, never mind | "He done took your shirt, boy! Why you do nothin'?" "It don't make no nevermind. He's kin." |
| it figures | it is logical, it appears so, it makes sense | "The owner must have started the fire," said Sherlock. "It figures," said Watson. |
| it goes with the territory | some problems are natural in some jobs or places | There's more crime in the cities. It goes with the territory. |
| it goes without saying | it is obvious, needless to say | It goes without saying: we want equal pay for equal work. |
| it has your name on it | we saved this one for you, it is yours | There's a steak on the grill, and it has your name on it. |
| it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all | you are a better person if you have loved someone - even for a short time | Old and alone, the woman often thought of a saying: <i>It is better to have loved and lost... .</i> |
| it makes no difference | it does not matter, either way is okay | "Should we have tea or coffee?" "It makes no difference to me." |

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Idioms: it never fails -- it was Greek to me

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| it never fails | it always happens, time and again | It never fails - when I get in the shower, the phone rings. |
| it never rains but it pours | when it comes we get too much, feast or famine | "Tonight we don't have enough chairs for everybody." "It never rains but it pours!" |
| it occurs to me | this thought comes to my mind | It occurs to me that we won't meet again until Christmas. |
| it phased me out | it caused me to feel uneasy, throw you | I was nervous when you did the bungee jump. It phased me out. |
| it seems to me | it is my opinion, it is my view | It seems to me that Don expects us to phone him every week. |
| it strikes me | this is clear to me, this is my impression | It strikes me that we share many interests and activities. |
| it takes one to know one | one type of personality recognizes the same type | "Elizabeth is such a fool!" "Takes one to know one." |
| it takes two to tango | some things you cannot do alone; you need a friend to experience life; two can share, fight, dance, love...; it is better to have loved and lost... | Life is a dance. It takes two to tango! |
| it was a lark | it was easy, it was fun, a piece of cake | I learned to shift gears on a Peugeot. It was a lark! |
| it was Greek to me | I could not understand the subject; it was like a foreign language | When he asked me what I had learned about DNA, I replied, "I don't know. It was Greek to me." |

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Idioms: it works -- it's a snap

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| it works | it is right, it looks nice, it is a good style | If you place the vase over there and the statue here, it works. |
| itsy-bitsy / itty-bitty | very tiny, mini, teeny-weeny | An itsy-bitsy halter held her hefty breasts. |
| it's a case of | it is an example of, it is a case of | With Bud, it's a case of too much love. His wife smothers him. |
| it's a crock | (See that's a crock) | |
| it's a dilly | it is beautiful, it is special, I really like it | Have you seen Tom's new bike? It's a dilly! |
| it's a Duesey | it's as beautiful as a Duesenberg roadster, it's special | You should see Karl's baseball glove. It's a Duesey! |
| it's a go | it is approved, we can begin | After Ty read the fax, he said, "It's a go! Our proposal won!" |
| it's a jungle out there | the world is dangerous, the world is cruel | "Why can't I walk home alone?" "Because it's a jungle out there." |
| it's a matter of life and death | it must be done to save a life, they will die if we do nothing | We must stop the bleeding. It's a matter of life and death. |
| it's a snap | it is easy to do, it is a piece of cake | You should try making a paper plane. It's a snap. |

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Idioms: it's a toss-up -- it's cold / it's hot

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| it's a toss-up | they are equal, toss a coin to decide | It's a toss-up. It's difficult to choose. Both ideas are good. |
| it's a whole nother world out there | it is very different in that place, it is strange over there | When the kids got back from the virtual space trip, Jamie said, "It's a whole nother world out there!" |
| it's a whole other world out there | it is very different in that place, it is strange over there | I just came from the rave. It's a whole other world in there! |
| it's a zoo in there | it is a crazy place, it is a wild party, it's a jungle out there | They're having a marathon dance. It's a zoo in there! |
| it's all over but the crying | the contest is finished but the losers will cry for awhile | "The Expos lost," he said. "It's all over but the crying." |
| it's all over but the shouting | the contest is finished but the cheering continues | "The Blue Jays won," he said. "It's all over but the shouting." |
| it's as plain as the nose on your face | very easy to see or understand, very clear, crystal clear | We have photos of the earth from outer space that prove the earth is round. It's as plain as the nose on your face! |
| it's been a slice (of life) | it has been an experience, it has been interesting | On the last day of work, Pam said, "It's been a slice, Mag." |
| it's beyond me | I do not understand why, it does not make sense | It's beyond me why they don't get married. They're in love. |
| it's cold / it's hot | the weather is cold/hot, it's raining | In January it's cold in Edmonton but hot in Chile. |

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Idioms: a total stranger -- a wash-out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| a total stranger | one you have never seen, a perfect stranger | "Can I give you a ride home?" "No. You're a total stranger." |
| a touch of | a little illness, minor symptoms | Mary's not feeling well today. She has a touch of the flu. |
| a tough act to follow | a performance that is not easy to equal | Gail danced very well. That is a tough act to follow. |
| a tough call | a difficult decision, a hard choice | Was the goal scored before the game ended? It's a tough call. |
| a tough row to hoe | (See a hard row to hoe) | |
| a tough time of it | a time of stress or bad luck, a rough time of it | When Bev left home she had a tough time of it. She had no job. |
| a tower of strength | a person who helps you during a crisis, a brick | When my parents were killed in an accident, Harry was a tower of strength to me. |
| a wake-up call | a warning, a caution, wake up and smell the coffee | "I got a D on my English test!" "Is it a wake-up call to work harder?" |
| a wash | not owing each other, call it square | You owe me \$20, but you gave me a CD, so it's a wash, eh. |
| a wash-out | a failure, a lost cause | No one attended the concert. It was a wash-out. |

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Idioms: a total stranger -- a wash-out

Idioms: it's in the bag -- it's your move

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|---|
| it's in the bag | (See in the bag) | |
| it's not a question of | it is not a factor, it is not important | It's not a question of money. We can afford to buy a TV. |
| it's not a state secret | it is not a special secret, it is not private information, top secret | You can talk about your first marriage. It's not a state secret. |
| it's not what you know, it's who you know | references are important, Bob's your uncle | In politics, it's not what you know, it's <i>who</i> you know. |
| it's now or never | do it now or not at all, he who hesitates is lost | If we're going to have a family, it's now or never. We can't wait. |
| it's over/ it's over with | it is finished, it is done | When the trial ended, she said, "I'm glad it's over with." |
| it's raining/snowing | the weather is rainy or snowy | Whenever we visit Vancouver, it's raining. |
| it's the duck's guts | it is great, it is wonderful, the cat's ass | "Have you seen the new Cadillac?" "No, I haven't. Is it nice?" "Yes, I'll say. It's the duck's guts!" |
| it's up to you | it is your decision, you choose | I can't tell you which program to choose. It's up to you. |
| it's your move | now you move or speak, it's your turn | She jumps three of my checkers and says, "It's your move, Bud." |

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Idioms: it's in the bag -- it's your move

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Idioms: it's your turn -- itchy feet

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|--|---|
| it's your turn | now you play, it's your move | Now it's your turn, Willie. Hit the ball to Daddy. |
| itchy feet | ready to go, anxious to leave | As we talked about the trip, I could see that Dad was getting itchy feet. |

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Idioms: jack me around -- jerk

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| jack me around | tell me lies, play games | Don't jack me around, man. I need to know who took my car. |
| jack of all trades | a person who has many skills | She's a carpenter, plumber and cook - a jack of all trades. |
| jam | play jazz, practise music in a small group | After the concert, a few musicians started to jam. |
| jam session | informal practice session for musicians, jam | After the symphony rehearsal, a few of us had a jam session. |
| jam tart | a phony person, a pretender | That jam tart! He teaches writing but he hasn't written anything. |
| jam/jam out | not come to the party etc., back out | Kai jammed last night because her cousin came to visit her. |
| jazz up | add color or interest, add an accessory | It's a nice coat, but I'm going to jazz it up with a red scarf. |
| je ne sais quoi | I do not know what it is, it is a special something | She has a special quality, this lady, a certain je ne sais quoi. |
| jeepers | oh, gee whiz , gosh | Jeepers! I don't know what to say. |
| jerk | fool, dipstick , fink | Stop acting like a jerk! Stop squeezing mustard on me! |

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Idioms: jack me around -- jerk

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Idioms: jerk me around -- Joe Who

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|---|---|
| jerk me around | not be honest with me, jack me around | Don't jerk me around. I want to know if you've seen my child. |
| jerk off [B] | masturbate, pull your wire [B] | "If jerking off is a sin, I know a lot of sinners," said the old man. |
| jewels | (See the family jewels) | |
| jig is up | (See the jig's up) | |
| jim dandy | (See a jim dandy) | |
| jimmy crickets | geez , gosh , holy cow | Jimmy crickets, it was hot! It was 39 degrees Celsius! |
| jive ass [B] | one who tries to look cool, show-off , show-off | What a jive ass! Give him a mic, and he thinks he's Elvis. |
| jock | athlete, student who plays on school teams | Doug is a jock - he plays golf and baseball. |
| joe-job | a routine task, a chore that nobody wants to do, gofer | If you're the junior employee, you'll have to do the joe-jobs. |
| Joe Who | Joe Clark - a Canadian politician | When was Joe Who the Prime Minister of Canada? 1979? |

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Idioms: jog your memory -- joke around

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|--|
| jog your memory | do or say something to help you remember | This photo of your dog may jog your memories of the old days. |
| john | (See the john) | |
| John Hancock | signature, signed name | Now, Michael, all we need is your John Hancock right here, on the dotted line. |
| John Henry | signature, signed name | To give you a refund, we need your John Henry on this form. |
| Johnny Canuck | Canadian soldier, Canuck | We'll send Johnny Canuck in first, then our tanks. |
| Johnny-come-lately | a man who has not lived or worked there very long | "Who is she going with now?" "Oh, some Johnny-come-lately." |
| Johnny on the spot | being ready to help, being there when needed | When I need a ride, you're always here - Johnny on the spot. |
| join up | enrol, enlist, sign up | The Army needed volunteers, so Milo joined up. |
| join you | meet you, catch up with you | You go to the game directly from work. I'll join you at the arena. |
| joke around | play and tell jokes, fool around | They were joking around after class - rapping and laughing. |

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Idioms: jog your memory -- joke around

Idioms: joke is on you -- jump [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| joke is on you | (See the joke is on you) | |
| joker | a person who tells jokes and likes to laugh | Jerry is some joker! He makes everybody laugh. |
| joker | a stranger, a person who does something unusual | Some joker stopped and asked me if I knew the way to heaven. |
| joking aside | to stop joking and be serious, without joking, get serious | Joking aside, we need to find Willie. His bride is waiting in the church! |
| jolly good fellow | a good person, a person being honored | At Jim's farewell party we sang <i>For He's A Jolly Good Fellow</i> . |
| josh | fool, tease, kid | Quit joshin' me. Tell the truth. |
| joyride | fun-filled experience, have fun , what a rush | Shooting the rapids is no joyride. You need to know how to paddle a canoe. |
| juice | electricity, electrical power | This heater uses a lot of juice - 1500 watts. |
| jump | surprise and overpower, attack without warning | The gang attacked him in the alley. They jumped him. |
| jump [B] | have sex with, bang , screw [B] | "Did you jump her, Ted?" "Is that all you think of - sex?" |

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Idioms: jump at the chance -- jump through hoops

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| jump at the chance | be ready to try if you have the opportunity | If I was asked to play with their band, I'd jump at the chance. |
| jump for joy | jump up and down because you are happy | When their horse won the race, they jumped for joy. |
| jump in the lake | (See go jump in the lake) | |
| jump in with both feet | become totally involved, go whole hog | Ken gets involved in his work. He jumps in with both feet. |
| jump out of your skin | jump with fright, become very scared, scared stiff | Keith, if you had seen that ghost, you would have jumped right out of your skin! |
| jump queue | go to the front of a line of people waiting for service, horn in | If somebody jumps queue in front of Dad, he tells them to go to the back of the line. |
| jump ship | go to work for the other team - the competition | The company asked me to sign a form saying I wouldn't jump ship. |
| jump start | use cables to start a car, kick start | One cold morning my dad helped me to jump start my car. |
| jump the gun | act too soon, leave early | A good chef waits until the food is cooked. Don't jump the gun. |
| jump through hoops | do all the required steps, red tape | To get a student loan, I had to jump through a lot of hoops. |

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Idioms: jump at the chance -- jump through hoops

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Idioms: jump to conclusions -- just a smidgeon

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| jump to conclusions | form conclusions before you have all the facts, jump the gun | If you see a wrecked car and say that the driver was drunk, you are jumping to conclusions. |
| jumping Jehoshaphat | holy cow , jimmy crickets , wow | "Your VISA balance is \$63,756." "Jumping Jehoshaphat! Is it?" |
| jungle mouth | smelly breath, unpleasant odor on the breath | Most people have jungle mouth when they wake up in the morning, but not me! |
| junk | illegal drugs: dope, acid etc. | He tried to smuggle junk into Canada. He hid drugs in his shoes. |
| junk food | snack food, food with little nutritional value | They eat junk food for lunch - chips, candy and pop. |
| junk it | throw it away, put it in the garbage | If a pen is leaking, junk it. Throw it away. |
| junk mail | advertisements and commercial letters | On her mail box she wrote a sign: <i>NO JUNK MAIL!</i> |
| junkie | a person who does junk or drugs; skids | "What is a junkie?" "A person who uses bad drugs." |
| jury-rig | make a substitute, improvise | When we don't have a fuse, Dad jury-rigs one with silver paper. |
| just a smidgeon | just a little, just a small amount | "Would you like more cream?" "Just a smidge, please." |

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Idioms: jump to conclusions -- just a smidgeon

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Idioms: just a titch -- just passing through

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| just a titch | just a tiny amount, just a smidgeon | "Is that piano too heavy?" "Just a titch." |
| just about | nearly, almost | We just about fell into the lake. Our canoe nearly tipped over. |
| just as soon | would prefer to, wish | I'd just as soon forget the fight with Dwen, eh. |
| just ducky | just fine, wonderful, peachy | "Bill, my mother is coming to live with us." "That's ducky, just ducky!" |
| just in time | not quite late, in the nick of time | Superman arrived just in time to save the girl from burning. |
| just-in-time | when the manufacturer is ready, not before | T-Max has requested just-in-time delivery of the engine parts. |
| just like that | without a pause or explanation, before you can say Jack Robinson | First you say yes, then you say <i>no</i> - just like that! |
| just passing through | (See pass through) | |

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Idioms: kaput -- keep an eye open

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| kaput | broken, ruined | We have a car, but it won't go. The motor is kaput. |
| keep a lid on it | not tell others, keep it quiet | The judges know who won, but they have to keep a lid on it. |
| keep a low profile | not go out much, lay low | He plans to keep a low profile until the trial is over. |
| keep a promise | do what you promise to do | You can depend on Vern to keep a promise. He's reliable. |
| keep a secret | not tell anyone, keep it to yourself | Children can keep a secret better than adults. |
| keep a stiff upper lip | do not cry, do not be afraid | When Arthur left Tag, Dad said, "Keep a stiff upper lip, Dear." |
| keep a straight face | not smile or laugh, have a poker face | When you said I was your uncle, I couldn't keep a straight face. |
| keep an even keel | be steady, be calm and sensible | Customer Service needs people who can keep an even keel. |
| keep an eye on | watch to prevent harm, watch out for | Fred, will you keep an eye on the children? I'm going to the store. |
| keep an eye open | (See keep an eye out) | |

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Idioms: a way with words -- above and beyond the call of duty

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| a way with words | natural ability to speak, the gift of the gab | Ask Viv to write the speech. She has a way with words. |
| a whale of a game | an exciting game, a cliff-hanger | When Canada played Sweden, it was a whale of a game. |
| a wild goose chase | a waste of time, a long chase without results | Oil exploration is sometimes a wild goose chase. It's uncertain. |
| a window of opportunity | an opportunity, a chance, a golden opportunity | Sometimes a problem is actually a window of opportunity. |
| a wolf in sheep's clothing | an evil person who looks innocent | The priest looked harmless, but he was a wolf in sheep's clothing. |
| a word to the wise is sufficient | a wise person understands when he hears a key word | I can't discuss the plan, but a word to the wise is sufficient: <i>progress</i> . |
| a wordsmith | a person who works with words, a writer or author | Ask Jan if it's <i>colour</i> or <i>color</i> . She's a wordsmith. |
| a yawner | a boring event, a book etc. that is not interesting | I went to the movie, but it was a yawner so I left. |
| about time | nearly late, high time | It's about time you got here. We've been waiting a long time. |
| above and beyond the call of duty | much more than expected, go the extra mile | Her extra work was above and beyond the call of duty. |

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Idioms: keep an eye out -- keep it to yourself

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| keep an eye out | watch for, look for, keep your eyes peeled | Keep an eye out for Helen at the school reunion. You may see her. |
| keep an open mind | be fair to all opinions, avoid prejudging | I keep an open mind when I talk to you - open to all opinions. |
| keep fit | exercise to be healthy, look after your body | You'll feel better if you keep fit - if you exercise regularly. |
| keep in good shape | care for your body, be fit, keep fit | You keep your body in good shape. You look fit. |
| keep in line | obey the rules, conform, stay in line | The manager expects us to keep in line, not cause problems. |
| keep in the loop | (See in the loop) | |
| keep in touch | phone, write a letter | Please keep in touch with us when you move to the city. |
| keep it down | be quiet, do not be noisy, pipe down | Dad called to us, "Keep it down, eh. We're trying to go to sleep." |
| keep it quiet | do not tell anyone, keep a lid on it | I have a new job, but keep it quiet because I haven't told my boss. |
| keep it to yourself | do not tell anyone, keep a secret | If I tell you what she said, will you keep it to yourself? |

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Idioms: keep it up -- keep the wolf from the door

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| keep it up | continue doing it, maintain this quality | Good work, Joe. If you keep it up, you'll soon be a manager. |
| keep on | continue, do it more | We asked him to stop phoning us, but he kept on doing it. |
| keep on trucking | continue to go or work, carry on | Len has a sign on the door of his big rig: <i>Keep On Truckin, Man!</i> |
| keep out | do not come in, stay outside | There was a sign on the gate: PRIVATE - KEEP OUT! |
| keep pace | go as fast, keep up | Our company keeps pace with the leaders. We're near the top. |
| keep quiet | do not talk, shut up | Will you please keep quiet. You've said enough. |
| keep tabs on | watch and write notes, keep track of | Who keeps tabs on expenses? Who has the receipts? |
| keep the ball rolling | continue the work, encourage us to continue | Reg will keep the ball rolling. He won't allow the work to stop. |
| keep the faith | believe in what we know, do not doubt | When we parted, John said, "Keep the faith, eh." |
| keep the wolf from the door | keep us fed, prevent hunger | This check will keep the wolf from the door. We can buy food. |

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Idioms: keep it up -- keep the wolf from the door

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Idioms: keep them straight -- keep you honest

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| keep them straight | know the difference, be able to identify them | Mo, you have so many relatives. How do you keep them straight? |
| keep to yourself | be alone, not associate with people | When I'm feeling sad, I keep to myself. I like to be alone. |
| keep track | check, count | Keep track of the time you work at the computer. Keep a record. |
| keep under wraps | keep something hidden, not show or talk about | Details of the program were kept under wraps until the election. |
| keep up | go as fast as the others, keep pace | In typing class, I can't keep up. I can't type as fast as the others. |
| keep up the good work | continue to do good work, 'at a boy | I like to hear my supervisor say, "Keep up the good work." |
| keep up with the Joneses | buy what the neighbors buy, keep pace | I can't afford to keep up with the Joneses. I'm not rich! |
| keep up with the times | be aware of new methods and trends, stay abreast | Reading newspapers will help you keep up with the times. |
| keep you going | provide money or food or energy, get by | If you can't stop for lunch, drink some juice to keep you going. |
| keep you honest | keep you from lying, cause you to be truthful | Your child's questions will keep you honest. You can't lie to kids. |

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Idioms: keep you in mind -- keep your head

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| keep you in mind | remember you or your request, think of you | If we have any job openings in sales, I'll keep you in mind. |
| keep you on track | tell you what to do, remind you of the topic | The instructor will help to keep us on track. She'll remind us. |
| keep you posted | send or phone the news to you, inform you | I'll be in Korea for six months, but I'll keep you posted. |
| keep your cool | stay calm, not become excited | Can you keep your cool during an emergency, or do you panic? |
| keep your distance | do not come too close, respect a person's space | Keep your distance or she'll accuse you of harassment. |
| keep your ear to the ground | listen for news, listen for gossip | Keep your ear to the ground. You'll hear about drug dealers. |
| keep your eyes peeled | look or watch carefully, watch for | Keep your eyes peeled for birds. Watch for animals, too. |
| keep your fingers crossed | hope that plans will be successful, hope our dreams will come true | "I hope I get a pet dog for my birthday." "Keep your fingers crossed, my dear." |
| keep your hair on | don't rush, be calm, keep your shirt on | "Hurry, Adriana! We're late!" "Keep your hair on. I'm coming!" |
| keep your head | think clearly, do not lose your head | Try to keep your head during a crisis. Try to think clearly. |

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Idioms: keep your head above water -- kick

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| keep your head above water | survive, have just enough to live, get by | With a part-time job, I was able to keep my head above water. |
| keep your nose clean | stay out of trouble, toe the line | Keep your nose clean, and you'll get out of prison sooner. |
| keep your nose to the grindstone | continue to work hard | Keep your nose to the grindstone and you'll pass the final exam. |
| keep your shirt on | be calm, do not rush me, do not get your shirt in a knot | When we asked Dad to hurry, he'd say, "Keep your shirt on." |
| keep your word | do as you promise, keep a promise | You can depend on him. He always keeps his word. |
| keeper | (See a keeper) | |
| keester | buttocks, backside , bum , rear end | We laughed when Lan fell off the horse and landed on her keester. |
| kept woman | (See a kept woman) | |
| kettle of fish | (See a different kettle of fish) | |
| kick | running faster at the end of a race, home stretch | If you are a distance runner, you know the meaning of <i>kick</i> . |

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Idioms: kick a habit -- kick the bucket

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|--|---|
| kick a habit | stop a habit, shake a habit | A person needs discipline to kick a habit like drinking. |
| kick ass [B] | scold, lecture, give you hell | The coach will kick ass if we don't go to practice. |
| kick ass | proves it is best, shows superior quality, kick some ass | This cd kicks ass, man! Even Jimmy would say it rocks! |
| kick at the cat | a turn, a try, have a go | It's your kick at the cat. See if you can solve the puzzle. |
| kick back | relax, sit back and put your feet up | I'm going to kick back on the deck for a couple of hours. |
| kick butt | defeat badly, blow them away | The Cougars beat us last week. Let's kick their butt tonight! |
| kick myself | be angry at myself, regret my choice | I could kick myself for selling that car. I wish I hadn't sold it. |
| kick some ass | win, beat the other team, show them who is the best | The captain of our team said, "Let's go out there and kick some ass!" |
| kick start | use battery cables to start a car, jump start | The battery was dead so we got a tow truck to kick start our car. |
| kick the bucket | die, buy the farm , pass away | Charlie finally kicked the bucket. He had cancer, you know. |

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Idioms: kick a habit -- kick the bucket

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Idioms: kick the weed -- kill me

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| kick the weed | stop smoking, kick the habit (see kick a habit) of smoking | It's hard to kick the weed after smoking for twenty years. |
| kick up a fuss | complain, make a scene | Jon will kick up a fuss if he doesn't get paid on time. |
| kick up your heels | celebrate, go to parties, have fun | After you've written your exams you can kick up your heels. |
| kicking around | lying around here; is here or there or somewhere near | "Do you have a hammer?" "Ya, there's one kickin' around here somewhere." |
| kid | joke, fool, tease, josh | I was kidding when I said the mosquitoes are as big as bats. |
| kid you not | tell the truth, not joke | There were three large circles in the field, I kid you not. |
| kill a penalty (hockey) | prevent a goal while your player has a penalty | Team Canada killed a penalty near the end of the game. |
| kill an elephant | do too much, do ten times more than necessary, overdo it | He asked you to adjust the carburetor, not rebuild the motor. Don't kill an elephant! |
| kill for | do anything to get it, in the worst way | Lea would kill for a date with Mat. She really likes him. |
| kill me | cause me to laugh a lot, crack me up | Your jokes kill me. They're so funny I nearly die laughing. |

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Idioms: kick the weed -- kill me

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Idioms: kill off -- kiss curls (hair style)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|--|
| kill off | kill all, kill every one | The oil killed off the ducks in the bays along the coast. |
| kill ourselves laughing | laugh hard, hoot , split a gut | When the teacher wasn't looking we killed ourselves laughing. |
| kill the goose that lays the golden eggs | lose or destroy the source of wealth | If we pollute the environment, we kill the goose - we lose it all. |
| kill time | wait, put in time , time to kill | He was killing time waiting for a plane, so he phoned a friend. |
| kill two birds (with one stone) | get two with one try, do two jobs on one trip | If you sell and advertise at the same time, you kill two birds... . |
| killer instinct | wanting to defeat the opponent, go for the jugular | Mel is a fine tennis player, but he lacks the killer instinct. |
| killing me | hurting me, causing severe pain | These new shoes are killing me. Can we stop and rest? |
| King Shit on Turd Island | the ruler, the person who tells everybody what to do | He's been promoted to the rank of sergeant and he thinks he's King Shit already! |
| kiss ass [B] | be nice to get favors, brown nose | I won't kiss ass to get a job. I refuse to be a slave. |
| kiss curls (hair style) | flat curls on the forehead or in front of the ears | Teddi can't go out until her kiss curls are dry. |

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Idioms: kill off -- kiss curls (hair style)

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Idioms: kiss it off -- knee high to a grasshopper

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| kiss it off | not deal with it, put it off | We're fighting for equal pay. We won't let them kiss it off. |
| kiss of death | an action that results in failure or loss | His TV speech was a disaster - the kiss of death for his party. |
| kiss off | go, get lost , take off | When he's angry with me he says, "Kiss off!" |
| kiss that one goodbye | say it is lost or stolen, down the drain | Hank borrowed your new pen? You can kiss that one goodbye. |
| kiss the blarney stone | say a lot of compliments, flattery will get you... | You always say that I look nice. Did you kiss the blarney stone? |
| kit and caboodle | everything, all the stuff, the whole shebang | The canoe tipped, and it all fell in the river - the whole kit and caboodle! |
| kitty bar the door | play defensively, play only to prevent a goal | In the third period we played kitty bar the door and won 4-2. |
| kitty-corner | the diagonally opposite corner of an intersection | The Bay is kitty-corner from the drugstore. |
| klutz | a clumsy person, one who makes careless mistakes | What a klutz I am! I poured sugar in the salt shaker! |
| knee high to a grasshopper | small or short, the size of a child | When we lived in Oslo, you were just knee high to a grasshopper. |

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Idioms: kiss it off -- knee high to a grasshopper

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Idioms: knock -- knock them down, drag them out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| knock | criticize, put down | Don't knock the teacher. She's trying to help us learn. |
| knock against | (See the knock against) | |
| knock around with | be friends with, hang around with | Lynn used to knock around with us. She was our friend. |
| knock flat | knock down, knock over | The flag pole was knocked flat - hit by a truck. |
| knock it off | stop it, do not do that | When we teased the bull, Dad told us to knock it off. |
| knock me over with a feather | I was very surprised, I could not believe it, blow me down | When she told me she was married to my ex-husband, you could have knocked me over with a feather. |
| knock off | remove, kill | One by one, the wolves were knocked off - shot by hunters. |
| knock out | hit a person until he is unconscious, out cold | You punched him very hard. You knocked him out. |
| knock the wind out of his sails | cause him to slow down, cause him to quit, knock him down a peg (see knock you down a peg) | If you tell him his letter is full of errors, you'll knock the wind out of his sails. |
| knock them down, drag them out | fighting, brawling, Donnybrook , no holds barred | After the game, a few soccer fans began to fight. It was a knock-em-down-drag-em-out brawl. |

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Idioms: knock -- knock them down, drag them out

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Idioms: above board -- act out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| above board | legal, not hidden, not under the table , not underhanded | Every action, every payment is above board. Customers respect that kind of honesty. |
| above the law | not required to obey laws, privileged | Just because he's rich, he thinks he's above the law. |
| absence makes the heart grow fonder | when friends are apart they like each other more | When she's away I'm very lonely. Absence <i>does</i> make the heart grow fonder. |
| according to Hoyle | according to the rules, if we follow the rules | According to Hoyle, it's your turn to deal the cards. |
| account for | explain how or why, provide reasons, call into account | How do you account for the missing money? Where did it go? |
| ace in the hole | a hidden strength or talent | Sam's ace in the hole is honesty, which his clients soon discover. |
| Achilles heel | a weakness, a vulnerable place | Jewelry is my Achilles heel. I buy too much jewelry. |
| acid test | (See the acid test) | |
| across the board | affecting all people, applies to everything | We want a salary increase across the board - for all positions. |
| act out | explain by movement and gestures | Watch - I'll act out the meaning of <i>pacifist</i> . |

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Idioms: knock up [B] -- know the first thing...

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| knock up [B] | become pregnant, in a family way | She doesn't want to get knocked up, so she uses a contraceptive. |
| knock you down a peg | say you are too proud, put him in his place | If you are too cocky, Don will knock you down a peg. |
| knock you out | amaze you, blow your mind | You should see <i>The Phantom of the Opera</i> . It'll knock you out. |
| knock your socks off | surprise you, perform better than you expect | This music will knock your socks off! It's rock and roll! |
| knocked out | eliminated from a competition or series | Our team was knocked out during the semi-final games. |
| knockout | stunning appearance, beautiful body | When Jackie wears that red party dress, she's a knockout. |
| know better | know you should not do that | Why did you take the candy? You know better than to steal. |
| know inside out | know a method well, know an occupation well | After 30 years in real estate, he knows the business inside out. |
| know like the back of your hand | know an area well, know every feature of the land | I lived here for years. I know this town like the back of my hand. |
| know the first thing... | (See don't know the first thing about) | |

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Idioms: know the ropes -- kooky

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|---|
| know the ropes | know how, have much experience, learn the ropes | Good managers know the ropes. They have skills and experience. |
| know the score | know what is happening, in the know , know your stuff | The leader of the party should know the score. He or she should be well informed. |
| know where we stand | know our position, know if we have a chance, leave me hanging | The Department hasn't replied to our application for assistance, so we don't know where we stand. |
| know which end is up | know where you are, know what to do next | With so many problems, he doesn't know which end is up. |
| know which side your bread is buttered on | know who pays your salary, If you refuse extra work, you have common sense , bite the hand that feeds... | don't know which side your bread is buttered on. |
| know your stuff | know a lot, know facts, have the answers | In calculus, Tara knows her stuff. She can solve difficult problems. |
| know your way around | know how to survive, be worldly wise | To live on the street, you have to know your way around. |
| knuckle down | work harder, achieve more | If you knuckle down and study, you can pass this exam. |
| knucklehead | one who does not think, doughhead | What a knucklehead! He made the same mistake ten times. |
| kooky | crazy, hairbrain , nuts | Just because I eat insects doesn't mean I'm kooky. |

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Idioms: kowtow -- kowtow

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------|---|--|
| kowtow | do as someone wishes, brown nose , suck up to | Marie won't kowtow to anyone. She's proud and independent. |

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Idioms: lady-killer -- landlubber

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|--|
| lady-killer | (See a lady-killer) | |
| laid back | relaxed, casual | <i>Lenny's Place</i> is a laid-back kind of restaurant - casual. |
| laid bare | exposed, open for everyone to see | During the trial, details of his personal life were laid bare. |
| laid off | to be told by the manager that your job is canceled | Billy was laid off because there's not enough work at the plant. |
| laid up | sick, injured, not able to work | Kelly was laid up for two weeks with a very bad cold. |
| lame duck | a person who is powerless or ineffectual because he or she will soon be replaced | We haven't seen a promising negotiation for peace in the Middle East since Bill Clinton was a lame-duck president. |
| lamebrain | foolish person, slow thinker, dipstick , jerk , dork | Don't wait for his suggestion. He's a lamebrain. |
| land on your feet | be ready to work, be ready for action, hit the ground running | We're looking for employees who land on their feet after facing a problem or challenge. |
| land up | come to rest at, stop at, end up | If you take this boat you'll land up in Norway! |
| landlubber | a person who does not go to sea, a landlocked human, not salty | You landlubber, Jack! I bet you've never been in a boat! |

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Idioms: lady-killer -- landlubber

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Idioms: lap of luxury -- last legs

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| lap of luxury | (See the lap of luxury) | |
| lap up | welcome, appreciate | She laps up their compliments. She loves their praise. |
| lard butt/lard ass [B] | a person with fat buttocks, a person with a big bum | When I was young and chubby, my brother called me lard butt. |
| larger than life | larger or prettier than people we know; bigger than life | In American movies, everything seems larger than life. Buildings are taller, women are sexier. |
| lark | (See it was a lark) | |
| last but not least | the last one on the list but not the least important | Last but not least is Carla, winner of the spelling contest. |
| last call | last chance to buy a drink or come in for supper | Dad stood on the back porch and shouted, "Last call for supper!" |
| last-ditch | last try, desperate attempt, last resort | In a last-ditch attempt to save the marriage, he bought her a BMW. |
| last hurrah | last big event for an old person | Frank is planning one more TV concert - his last hurrah. |
| last legs | (See on his last legs) | |

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Idioms: last me -- laugh yourself silly

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| last me | be sufficient, provide enough, do me for , tide me over | I have a ton of tooth paste - enough to last me for ten years! |
| last resort | last hope for assistance, last chance to succeed | I will call the police only as a last resort - only when I'm desperate. |
| last straw | (See the last straw) | |
| last word | (See the last word) | |
| late bloomer | a person who is slow to mature or succeed | Kelly is not doing well in math, but she may be a late bloomer. |
| laugh it off | laugh about an insult, be cool when you are cheated | The crowd booed him when he scored, but he just laughed it off. |
| laugh up your sleeve | laugh secretly at someone, behind your back | He tried to please her, unaware she was laughing up her sleeve. |
| laugh your head off | laugh loud and long, crack me up , hoot | When Jerry tells a joke, I laugh my head off. He is so funny! |
| laugh yourself sick | laugh until you ache, split a gut | When I listen to Mandy's jokes, I laugh myself sick. |
| laugh yourself silly | laugh and laugh, laugh your head off | One girl said something funny, and we laughed ourselves silly. |

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Idioms: last me -- laugh yourself silly

Idioms: laughing -- lay it on the line

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| laughing | fortunate, lucky, rich etc. | He has a full scholarship to go to university. He's laughing. |
| laughing stock | (See the laughing stock) | |
| laundered money | stolen money that has been invested or donated | Do Mafia companies donate laundered money to the church? |
| lay [B] | have sex with, get laid [B] | Chuck brags about all the girls he's laid, but I don't believe him. |
| lay a trip | suggest guilt or blame or duty | Don't lay a trip on me about low grades. I'm studying hard. |
| lay down your arms | stop fighting, bury the hatchet | It's time to lay down your arms. Stop fighting with your sister. |
| lay down your life for | die for, be killed for | Doug was killed in World War II. He laid down his life for Canada. |
| lay eyes on | see, look at | She says she's my sister, but I've never laid eyes on her before. |
| lay it on | compliment, praise, a little thick | The salesman is praising the new Camry. He's really laying it on. |
| lay it on the line | be truthful, the straight goods | You can lay it on the line. I want to know if I passed or failed. |

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Idioms: lay low -- lay waste

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|--|---|
| lay low | stay out of sight; out of circulation | The escaped prisoner planned to lay low for a few days. |
| lay of the land | (See get the lay of the land) | |
| lay off | be unable to employ any longer, let go | NSU laid off 50 employees because there's not enough work. |
| lay off | stop doing it, quit it, cut it out | I think I'll lay off coffee. I'm getting too much caffeine. |
| lay on | provide, supply | The chefs lay on lots of food at the banquet. It's a feast! |
| lay over | stay overnight while traveling | On the way to Winnipeg, we usually lay over in Regina. |
| lay rubber | spin a car's wheels, drag race | He likes to drive fast. He lays rubber at every intersection. |
| lay the blame | blame, say who is at fault | When he fails a test, his mom lays the blame on the teacher. |
| lay the lumber | hit with a hockey stick, slash with a hockey stick | The losing team started to lay the lumber on our best players. |
| lay waste | damage, wreck, plunder | The Vikings raided Scotland's coast, laying waste the villages. |

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Idioms: lay low -- lay waste

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Idioms: lay you -- leak

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| lay you | bet you, give you odds | I'll lay you ten to one that Marc uses steroids. I'm sure he does. |
| lazy bones | lazy person, a person who does not want to work | If you don't want to work, we'll call you lazy bones. |
| lead a life | have a style of living, have a way of life | With your career and children, you lead a busy life. |
| lead foot | (See heavy foot) | |
| lead pipe cinch | certain of the result, a foregone conclusion | The Jets are a lead pipe cinch to win the game. They're better. |
| lead you down the garden path | tell you a false story, give you a line | He said the trip to Paris was free. He led me down the garden path. |
| lead you on | promise good things, pretend to be good | I know you love Jo, but she was leading you on. She loves Paul. |
| leaf out | grow new leaves, in leaf | She trimmed the branches before the trees began to leaf out. |
| leak | allow people to know, tell the media | Details of the program were leaked to a newspaper. |
| leak | (See have a leak) | |

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Idioms: lay you -- leak

Idioms: lean times -- leave well enough alone

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| lean times | times of poverty, hard times | During lean times they sold eggs for 50¢ a dozen. |
| learn the lingo | learn the language, know the idioms | To work in the computer industry you have to learn the lingo. |
| learn the ropes | learn the first steps, learn the basics, know the ropes | He wants to learn the ropes, to learn how to play jazz. |
| learn your place | learn to know where and when to speak | When I was young, kids learned their place; they showed respect. |
| leave me hanging | leave me wondering what happened | You begin a story, but you don't finish it. You leave me hanging. |
| leave no stone unturned | look everywhere, look high and low | In our search for Mom's wedding ring, we left no stone unturned. |
| leave out | not include, discard | Leave out the cracked dishes. We'll throw them away. |
| leave out in the cold | not invite, exclude | Kim didn't receive an invitation. She was left out in the cold. |
| leave the door open | allow people to reply, invite a response, feel free to reply | If you offer to provide answers to their questions, you leave the door open for a reply. |
| leave well enough alone | if you do more you could cause more trouble | If I cause a problem, I apologize. Then I leave well enough alone. |

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Idioms: act up -- against the grain

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| act up | misbehave, do bad things | She said that Kim was acting up at church - making noise. |
| act up | not work right, give pain or problems | My stomach is acting up today. I don't feel well. |
| actions speak louder than words | people judge by actions more than words, practice what you preach | Parents should remember that actions speak louder than words. Kids imitate their parents. |
| ad lib (ad libitum) | improvise, create, at will , off the cuff | After I learn the melody I like to ad lib. I play what I hear in my head. |
| add fuel to the fire | cause more anger, aggravate a problem | He's angry. Telling him bad news will add fuel to the fire. |
| add insult to injury | add another negative, make it worse , put your foot in it | If you say his answer is wrong, and then say he can't understand, you've added insult to injury. |
| afraid so | sorry, but it is true; believe me, yeppers | "Did he spend all of our money?" "Yes, 'fraid so." |
| after all | after you consider all the facts, to be fair | Will you help me with English? After all, I helped you with math. |
| against all odds | not likely to happen, a slim chance | Against all odds - poor weather, student pilot - we landed safely. |
| against the grain | against the natural way, rub the wrong way | Some words go against the grain. Their spellings aren't natural. |

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Idioms: leave you holding the bag -- leftovers

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| leave you holding the bag | leave you to do the work or finish a difficult job | He left me holding the bag. I had to finish the work by myself. |
| leave you in the lurch | leave you with a problem, fend for yourself | The bride didn't go to the church. The groom was left in the lurch. |
| leave yourself open | not protect yourself, allow people to hurt you | By coming late to work, he left himself open to discipline. |
| led to believe | be told, be given information, lead you down... | "Were you led to believe that the car was in good condition?" "Yes. They said it was fine." |
| left holding the bag | (See leave you holding the bag) | |
| left in the lurch | (See leave you in the lurch) | |
| left out in the cold | (See leave out in the cold) | |
| left over | remainder, what is not used or not eaten | We bought too much ice cream. There are two pails left over. |
| left, right and center | in every direction, everywhere | There were soldiers everywhere - left, right and center. |
| leftovers | food not eaten at the previous meal | After the Christmas feast they ate leftovers for a few days. |

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Idioms: lefty -- let George do it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| lefty | left-handed person, southpaw | The ignition switch in most cars is not designed for a lefty. |
| leg up | (See a leg up) | |
| leg work | walking, going to visit customers or voters | The kids delivered the notices - they did the leg work. |
| lemon | a car with many problems, a car of low quality, seconds | When the American companies began to make small cars, there were a lot of lemons for sale. |
| lend a hand | help someone, give me a hand | Our neighbors lend a hand when we have too much work to do. |
| lesser lights | people who are not as talented, not superstars | We owe our success to the lesser lights on our team - the workers. |
| lesser of two evils | both are bad but one is not as bad as the other | Neither person can be trusted. Choose the lesser of two evils. |
| let a fart [B] | allow gas to escape, fart, pass wind | If I let a fart in this tiny room, we won't be able to breathe. |
| let down | not do as expected, disappoint someone | Don't let the team down. Please come to the game. |
| let George do it | let him or her do the job, wait for someone to do it | If his attitude is <i>let George do it</i> , he won't succeed in our firm. |

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Idioms: lefty -- let George do it

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Idioms: let go of -- let one

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| let go of | release, allow to be free, part with | Please let go of my hand now. I want to leave. |
| let her rip | release or start suddenly, go with full power | When you want him to dump the load, just say, "Let 'er rip!" |
| let it all hang out | relax, be natural | When we go camping, we let it all hang out. We really relax. |
| let it be | leave it alone, do not touch it | When a cat is sick, let it be. Don't pet it or pick it up. |
| let it go to your head | become too proud, have a swelled head | So you won the golf tournament. Don't let it go to your head. |
| let me have it | tell me, do not wait to tell me | If you want to criticize my work, go ahead. Let me have it. |
| let off | not have to pay or do, get off | Kyle was involved in the crime, but they let him off. |
| let off steam | express concern, sound off | Hec is letting off steam again. He wants to save the wolves. |
| let on | show, say, reveal, let others believe | Don't let on that you know me. Our friendship will be a secret. |
| let one | (See let a fart) | |

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Idioms: let sleeping dogs lie -- let yourself go

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| let sleeping dogs lie | do not create problems, leave things alone | Don't tell them the price of gas will rise. Let sleeping dogs lie. |
| let the cat out of the bag | tell people, the cat's out of the bag | People know we plan to elope. Who let the cat out of the bag? |
| let the chips fall where they may | let it happen naturally, do not control everything | We've done all we can to win the election. Let the chips fall... . |
| let the good times roll | let the party begin, let us enjoy our time together, the more the merrier | Uncle Harry welcomed us to the reunion. Then he said, "Let the good times roll!" |
| let this chance go by | allow an opportunity to pass, miss your chance , seize the opportunity | This letter means that you are accepted for admission to Oxford. Don't let this chance go by. |
| let up | not do it as much, ease up | If the rain lets up, we'll go to the park. |
| let you down | (See let down) | |
| let you have it | scold you, shout at you, hit you, tell you off (see tell him off) | If you tease him about his girlfriend, he'll let you have it. |
| let yourself go | relax, be natural, let it all hang out | "Let yourself go," the leader said. "Share what you are feeling." |
| let yourself go | not groom yourself, become sloppy | If you let yourself go, your wife may lose interest in you. |

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Idioms: let sleeping dogs lie -- let yourself go

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Idioms: letter-perfect -- life is just a bowl of cherries

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| letter-perfect | perfect in every detail, like a machine-printed alphabet, picture-perfect | "How did I do on my theory test?" "It was letter-perfect, but can you <i>hear</i> all of the notes you have written so neatly?" |
| lettuce | money, dough , moola | A billion dollars is a lot of lettuce! It's more than I need. |
| level the playing field | make it equal for everyone, a level playing field | If we train all employees, we help to level the playing field. |
| level with you | be honest with you, the straight goods | Peter will level with you. He'll tell you what the doctor said. |
| lick and a promise | (See a lick and a promise) | |
| lick your wounds | become healthy again, recover from a defeat | After losing the election, he went home to lick his wounds. |
| lickety-split | moving fast, boot it , hell bent for election | The train is going lickety-split, at least sixty miles an hour! |
| lie down on the job | stop working, refuse to work | Yes, I take long coffee breaks, but I would never lie down on the job. |
| life in the fast lane | a fast-paced life, living or working in a large city | We tried life in the fast lane - in Toronto - but Seth didn't like it. |
| life is just a bowl of cherries | life is just wonderful, life is grand | When Anne is happy, she says, "Life is just a bowl of cherries!" |

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Idioms: letter-perfect -- life is just a bowl of cherries

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Idioms: life is not all guns and roses -- light in the loafers

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| life is not all guns and roses | life is not all war and love, life is not like the movies, come down to earth | After World War II, some people had to learn that life is not all guns and roses. |
| life of Riley | (See the life of Riley) | |
| life of the party | (See the life of the party) | |
| life on the edge | (See live on the edge) | |
| life you lead | the way you live, lifestyle; lead a life | The life we lead here is based on respect for human rights. |
| lifer | a person who has been sentenced to life in prison | The lifers all sit at the same table in Hampton Penitentiary. |
| lift a finger | help someone, do anything to help | Loki is my friend, but he didn't lift a finger when I needed help. |
| lift my spirits | cause me to be happy, give me a lift | Music will lift our spirits. Let's listen to some Mozart. |
| light at the end of the tunnel | a sign of progress, feeling hopeful because you will soon be finished | After four years of study, I could see light at the end of the tunnel. I would soon graduate. |
| light in the loafers | homosexual, gay, fag | Just because he likes to sew, you think he's light in the loafers. |

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Idioms: life is not all guns and roses -- light in the loafers

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Idioms: light up -- like a dirty shirt

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| light up | light a cigarette, begin to smoke | As Ken left the school, he lit up. It was okay to smoke outside. |
| lighten up | relax, do not be so serious | Lighten up, Charles. Try to see the humor in life. |
| lighthearted | humorous, joking | His lighthearted approach to life is popular with students. |
| lightning fast | very quick, super fast, faster than a speeding bullet , greased lightning | The black mamba is lightning fast - one of the fastest - and is the most deadly of African snakes. |
| lights are on but... | (See the lights are on but nobody's home) | |
| like a bat out of hell | very fast, go like stink | When Harriet is late for work, she drives like a bat out of hell. |
| like a bolt from the blue | like a sign from heaven, like a flash of light | Like a bolt from the blue, I got the idea to shave my head. |
| like a broken record | repeating the same sound, saying it over and over again | From morning till night I hear that complaint - like a broken record! |
| like a chicken on a June bug | very quickly, in a flash , before you can say Jack Robinson | If you leave a chocolate bar on the table, Kathie will be on it - like a chicken on a June bug! |
| like a dirty shirt | always there - like shirts that need to be washed | If you have a garage sale, Jim will be there like a dirty shirt. |

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Idioms: light up -- like a dirty shirt

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Idioms: like a hawk -- like it or lump it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| like a hawk | (See watch me like a hawk) | |
| like a mother hawk | (See watch over like a mother hawk) | |
| like a hot potato | (See drop him like a hot potato) | |
| like a ton of bricks | heavily, with much weight and force | When the cable broke, the cargo came down like a ton of bricks. |
| like crazy/like mad | a lot, very much, to beat the band | She laughed like crazy whenever Earl told a joke. |
| like dog's breath | not pleasant, not popular | This plan smells like dog's breath. It's a bad plan. |
| like father, like son | sons are like their fathers, a chip off the old block | This is Fred, and this is Fred, Jr. Like father, like son. |
| like hell [B] | not likely, no way , not | "It's a goal!" said the referee. "Like hell it is!" said the goalie. |
| like hell [B] | fast, go like stink | That dog can run like hell. |
| like it or lump it | if we do not like it, that is too bad; tough bananas | This is the supper Dad cooked for us - like it or lump it. |

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Idioms: like nobody's business -- lip

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| like nobody's business | a lot, busily, like crazy | The squirrel was eating nuts - chewing like nobody's business. |
| like shit through a goose | moving easily, smoothly, easy as pie | "How do you get the bark off the aspen branch to make the whistle?" "After making the cuts, just tap the bark and the wood will come out like shit through a goose!" |
| like the devil | quickly, too fast to see, like hell | The disease spread like the devil. Soon his whole leg was swollen. |
| like the wind | fast and smooth, like the devil | You can't catch that deer. It can run like the wind. |
| lily-livered | cowardly, chicken , wimpy | Bull riding is not a sport for lily-livered folks. It's not for wimps. |
| line of authority | people in order of power, chain of command | The line of authority goes from our manager up to the president. |
| line up | form a line of people, form a queue | College students have to line up to buy their text books. |
| lingo | (See learn the lingo) | |
| lion's share | (See the lion's share) | |
| lip | rudeness, cheek | No more of your lip, boy. I won't allow you to be rude. |

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Idioms: like nobody's business -- lip

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Idioms: lip off -- live by

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| lip off | talk without respect, talk back | Did you hear him lip off the police? He called them pigs. |
| lippy | rude, impolite, cheeky , sassy | If you get lippy with me, I'll give you extra work to do. |
| lips are sealed | will not talk about it, mum's the word | I won't tell anybody you love the coach. My lips are sealed. |
| liquored up | drunk, having drunk too much liquor, sloshed | I wish Pa wouldn't get liquored up when he goes to town. |
| listen up | listen carefully, pay attention | The coach said, "Listen up, guys. This is important." |
| little bird told me | (See a little bird told me) | |
| little by little | a little progress each time you try, bit by bit | Little by little, we saved our money to buy this house. |
| little white lie | (See white lie) | |
| live and let live | live your life and let others live their lives | Pop's approach to life is simple and fair: live and let live. |
| live by | follow, use as a guide | My husband and I live by two principles: honesty and trust. |

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Idioms: lip off -- live by

Idioms: age before beauty -- airy-fairy

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| age before beauty | the older person should be allowed to enter first | "Age before beauty," she said as she opened the door for me. |
| age of majority | the age when you can vote, come of age | Dad said that when I reach the age of majority I can buy my own car! |
| ahead of the curve | having a higher grade, having better performance the bell curve - a line graph of test scores | In sales, we're a little ahead of the curve. But in service, we "suck"! |
| ahead of the game | finished your work, paid all the bills, caught up | With all these expenses, we can't seem to get ahead of the game. |
| ain't | isn't, is not; aren't, are not | "It ain't easy being green," said the frog. |
| ain't half-bad | is quite good, is not bad, is okay | Hey, this pizza ain't half-bad. I kinda like it. |
| air rage | angry or violent passengers on an airplane | The man struck one of the attendants. It was air rage. |
| air was blue | (See the air was blue) | |
| airhead | (See an airhead) | |
| airy-fairy | not real, impractical, pie in the sky | Sell flying saucers to little gray people? That's too airy-fairy for me! |

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Idioms: age before beauty -- airy-fairy

Idioms: live it up -- loaded

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|--|
| live it up | live wild, go to a lot of parties, have a fling | When I move to the city, I'm going to live it up - have fun. |
| live off | earn enough money to pay expenses | Can we live off the profit from selling your garden flowers? |
| live on | have to pay rent and buy food etc. | What will we live on if you don't have a job? |
| live on the edge | live in danger from drugs or disease or crime | When Bill played in the NHL, he was living on the edge. |
| live up to | be as good as people said you would be | Live up to your own standards. Set your own rules. |
| liven up | cause more activity or excitement | Let's invite Jerry to our party. He'll liven things up. |
| liveware | people who use computers, computer students | Our school has more liveware than computers! |
| living daylights | (See the living daylights) | |
| lo and behold | suddenly, look, out of the blue , wonder of wonders | We were standing there when, lo and behold, a fish fell out of the sky and flopped around on the ground! |
| loaded | having many extra devices or accessories | That Buick is loaded, including a sun roof. |

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Idioms: live it up -- loaded

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Idioms: loaded -- long and the short of it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| loaded | drunk, inebriated, sloshed | After his fifth drink of rum, he was loaded. He was staggering. |
| loaded | wealthy, rich, deep pockets , moneybags | To own a jet, you would have to be very wealthy - loaded. |
| loaded to the hilt | fully loaded, packed to the top | The trailer was loaded to the hilt - full of our belongings. |
| local yokel | resident of a town or rural community, local resident | We were lost, so we stopped and asked a local yokel for help. |
| lock you up | put you in prison, put you in a mental hospital | If you sell cigarettes to children, the police will lock you up. |
| lock, stock and barrel | everything, kit and caboodle | They took everything in the shed - lock, stock and barrel. |
| log off | exit from a mainframe computer system | Before you log off, be sure to save the work you completed. |
| log on | enter a mainframe computer system | When you log on, you have to type in your password. |
| lollygag | be idle, be listless, waste time (see the opposite: waste no time) | Hank isn't busy today. He's just lollygagging around the house. |
| long and the short of it | (See the long and the short of it) | |

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Idioms: loaded -- long and the short of it

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Idioms: long arm of the law -- look down on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| long arm of the law | (See the long arm of the law) | |
| long for | wish for, want very much | Kelly longs for her home in the mountains. She's homesick. |
| long gone | departed earlier, not here now | Albert was long gone by the time the RCMP arrived. |
| long in the tooth | old, aged, over the hill | Jack is a good pitcher, but he's long in the tooth - too old. |
| long johns | winter underwear - with long sleeves and legs | If you are going cross-country skiing, put on your long johns. |
| long time no see | I have not seen you for a long time | When I got off the bus, Grandpa said, "Long time no see." |
| loo | (See the loo) | |
| look after | care for, take care of | He really looks after his car. It's in very good condition. |
| look daggers | look angry, look with hateful eyes | Ginny looked daggers at me when I kissed her boyfriend. |
| look down on | look as if you are better, look superior | Do some Americans look down on people from Canada? |

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Idioms: long arm of the law -- look down on

Idioms: look down your nose at -- look over your shoulder

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|--|
| look down your nose at | look at a person as though he is not as good as you | Just because he's rich he looks down his nose at us. |
| look high and low | look everywhere, leave no stone unturned | We've looked high and low for that watch, but we can't find it. |
| look into | investigate, find the facts, get to the bottom of | The principal will look into the attendance problem and see what is causing it. |
| look like death warmed over | appear to be sick, look pale or weak | Mom is not feeling well. She looks like death warmed over. |
| look like he was dragged through a knothole | appear to be very tired, burn out , run down | After a divorce and a funeral, Anne looked like she'd been dragged through a knothole. |
| look out | be careful | Look out! That knife is sharp. |
| look out for | watch, protect, look after | Please look out for your sister. She needs your protection. |
| look out for number one | help yourself first, get enough for yourself | You can look out for number one as well as help your friends. |
| look over | check, examine, look at | I've looked over the report. It contains the data we need. |
| look over your shoulder | look to see who is following you | He's always looking over his shoulder to see who's after him. |

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Idioms: look down your nose at -- look over your shoulder

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Idioms: look sharp -- loose cannon

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| look sharp | look very nice, very well dressed and groomed | She looks very sharp in her new suit-like a model! |
| look the other way | try not to notice, turn the other way | The officer saw the liquor, but he looked the other way. |
| look up a dead horse's ass [B] | do a worthless task, do a pointless exercise, pissing into the wind | If they want a tax-free society, they may as well be looking up a dead horse's ass! |
| look up to | admire, idolize | Ian looks up to his brother. He respects James a lot. |
| look up/look it up | find it in a book | Please look up the word <i>guru</i> . |
| looking up | (See things are looking up) | |
| loonie | Canadian one-dollar coin | I bought this rose for one loonie! |
| loony bin | mental hospital, nut house | If you ride that giraffe downtown they'll put you in the loony bin. |
| looped | drunk, loaded , smashed | You were looped last night. You don't remember what happened. |
| loose cannon | (See a loose cannon) | |

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Idioms: loose ends -- lose it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|--|
| loose ends | unfinished tasks, odds and ends | "Finished making the dress?" "Almost - just some loose ends." |
| loose ends | (See at loose ends) | |
| loose ends | (See tie up loose ends) | |
| lord it over | be the boss of, dominate a person/group | When we were boys, my older brother tried to lord it over me. |
| lose a family member | experience the death of a member of the family | Poor Sadie. She lost her mother last year and a brother this year. |
| lose count | forget how many you counted, lose track | There were so many falling stars that I lost count. |
| lose favor | lose a person's approval, in your bad books | If you lose favor with reporters, you may lose the election. |
| lose ground | slide back, lose power, fall behind | Every day we lose ground in the battle to save the environment. |
| lose him | get away from him, ditch him | I can lose him at the mall - among the shops and people. |
| lose it | become angry, lose your cool | When he criticized you, I started to lose it. I almost hit him. |

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Idioms: loose ends -- lose it

Idioms: lose it -- lose your head

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| lose it | lose the ability to think clearly, become forgetful | After 35 years of teaching, he was losing it. He was confused. |
| lose my train of thought | forget my order of thoughts or words | Don't interrupt me because I may lose my train of thought. |
| lose out | lose a chance, fail to take advantage of | If I don't apply now, I'll lose out. This is my last chance. |
| lose patience | not be patient any longer, out of patience | Mom is losing patience with us because we don't obey her. |
| lose sight of | forget about, not remember the purpose | Let's not lose sight of why we're picking berries - to make pies. |
| lose time | waste time, fall behind | We lost time when the car stalled. We were delayed. |
| lose track | forget how many you have, lose count | He tried to count the number of birds, but he soon lost track. |
| lose your appetite | not feel hungry anymore, lose the desire to eat | If a bug crawled out of your apple would you lose your appetite? |
| lose your cool | lose control of emotions, lose your temper | Don't you ever lose your cool? Don't you ever get angry? |
| lose your head | lose your ability to think clearly | If you become lost, don't lose your head. Be sensible. |

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Idioms: lose it -- lose your head

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Idioms: lose your marbles -- lost cause

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| lose your marbles | lose control of your mind, lose it | When people grow old, do they lose their marbles? |
| lose your mind | lose control of your mind, go out of your mind | If you continue to use drugs, you'll lose your mind. |
| lose your shirt | lose most of the money you invested | He invested in condominiums and nearly lost his shirt. |
| lose your temper | become angry, get mad | When you lose your temper, the children become frightened. |
| lose your tongue | be unable to think what to say, cat got your tongue , mind goes blank | It's embarrassing to lose your tongue when you're standing in front of an audience. |
| lose your touch | lose some of your skill, lose it | "I'm losing my touch," he said, looking at his drawing. |
| losing it | losing the ability to think or remember, not sharp | I think I'm losing it. I can't add or multiply without a calculator. |
| losing streak | losing game after game, losing a series of games | The Jays are on a losing streak. They've lost four games straight. |
| loss leader | a low-priced item to bring customers to a store, bogof | The loss leader at SuperStore is a package of coffee for 99¢. |
| lost cause | (See a lost cause) | |

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Idioms: lose your marbles -- lost cause

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Idioms: Lotus Land -- love them and leave them

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| Lotus Land | British Columbia (west coast of Canada) | They went to Lotus Land for a holiday - to Vancouver. |
| loud mouth | one who talks about things he should not | When Bart was a boy, he was a loud mouth. He told our secrets. |
| lousy | poor quality, in poor condition, shabby | Everything works except the lousy printer. It's broken. |
| love at first sight | sudden love, love begins when people first meet | When Jessica met Ryan, it was love at first sight. |
| Love Bug | Volkswagen <i>Beetle</i> , <i>The Bug</i> | I'd love to go for a ride in your Love Bug. |
| love conquers all | love is strong enough to overcome all problems | When the family was reunited, Mom said, "Love conquers all." |
| love is blind | people do not see the faults in their lovers | She can't see his bad habits because love is blind. |
| love is where you find it | love happens, love is not planned, it is better to have loved... | My family thinks Peter is too old for me, but I think love is where you find it. |
| love tap | (See a love tap) | |
| love them and leave them | love them but not stay with them | When Claude was touring Europe, he'd love 'em and leave 'em. |

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Idioms: lovelies -- luck of the draw

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| lovelies | ladies, women, girls, chicks | When we docked at Rome, we met three lovelies and went dancing. |
| lovelife | the romantic part of your life, your intimate life | "How's your lovelife?" "Great! I've met a wonderful lady." |
| Lovers' Leap | a cliff where lovers jump into a canyon together | Let's drive up to Lovers' Leap and look at the stars. |
| low | sad, depressed, ill, down | I've been feeling kind of low lately - it's the bad weather. |
| low-ball him | offer him a very low price for his car, house etc. | If his price is too high, low-ball him. Offer him a very low price. |
| low-down | bad, evil, not nice | Stealing from that old woman was a low-down thing to do! |
| lowdown | (See the lowdown) | |
| lowlife | a person without morals or humanitarian values | What a lowlife! He sold drugs to children. |
| low on the totem pole | ordinary worker, not a manager or boss, gofer , pecking order | If you want to understand the real problems, talk to the workers - people who are low on the totem pole. |
| luck of the draw | (See the luck of the draw) | |

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Idioms: lovelies -- luck of the draw

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Idioms: a.k.a. (aka) -- all hell broke loose

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| a.k.a. (aka) | also known as, alias, go by the name of | William O'Connor - a.k.a. Wil, Willie, Billy Boy - was born in Ireland. |
| all around Robin Hood's barn | an indirect route, a roundabout way, a wild goose chase | When Celia is the driver, we go all around Robin Hood's barn! |
| all decked out | (See deck out) | |
| all ears | listening carefully, trying to hear everything | When Dad mentioned hunting, I was all ears. I loved to hunt. |
| all eyes | watching carefully, staring | When the fire truck arrived, the children were all eyes. |
| all fired up | eager, enthused, gung ho | Ian gets all fired up when he sees Kari. There's love in his eyes. |
| all get-out | (See as all get-out) | |
| all goes well | have good luck, have no problems | I hope all goes well for you at college. I hope you succeed. |
| all hat and no cattle | pretending to be important and rich, all show | If a man buys things he can't pay for, he's all hat and no cattle. |
| all hell broke loose | people did crazy things, everybody was fighting | When the fire alarm sounded, all hell broke loose. |

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Idioms: a.k.a. (aka) -- all hell broke loose

Idioms: luck of the Irish -- lush

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| luck of the Irish | (See the luck of the Irish) | |
| luck out | have good luck, a lucky break | She lucked out at the casino. She won a thousand dollars. |
| lucky break | (See a lucky break) | |
| lucky dog | a lucky person, someone who has just won a prize | When I told Bill I won the car, he said, "You lucky dog!" |
| lucky streak | a series of lucky wins, string of good luck | He lost the bet on the sixth race, and his lucky streak ended. |
| lump together | put together, place in the same category | They lumped us all together - young, old, rich, poor. |
| lush | alcoholic, in the tank , wino | Joni was a lush when she met me. Now she doesn't drink at all. |

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Idioms: mad about -- make a big deal of it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| mad about | like a lot, love very much, crazy about , head over heels | Olga's mad about Yorgi. She loves him too much! |
| mad about | angry about, pissed off [B] | He's mad about the lost key. He told me I was careless. |
| mad as a hatter | strange, eccentric, batty, plumb loco | If you wear that pink wig, people will think you're mad as a hatter. |
| mad hatter | strange, unusual, wacko | Jo lives in a mad-hatter place. Her friends walk around nude and sing songs about heaven. |
| made for each other | be natural mates, be very compatible, soul mates | Bob and Alice are made for each other. They're happily married. |
| mainstream | common, familiar, of the majority | Smoking isn't as common now. It isn't a mainstream activity. |
| major (credit) | (See a major) | |
| major | big, huge, main | "Is money a problem?" "Ya. Major." |
| make a beeline | go straight towards | When the kids saw the ice-cream man, they all made a beeline for him. |
| make a big deal of it | complain a lot, make a mountain... | Whenever Todd dances with me, Brenda makes a big deal of it. |

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Idioms: mad about -- make a big deal of it

Idioms: make a big to-do -- make a federal case of it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| make a big to-do | complain too much, make a federal case... | If the waiter makes a mistake, don't make a big to-do about it. |
| make a booboo | cause an error, make a mistake , screw up | "I made a booboo." "Don't worry. We can fix it." |
| make a bundle | earn a large profit, make a lot of money | Manfred made a bundle selling real estate. He's rich. |
| make a clean breast of it | tell all you know about it, admit what you did | The man went to the police and made a clean breast of his crime. |
| make a clean sweep | win all games in a series | The Jets made a clean sweep of the series - won all four games. |
| make a comeback | try to recover your former skill and success, comeback kid | George Foreman made a comeback when he was over forty! |
| make a difference | affect or change it, tip the scales | Even a small donation will make a difference. It will help us. |
| make a face | wrinkle your face until it is ugly | Chad made a face at me and stuck out his tongue. |
| make a false move | reach for the phone or a gun, try to run away | "Make a false move and I'll shoot your buttons off," the boy said. |
| make a federal case of it | make it too important, make a mountain... | Okay, so I used your hair dryer! Don't make a federal case of it. |

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Idioms: make a big to-do -- make a federal case of it

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Idioms: make a fuss -- make a pass

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| make a fuss | cry or complain, throw a tantrum | If I don't hold the baby, it will make a fuss. It will cry. |
| make a go of it | earn enough money to pay the bills, live well | With both of us working, we were able to make a go of it. |
| make a good impression | meet and talk to strangers so they like you | Penny made a good impression on my parents. She is so polite! |
| make a killing | earn a big profit, make a bundle | If you buy gold now, you'll make a killing when the price goes up. |
| make a life for yourself | live a good life; have a job, home and family | So you want to make a life for yourself in Canada. That's good. |
| make a living | earn enough money to live on, make your way | You can make a living at farming, but you won't be rich! |
| make a mistake | give a wrong answer, make a booboo | Learn from making a mistake. Learn how <i>not</i> to do it. |
| make a mountain out of a mole hill | make a problem bigger, exaggerate a problem | I spent \$50, not \$500! Don't make a mountain out of a mole hill. |
| make a name for yourself | become well known, become famous | Martin Luther King made a name for himself - and for freedom! |
| make a pass | show that you feel romantic toward someone | Julie made a pass at me. She sent me a love note and smiled at me. |

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Idioms: make a fuss -- make a pass

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Idioms: make a pitch -- make believe

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|--|
| make a pitch | try to sell, try to persuade | She handed him her resume and made a pitch for the job. |
| make a point of | remember to do, act with a purpose, make sure | Uma made a point of telling me about the meeting. She wants us to come. |
| make a scene | complain too loud, kick up a fuss | If she doesn't let Denis ride in the shopping cart, he makes a scene. |
| make a silk purse... | (See you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear) | |
| make a splash | advertise with style, open with balloons and prizes | When Tom opened his Toyota dealership, he made quite a splash. |
| make advances | try to kiss or touch, come onto , get fresh | "If he doesn't make advances, should I?" Shelly asked. |
| make amends | apologize to someone you have hurt, make up for | What can I do to make amends for opening her personal mail? |
| make an entrance | enter with style, enter with a flourish | When the duchess attends an event she likes to make an entrance. |
| make an offer | offer money to buy; write what you will pay for something | "Your price is too high." "Well, make an offer. What do you think the car is worth?" |
| make believe | imagine, pretend, make up | "Let's make believe we are baby elephants," I said to the children. |

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Idioms: make do -- make headway

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| make do | use whatever you can find, substitute, jury-rig | When our kids don't have toys, they make do with pots and pans. |
| make ends meet | pay the bills, have enough to pay the expenses | Although the Millers are poor, they make ends meet. |
| make every effort | do everything possible, bend over backwards | Our employees make every effort to please our customers. |
| make faces | (See make a face) | |
| make friends | act in a friendly way, become a friend of | Sally makes friends easily. People seem to like her. |
| make fun of | tease, laugh at, poke fun at | Ko is angry because you made fun of him. You teased him. |
| make good | do as promised, follow through | When I get paid, I'll make good my promise to buy you dinner. |
| make good time | travel quickly, not be delayed, not lose time | Driving to Saskatoon, we made good time. It took only five hours. |
| make hay while the sun shines | work while the weather is good, work while we have time and helpers | There's a demand for our product, and we have a large stock. Let's make hay while the sun shines! |
| make headway | progress, get ahead | With Freda's help, we made headway. We learned to write. |

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Idioms: make do -- make headway

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Idioms: make it -- make mention

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| make it | go or come, attend | Can you make it tonight? Can you come to the meeting? |
| make it better | improve it, help it | When a child is hurt, sympathy will help to make it better. |
| make it big | succeed, be one of the best | Roch made it big as a singer. He's very successful. |
| make it snappy | be quick, hurry up | I'll have a Coke, please, and make it snappy! |
| make it worse | hinder, cause it to be worse | Stepping on the brakes will only make it worse. The car will skid. |
| make light of | make a joke about, make fun of | I was hurt when you made light of my poem. You laughed at it. |
| make love | embrace in a loving way and have intercourse | I can't describe how I feel when we make love. It's breathtaking! |
| make me do it | cause me to act, force me to do it | I didn't want to steal the watch. The devil made me do it. |
| make me sick/mad etc. | cause me to feel sick or mad etc. | It makes me sick the way he talks about war all the time. |
| make mention | talk about, bring up | No one made mention of his research - not one word! |

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Idioms: make it -- make mention

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Idioms: make mincemeat of -- make room

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| make mincemeat of | defeat badly, demolish, blow them away | The heavyweight champ made mincemeat of the young boxer. |
| make money | work for wages, earn a profit | You can make money in real estate. You buy low, sell high. |
| make my day | do something to help me enjoy this day | Go ahead, kiss me, and make my day! |
| make myself clear | say it clearly, say it so you understand | Her sister said, "Do <i>not</i> wear my clothes. Do I make myself clear?" |
| make no bones about it | admit it, speak openly about it | She's in love with her student. She makes no bones about it. |
| make of it | know what it is, identify it, make sense of it | Do you see that bright light in the sky? What do you make of it? |
| make off with | take away, take without permission | The boys made off with his toys. They took all his cars and trucks. |
| make out | do, finish, end up | How did you make out when you played the Rebels? Did you win? |
| make out | kiss and hug, get it on , make whoopee | Keith and Dawn were making out in the back seat of the car. |
| make room | create a space, move over , out of the way | Please make room so Miss Munroe can walk to her car. Move, please. |

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Idioms: make mincemeat of -- make room

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Idioms: make sense -- make the team

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| make sense | appear to be logical or sensible | Renting a car makes sense to me - if it's not too expensive. |
| make sense of it | understand it, fathom it, see how it happened | He is my father, but I am not his son. Can you make sense of it? |
| make something of it | (See want to make something of it) | |
| make something of yourself | be successful, be respected for your skill and honesty | I want to choose an occupation and make something of myself. |
| make strange | be afraid of a stranger, cry when a stranger comes | Ali makes strange when we have visitors. He cries and tries to hide. |
| make sure | be certain, check carefully | Make sure you mail the letter. It must be sent today. |
| make the bed | arrange the sheets and blankets on a bed | Please make the bed before you eat breakfast. |
| make the grade | do acceptable work, measure up | To make the grade, you have to complete the training program. |
| make the most of it | do the best you can, seize the opportunity | When you speak, make the most of it. Persuade them not to fight. |
| make the team | become a member of the team | Paul will make the soccer team. The coach will choose him. |

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Idioms: make sense -- make the team

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Idioms: make tracks -- make whoopee

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| make tracks | hurry, move quickly, vamoose | We better make tracks or we'll be late for dinner. |
| make trouble | cause a fight, don't make waves | Don't make trouble, eh. Don't start an argument or a fight. |
| make up | create, imagine | He likes to make up stories - you know, fiction. |
| make up | be friends again, come together again | John and Marsha fight, but they always kiss and make up. |
| make up for | repay, compensate | Please let me make up for my mistake. Let me help you. |
| make up your mind | decide, choose | If you will make up your mind, we can order our dinner. |
| make war | fight with troops and planes and bombs | To make war is to be greedy or insane - or both. |
| make waves | (See don't make waves) | |
| make way | move off the path, move to the side, make room | If the leader wants your seat in parliament, you make way for her. You give her your seat. |
| make whoopee | kiss and hug, get it on , make love | Tony and Victoria were making whoopee when we walked in. |

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Idioms: a babe in arms -- a barrel of laughs

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| a babe in arms | a baby, a child who is still wet behind the ears | Dar was just a babe in arms when we emigrated to Canada. |
| a babe in the woods | a defenseless person; a naive, young person | He's just a babe in the woods. He needs someone to protect him. |
| a bad taste in my mouth | a feeling that something is false or unfair, a feeling of ill will | I left the meeting with a bad taste in my mouth. There was a lot of dishonesty in the room. |
| a bad time | a lot of teasing, a rough time | The class gave him a bad time about his pink shorts. |
| a ball-park figure | a number that is near the total; approximate figure | Fifty is a ball-park figure. It's close to our class size. |
| a bar fly | a person who often goes to bars or lounges | Every evening Penny goes to <i>Lucifer's</i> . She's quite a bar fly. |
| a bar star | a girl who goes to bars to drink and find friends | Lola was known as a bar star at <i>Pinky's Lounge</i> . |
| a bare-faced lie | a deliberate lie, a planned lie | His statement to the police was false - a bare-faced lie. |
| a barnburner | an exciting game, a cliff-hanger | When the Flames play the Oilers it's a barnburner - a great game. |
| a barrel of laughs | a lot of fun, a person who makes you laugh | Let's invite Chang to our party. He's a barrel of laughs. |

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Idioms: a babe in arms -- a barrel of laughs

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Idioms: all his marbles -- all set

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| all his marbles | normal, sensible | Dan talks to the door. I wonder if he's got all his marbles. |
| all in | very tired, exhausted, dog tired , done in | After the marathon, she was all in - completely exhausted. |
| all in a day's work | not extra work, just part of my duties | She said, "Thanks for the help." "All in a day's work," he replied. |
| all in all | generally, considering everything | All in all, it was a good holiday. We enjoyed our trip to Europe. |
| all it's cracked up to be | as good as the ads say, live up to the reports | The new computer isn't all it's cracked up to be. It's not so hot. |
| all joking aside | (See joking aside) | |
| all-out | all your effort, go all-out | We looked day and night for the lost girl. It was an all-out effort. |
| all over but the shouting | (See it's all over but the shouting) | |
| all over hell's half acre | all over the place, everywhere | I left the gate open, and the cows are all over hell's half acre. |
| all set | ready, prepared to start | "All set?" he asked, as she closed her suitcase. |

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Idioms: all his marbles -- all set

Idioms: make your bum hum -- make yourself to home

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| make your bum hum | excite you, please your senses, turn you on | Anchovies on a banana split - that'll make your bum hum! |
| make your hair stand on end | cause you to be afraid, petrified , scared stiff | Strange sounds began coming from the closet. It was enough to make your hair stand on end. |
| make your head spin | confuse you, amaze you, boggle your mind | All the numbers on this sheet will make your head spin. |
| make your mark | be known for an invention or an achievement, set the world on fire | If you want to make your mark, do it for humanity. Think of a cure for hate and war. |
| make your mouth water | cause you to salivate, cause you to be hungry | Your carrot cake smells so good it makes my mouth water. |
| make your way | move toward, navigate | After sailing to Jamaica we made our way over to Cuba, si? |
| make your way | survive, live by your own efforts, make a living | Chad, my boy, if you are going to make your way in this world, you need an education - formal and informal. |
| make yourself at home | relax, feel as though you are in your own home | Lee's mom welcomed us, saying, "Please, make yourself at home." |
| make yourself scarce | leave, do not stay, get lost | If you see a bull in the pasture, make yourself scarce. |
| make yourself to home | (See make yourself at home) | |

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Idioms: make your bum hum -- make yourself to home

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Idioms: makes no difference -- matter of life and death

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| makes no difference | will not affect or change something | The color of the car makes no difference to me. I don't care. |
| makings of | (See the makings of) | |
| malarkey | (See a bunch of malarkey) | |
| man of few words | (See a man of few words) | |
| man of the cloth | (See a man of the cloth) | |
| mark a watershed | begins a change, starts a shift or movement, the turning point | The invasion of Palestinian neighborhoods marked a watershed. That's when world opinion shifted. |
| mark my words | listen carefully, pay attention | A California team will win the Super Bowl. Mark my words. |
| marked man | (See a marked man) | |
| match wits | compete with someone's wit or humor | Don't try to match wits with Pat. He has a reply for everything. |
| matter of life and death | (See it's a matter of life and death) | |

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Idioms: mayday (m'aidez) -- melt in your mouth

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|--|
| mayday (m'aidez) | distress signal, call for help, SOS | "Mayday! Mayday!" we shouted into our cell phones when the tanks started running over people in the streets. |
| mean business | is serious or determined, no nonsense | At work or play she means business. She is a serious person. |
| mean streak | being unkind at times, having cruel traits | Kurt has a mean streak in him. Did you see him kick his dog? |
| mean well | wants to help, has good intentions | Kay is a gossip, but she means well. She tries to be a friend. |
| measure up | do enough work, achieve high quality | With more training, he'll improve. He'll measure up to our standards. |
| meet up with | meet, encounter | In Montreal, he met up with a young singer named Celine. |
| meet you half way | find an equitable agreement, split the difference | Try to settle the claim out of court. See if he will meet you half way. |
| meeting of minds | mutual agreement, consensus | We agreed to share the cost of the project. It was a meeting of minds. |
| megabucks | a lot of money, thousands of dollars | Her personal computer system cost megabucks. It was very expensive. |
| melt in your mouth | fine bread or pastry, food with a fine texture | Aunt Carol's muffins are so good! They just melt in your mouth! |

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Idioms: mend fences -- miffed

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|--|
| mend fences | solve political problems, listen to voters | Every summer the politicians go home and try to mend fences. |
| mental block | (See a mental block) | |
| mess up | do a bad job, ruin it, screw up | The manager messed up. He spent too much money on advertising. |
| mess with | challenge, fight with, mix it up with | We learned not to mess with the Mafia. Their revenge is deadly. |
| messed up | depressed, dependent on drugs, not coping with life | At that point in his life, he was messed up on drugs and alcohol. |
| mete out | administer, give according to the law or policy | It was his duty to mete out justice in the colony. |
| middle ground | a position that is fair to both sides, a compromise, meeting of minds | The minister tried to find some middle ground between the nurses and the administrators. |
| middle of the road | moderate, not extreme | Our education policy is middle of the road. The majority like it. |
| middleman | (See the middleman) | |
| miffed | annoyed, not pleased, put out about , ticked off | Marnie was miffed when you swore at her cat. She said you were rude. |

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Idioms: mend fences -- miffed

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Idioms: milk it -- mind the store

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|--|
| milk it | take all it will give, get all you can from it, seize the opportunity | I learned the mail-order business and milked the idea for all it was worth. I earned a lot of money. |
| milk run | airline route that stops at small cities | From Vancouver, we took the milk run through Kelowna. |
| mince words | (See doesn't mince words) | |
| mind boggling | too many to count, more than you can imagine | The potential for profit is mind boggling - too large to believe. |
| mind games | control people's feelings, play games | He plays mind games with me - he tries to control my feelings. |
| mind go blank | cannot think what to say, lose your tongue | When the Prime Minister stopped to talk to me, my mind went blank. |
| mind in neutral | not thinking, vegetate | Some of our employees stand around with their minds in neutral. |
| mind of his own | independent thinker, his own man | Fu doesn't copy the work of his friends. He has a mind of his own. |
| mind over matter | believing you can do it, using the mind's power | When your brain controls your heart rate, it's mind over matter. |
| mind the store | manage the store, serve customers | Dana, please mind the store while I go to the post office. |

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Idioms: milk it -- mind the store

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Idioms: mind your manners -- miss you

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| mind your manners | be polite, be courteous, watch your P's and Q's | At the wedding, Mom said to me, "Now, Son, mind your manners." |
| mind your own business | do not ask questions about my business | I asked about her plans, and she told me to mind my own business. |
| mind your P's and Q's | be polite, do not drink too much, mind your manners | Lorraine said he was drinking too much. She told him to mind his P's and Q's. |
| mint condition | new condition, original condition, super mint | In an old garage we found a Peugeot 403 in mint condition. |
| misery loves company | sad people want to be with other sad people | On the door of the jail was this sign: <i>Misery Loves Company</i> . |
| miss out on | not be there, be unable to attend | If I have a job, I'll miss out on the soccer games after school. |
| miss the boat | misjudge, misunderstand, make a mistake | I missed the boat on the essay question. My answer was wrong. |
| miss the point | not understand, not get the point | I missed the point of his remark. Do you know what he meant? |
| miss the water till... | (See you don't miss the water till the well runs dry) | |
| miss you | feel lonely because you are not here | I miss you when you go to Hong Kong. Can I go with you? |

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Idioms: mind your manners -- miss you

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Idioms: miss your chance -- money to burn

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| miss your chance | not do it when you can, not seize the opportunity | I'm sorry. You cannot go today. You missed your chance to go yesterday. |
| mix it up | challenge, fight, mess with | If you mix it up with a street fighter, you could get injured. |
| mix up | become confused or puzzled | He gets mixed up when we all give advice. He gets confused. |
| mix you up | confuse you, boggle your mind | Too much information will just mix you up - confuse you. |
| mixed feelings | feeling both positive and negative, happy and sad; bittersweet | I have mixed feelings. I'm happy about the new job, but sad about leaving my friends. |
| moment of truth | (See the moment of truth) | |
| money doesn't grow on trees | money is not easy to get, we value our money | Father said, "Money doesn't grow on trees, boy. You earn it." |
| money is the root of all evil | money is the cause of bad things | If money is the root of all evil, why do you want to be rich? |
| money talks | money causes action, grease my palm | If you want service, money talks. When you pay, they serve. |
| money to burn | lots of money, filthy rich | They've got money to burn, so why do they drive that old car? |

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Idioms: miss your chance -- money to burn

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Idioms: moneybags -- moonshine

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| moneybags | rich person, loaded person | We used to call him <i>moneybags</i> . He always had money on him. |
| monkey business | nonsense, foolishness, funny stuff | I've had enough of your monkey business. No more foolishness. |
| monkey off my back | (See get this monkey off my back) | |
| monkey's uncle | (See I'll be a monkey's uncle) | |
| monkeywrenching | trying to ruin a project, sabotaging, throw a monkey wrench into... | The members of Green Peace were accused of monkeywrenching the whale hunt. They tried to stop it. |
| month of Sundays | (See a month of Sundays) | |
| moola | money, cash, scratch | Without moola, we can't travel. We need money for air fare. |
| moon them | show them a bare bum , show your bare buttocks | They booed him for dropping the ball, so he mooned them. |
| moonlighting | working at a second job in the evening | Bernie is very tired these days because he's moonlighting. |
| moonshine | homemade liquor, hooch , screech | Art invited us over to taste his moonshine - homemade wine. |

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Idioms: mop the floor with us -- mothball

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| mop the floor with us | perform so well the audience wants more, she peed | We loved the Gagnon concert. He mopped the floor with us. |
| mop up | correct mistakes, clean up a mess left by others | The manager told us he would not mop up after us. We have to fix our own mistakes. |
| moppie | mobile office professional, ambitious business people, yuppie | A lot of moppies lost their jobs when the oil industry declined. |
| more money than brains | rich but not intelligent, money to burn , moneybags | He bought a house but didn't use it, rent it or sell it. He has more money than brains! |
| more power to you | you deserve more support, we hope you succeed because you are kind | When she told us about her plan to help abused children, we said, "More power to you, Ms. Wah." |
| more than meets the eye | (See there's more than meets the eye) | |
| more than welcome | we invite you, please come to our place, feel free | Mary invited them to stay. "You are more than welcome to sleep at our place," she said. |
| more than you can shake a stick at | a lot, too many, oodles | Alfreda has more cats than you can shake a stick at - over 30! |
| mortal coil | (See this mortal coil) | |
| mothball | put away, put on a shelf | The boss mothballed the report. The owners never saw it. |

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Idioms: Mother Nature -- move it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Mother Nature | nature, natural forces and causes | Mother Nature provided the basic foods: wild vegetables and water. |
| motherfucker [B] | a person you dislike, creep , scum | That motherfucker! I'd like to kick his ass to kingdom come! |
| motherhood and apple pie | statements about mom and home etc. | The audience wants news and facts, not motherhood and apple pie. |
| motherlode | the largest amount, the main supply, a shitload | He played poker for six hours before he won the motherlode. |
| motormouth | one who talks fast but says very little, disk jockey | Listen to that motormouth! He talks fast but says nothing. |
| mount a comeback | begin to score goals or points while losing, snatch victory from... | Our soccer team was losing 4-1, but they mounted a comeback and won the game 5-4. |
| Mounties | Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) | The Mounties, Canada's police force, were once called <i>Redcoats</i> . |
| mousy | worn and faded, shabby | This shirt is kind of mousy, but I love to wear it. |
| mouth off | tell a secret, talk about private information | Why did you mouth off about the accident? I was going to tell Dad. |
| move it | go, go faster, get going | "Move it!" said the guard. "Get in your cell!" |

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Idioms: Mother Nature -- move it

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Idioms: all she wrote -- all the marbles

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| all she wrote | (See that's all she wrote) | |
| all shook up | excited, nervous | Al gets all shook up when he sees Gina. He likes her a lot. |
| all show | artificial, having little or no substance, put on airs | When he gets angry and yells at us, it's all show, just to scare us. |
| all spruced up | clean and dressed in your best clothes, dressed up | The young farmers got all spruced up for the dance. |
| all talk and no action | a person who talks a lot but does very little, hot air | He talks about doing everything, but doesn't accomplish anything. He's all talk and no action! |
| all teed up | the golf ball is on the tee, everything is ready | The parade is ready to begin. It's all teed up. |
| all that jazz | all related things, other similar topics | They were talking about UFO's and all that jazz. |
| all the bells and whistles | a lot of extra features, lots of goodies , loaded | When Horst sold his business he bought a motorhome with all the bells and whistles. |
| all the livelong day | all day, lasting the whole day | Our canary sings all the livelong day - from dawn to dusk. |
| all the marbles | all the money, the top prize | How does it feel to be playing in the final - for all the marbles? |

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Idioms: all she wrote -- all the marbles

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Idioms: move over -- mum's the word

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| move over | move a little, move to the next chair, make room | I asked him if he would move over so I could sit beside him. |
| move you to tears | cause you to feel sadness or sympathy, touch you | The songs in Gorecki's Third Symphony will move you to tears. |
| move your ass | move quickly, get going , move it | If you want to ride on the train, you better move your ass. It's leaving now. |
| movers and shakers | owners, investors, wheeler-dealer | We invited all the big investors: the movers and shakers. |
| much obliged | very thankful, very grateful, thanks a million | "You can stay with us until your wounds heal," she said. "Much obliged, Ma'am," I replied. |
| muckrake | gossip, tell bad stories | If you talk about your opponent, try to avoid muckraking. |
| mudsling | insult people, criticize other candidates | The Liberal leader lost my vote when he began mudslinging. |
| mugged | stopped and robbed, held up by robbers (see hold up) | If you walk down Cordova Street at night, you could get mugged. |
| mull over | think about, consider, think it over | I've been mulling over what you said about love. I believe it's more spiritual than physical. |
| mum's the word | do not tell anyone, this is on the QT | She told us the secret. Then she whispered, "Mum's the word." |

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Idioms: move over -- mum's the word

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Idioms: Murphy's Law -- my old man

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| Murphy's Law | "Anything that can go wrong will go wrong." it never fails | Have you planned for failure? Remember, Murphy's Law applies to all projects. |
| muscle in | force yourself between two people | He didn't want to go to the end of the line, so he tried to muscle in. |
| music to my ears | good news, a message that makes me happy | When she called my name, it was music to my ears. |
| musical chairs | a game in which each player must find a chair when the music stops (there are more players than chairs), play musical chairs | "At my birthday party can we play a game of musical chairs?" "Yes, dear." |
| must | (See a must) | |
| my ass | I doubt it, that is not true | "It's our right to own a gun." "My ass! It's a privilege!" |
| my eye | I do not believe it, that did not happen | You ate fifteen blueberry pies? My eye! |
| my old man | my husband, my man | My old man is babysitting while I have a weekend holiday! |
| my old man | my father, my dad | My old man gets mad if I don't come right home from school. |

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Idioms: Murphy's Law -- my old man

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Idioms: nada -- naked eye

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| nada | nothing, none, zero, zip | "How much for the baseball cap?" "Nada - it was free." |
| nag | horse, race horse | Pat bet on a nag in the sixth race and it came in second! |
| nag | complain too much, a hassle | Poor Erik. His wife nags him about his first marriage. |
| nail-biter | (See a nail-biter) | |
| nail down | get a clear answer, find out , pin down | I've checked the books, but I can't nail down the reason for the loss. I can't find the error. |
| nail him | hit him, hurt him, stop him | They want to nail him because he beat up on Tommy. |
| nail in your coffin | (See another nail in your coffin) | |
| nail it down | complete it, finalize it, close a deal | Don't spend too long on a sale. Try to nail it down quickly. |
| naked as a jay bird | no clothes on, bare naked, in the nude | A boy had taken my clothes, so there I stood, naked as a jay bird! |
| naked eye | (See the naked eye) | |

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Idioms: name-dropper -- necessity is the mother of invention

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| name-dropper | one who implies famous people are his friends, drop a name | That name-dropper! He spoke of Gordon Lightfoot as his friend. |
| name is cleared | name is not involved in a scandal or a crime | The lawyer thinks I should leave town until my name is cleared. |
| name is mud | name is bad, name is not respected | If you don't pay for the support of your child, your name is mud. |
| nary a word | not a word, nothing | When I asked the boy a question, he said nothing - nary a word. |
| natural high | feeling good from having nutritious food or exercise | After swimming, she would often experience a natural high. |
| nature calls | need to go the washroom, have to go | When nature calls, just say you have an important appointment. |
| navel-gazing | sitting and looking at your own navel, contemplating your own existence | "Have you nothing better to do than to sit there navel-gazing?" "No." |
| nay | no, nope | "Should Tom be our team leader?" "Nay." |
| neat | fine, well designed, cool | What a neat car! It's small but roomy - and comfortable! |
| necessity is the mother of invention | our needs cause us to invent devices, build a better mousetrap | Do you think the invention of TV proves that necessity is the mother of invention? |

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Idioms: neck -- nerves of steel

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| neck | kiss and hug, make out , make whoopee | For me, necking is a memory from my teenage years. |
| neck and neck | running at the same speed, even-stein , side by side | It was neck and neck all the way - then Jordy won the race by leaning forward at the finish line! |
| neck of the woods | area, part of the country, in these parts | In our neck of the woods, a man doesn't hit a woman. |
| necktie party | (See a necktie party) | |
| need money to make... | (See you need money to make money) | |
| needle | ask bothersome questions, a hassle | She needled him with questions about his former girlfriends. |
| needless to say | it is obvious, it goes without saying | Needless to say, there are many idioms in the English language. |
| neither fish nor fowl | not clearly separated, a little of both | Our experiment produced a being that was neither fish nor fowl. |
| nerd | weird person, nut | That nerd! He spit on my toe! |
| nerves of steel | able to speak or act calmly when facing risk or danger | Percy has nerves of steel. He persuaded the gunman to leave. |

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Idioms: neck -- nerves of steel

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Idioms: nervous breakdown -- new legs

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| nervous breakdown | (See breakdown) | |
| nest egg | money for retirement, life savings | After selling the farm, they had their nest egg - about \$200,000. |
| Net surfer | a person who frequently uses the Internet | Lisa is a Net surfer. She can help you get on the Internet. |
| Netwar | an attack on computer systems via the Internet, terrorist attacks on the Net | After 9-11, the fear is Netwar. How do we defend against attacks on computer systems that control a city's water and electricity? |
| never mind | do not bother to do it, do not worry, forget it | Will you help me find an idiom? Never mind. I found it. |
| never say die | never quit, never give up | Set your goals and try to achieve them. Work hard. Never say die. |
| new blood | different person, someone with new ideas | Armid retired because he feels the company needs new blood. |
| new kid on the block | new person in the office or in the class etc. | I'm the new kid on the block. I come from Portugal. |
| new lease on life | (See a new lease on life) | |
| new legs | young runners or players, rested players | The Geritols have a lot of old players. They need new legs. |

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Idioms: nervous breakdown -- new legs

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Idioms: new money -- nitty-gritty

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| new money | money earned recently, money that is not inherited | Bill's got a million or two - it's mostly new money. |
| new wave | new trend, the latest idea or fashion | Tony loves new-wave music. He buys only new-wave CD's. |
| Newfie | person from The Rock ; from Newfoundland | Is Gordon Pinsent a Newfie? Was he born in Newfoundland? |
| next of kin | closest relatives, members of the family | The police are trying to find the man's next of kin - his family. |
| nine lives | avoiding death often, lucky to survive | Some race-car drivers have nine lives. They often escape death. |
| nine times out of ten | 90% of the time, very often | Jack wins at cribbage nine times out of ten. He's very lucky. |
| nip and tuck | a close race, having just enough to win or finish | It was a close race - nip and tuck all the way - but we won! |
| nip it in the bud | stop it before it grows, prevent it from spreading | If the students plan a revolt, we'll nip it in the bud. |
| nitpick | find unfinished details, see flaws or small errors | Deborah can find the errors. She likes to nitpick. |
| nitty-gritty | (See the nitty-gritty) | |

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Idioms: new money -- nitty-gritty

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Idioms: nitwit -- no fair

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| nitwit | fool, dumbbell , hairbrain , half-there | When he's drunk he acts like a nitwit - like he has no sense! |
| no bloody way | (See no way) | |
| no bones about it | (See make no bones about it) | |
| no business | (See got no business) | |
| no can do | we cannot do it, no way | We can't sell you a pet tiger. Sorry, no can do. |
| no chancy | there is no chance of it, it cannot be done, no dice | When I asked Bill for a loan, he said, "No chancy." |
| no contest | one player or team wins easily, hands down | Compare the speed of light to the speed of sound. It's no contest. |
| no dice | no, no chance, not approved, no way | I asked Dad if we could use the car, but no dice. |
| no doubt | it is certain, without a doubt, no question | No doubt, you will inherit his fortune. You are the only heir. |
| no fair | it is not fair, one person or team has an advantage | You have six players and we have five. No fair! |

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Idioms: no-frills -- no match for

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| no-frills | without unnecessary additions or luxuries | We just booked a no-frills motel room in Toronto. |
| no fucking way [B] | (See no way) | |
| no great shakes | not special, not superior, not so hot | I've tasted Granny apples. They're no great shakes. |
| no guff | it is the truth, no kidding , no shit [B] | I swam across the lake. No guff. |
| no hard feelings | no feelings of anger or resentment, no grudges | Dad and Paul argue about politics but there are no hard feelings. |
| no holds barred | try anything, no rules apply | In a street fight, it's no holds barred. There are no rules. |
| no kidding | I am serious, I am not joking | Keith's my brother. No kidding. I'm telling you the truth. |
| no let-up | continuing strong, not diminishing | There was no let-up in the traffic. The cars kept coming. |
| no love lost | (See there's no love lost) | |
| no match for | not as strong as, not an equal competitor | European basketball teams were no match for the Dream Team. |

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Idioms: no-frills -- no match for

Idioms: no matter how you slice it -- no rest for the wicked

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| no matter how you slice it | it does not matter how you look at it | No matter how you slice it, we have to hire more help. |
| no news is good news | if there is no news there is still a chance of good news | The doctor hasn't phoned. No news is good news. |
| no nonsense | serious, not joking, strictly business | Gil is a very serious person - a no-nonsense kind of guy. |
| no offense, but... | do not be insulted but..., don't get me wrong | No offense, but I was here first. I hope you understand. |
| no pain, no gain | to improve, exercise until your muscles ache | A sign on our gym wall reads <i>No Pain, No Gain!</i> |
| no problem (no prob) | it was not a problem, don't mention it | "Thank you," I said. "No problem," she replied. |
| no qualms | no doubts, no hesitation | She has no qualms about dating married men. She doesn't care. |
| no question | it is certain, no doubt | "No question of its quality," he said, examining the watch. |
| no questions asked | you will not be asked to explain or pay | If he returns the stolen car, there will be no questions asked. |
| no rest for the wicked | wicked people must work long hours as a penalty, what did I do to deserve... | When I told the men there was another truck to unload, Per said, "No rest for the wicked, eh." |

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Idioms: all the tea in China -- all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|--|
| all the tea in China | (See not for all the tea in China) | |
| all the way to Egery and back | a long, indirect road; the long way; all around Robin Hood's barn , all over hell's half acre | To get to the Halsteads, we have to go all the way to Egery and back! |
| all the world's a stage | the world is a stage; we are all performers | The teacher asked Jason to explain the meaning of Shakespeare's words: "All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts, His acts being seven ages." |
| all things being equal | if things remain the same, if no surprises occur | All things being equal, we should sell all our bicycles by October. |
| all things to all people | satisfy everyone, live up to | Be yourself. Stop trying to be all things to all people. |
| all thumbs | clumsy, unable to hold it, fingers feel like thumbs | When I try to sew a button on my shirt, I'm all thumbs. |
| all walks of life | all occupations and lifestyles | As a salesperson, you will meet people from all walks of life. |
| all washed up | failed in business or career | Barry's all washed up. His business is bankrupt. |
| all wet | mistaken, do not know what you are talking about | You're all wet! You can't grow bananas in Saskatchewan. |
| all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy | do not work too long, take time for recreation, take time to smell... | When I picked up my overtime check, Karen reminded me that <i>All work and no play... .</i> |

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Idioms: no rhyme or reason -- no use for

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| no rhyme or reason | no sense, no logical plan | There's no rhyme or reason to the game of golf. It's stupid! |
| no rush | do not hurry, take your time | "When does he want his car?" "He left a note saying <i>no rush</i> , so do the other cars first." |
| no shit [B] | it is true, no kidding | We drove from Calgary to Regina in seven hours - no shit. |
| no-show | someone who does not attend | There were two no-shows on the class list. All but two attended. |
| no shrinking violet | a bold woman, not a timid woman | Barb will defend her rights. She's no shrinking violet. |
| no skin off my nose | no bother to me, will not hurt me | If he doesn't come to my party it's no skin off my nose. |
| no slouch | quite skilled or talented, not half bad | Cora doesn't brag, but she's no slouch when it comes to tennis. |
| no sweat | not a problem, no trouble, no prob | "Thanks for the help, Ryan." "No sweat, man." |
| no truth to it | lacking any reliable information, a pack of lies | When Gary tells you about his hiking adventures, don't believe a word. There's no truth to it. |
| no use for | no respect for, no desire to own | I have no use for STAR products because they are not reliable. |

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Idioms: no way -- not

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| no way | no, do not try, it is not possible | When he told me to jump off the train, I said, "No way, man." |
| no word | no news, no reply, no phone call or letter | We've had no word from Denise and Guy. I hope they're okay. |
| nobody's fool | wise or intelligent person, been around | Joe is nobody's fool. He's intelligent and experienced. |
| none of your lip | do not be rude, don't talk back | "You can't boss me," Bobby said. "None of your lip, boy!" I replied. |
| none the worse for wear | not hurt or damaged, still in good condition, okay | The immigrants were none the worse for wear after their wagon trip across the prairie. |
| nookie [B] | intercourse, sex, poontang | My man! All he wants is nookie! |
| nope | no, nay | "Want to paint the fence?" "Nope." |
| nose is out of joint | she is upset, he is not pleased | Ed's nose is out of joint because the Liberals lost the election. |
| nosebag | food, something to eat, fill your face | I'm hungry. It's time to put on the nosebag. |
| not | not a good idea, forget it | "Maybe we should buy a Lada." "Not." |

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Idioms: not a question of -- not likely

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| not a question of | (See it's not a question of) | |
| not all it's cracked up... | (See all it's cracked up to be) | |
| not all there | retarded, slow to learn, one brick short... | Sometimes Vincent acts kind of strange - like he's not all there. |
| not at all | it was no trouble at all, don't mention it , no prob | "Thank you for helping us find our dog," Dad said. "Not at all," the man replied. |
| not by a long shot | very little chance, not likely | That horse won't win, not by a long shot. It's old and slow. |
| not by any stretch of the imagination | not adding to the story, not stretching it | Gigi wasn't his only girl, not by any stretch of the imagination. |
| not feeling myself | not feeling well, under the weather | I'm not feeling myself these days. I'm tired all the time. |
| not for all the tea in China | no; never; not if you gave me all the tea in China | "Would you like to live in space?" "No. Not for all the tea in China!" |
| not half bad | quite good, better than expected | Have you seen <i>Honey, I Ate The Kids</i> ? It's not half bad, actually. |
| not likely | very little chance, improbable, a slim chance | "Do you think we'll win the prize?" the boy asked. "Not likely," his dad replied. |

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Idioms: not a question of -- not likely

Idioms: not long for this world -- not worth a plugged nickel

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| not long for this world | soon will die, do not have long to live | When Lee had the flu, he said, "I'm not long for this world." |
| not on your life | no; it is dangerous; no way | "Can I shoot your gun?" I asked. "Not on your life," she replied. |
| not on your tintage | no, never, not on your life | Mom said, "You're not going to Vegas - not on your tintage!" |
| not playing with a full deck | not rational, not all there | People say he's not stable - that he's not playing with a full deck. |
| not so hot | not special, not superior, no great shakes | I went to hear Le Gang last night. They're not so hot. |
| not speaking | not friendly, not speaking to each other | Emily and Pam had a fight. They're not speaking. |
| not to worry | do not worry, no sweat | "I dropped my ice cream!" "Not to worry. There's more." |
| not too shabby | quite good, better than average | Have you seen the new Camaro? It's not too shabby. |
| not with it | not feeling right, out of it | I'm just not with it these days. I lack energy and confidence. |
| not worth a plugged nickel | worthless, good for nothing | In 1930, stocks weren't worth a plugged nickel - nothing! |

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Idioms: notch below -- number is up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| notch below | (See a notch below) | |
| nothing succeeds like success | one success leads to more success | This is the first rule of learning: <i>Nothing succeeds like success.</i> |
| nothing to it | (See there's nothing to it) | |
| nothing to sneeze at | of good quality, do not ignore it | That was a nice apartment - nothing to sneeze at. |
| nothing to write home about | not special or spectacular, no great shakes | He's a nice guy, but nothing to write home about. |
| nothing ventured, nothing gained | if you try nothing, you will gain nothing; go for it | We've decided to start a business. As the old saying goes, <i>Nothing ventured, nothing gained.</i> |
| now or never | (See it's now or never) | |
| nuke | heat in a microwave oven, zap | If you nuke a potato, it cooks in about seven minutes. |
| nukes | nuclear arms, nuclear weapons | He opposes the building of more nukes - like nuclear bombs. |
| number is up | (See your number is up) | |

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Idioms: number one -- nutty as a fruit cake

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| number one | the best, the winner, top dog | "We're number one!" the crowd shouted when we won the game. |
| numbskull | idiot, foolish person, dimwit , dipstick | Why did he call me a numbskull? I'm not stupid. |
| nut | a person who acts crazy or foolish | You nut! Wearing that wig makes you look like a British judge. |
| nut bar, nut case | (See a nut case) | |
| nut house | mental hospital, psychiatric ward, loony bin | They took Hans to the nut house when he taped paper wings to his arms and tried to fly. |
| nuts | crazy, around the bend , off your rocker | If that phone rings once more I'll go nuts! |
| nuts | oh no, darn , rats , sheesh | When he doesn't catch the ball, he says, "Nuts!" |
| nuts about | likes a lot, passionate, crazy about | Helen is nuts about Mozart. She loves his piano concertos. |
| nutty as a fruit cake | funny, kooky , mad as a hatter | Do I know Karl? Yes, I do. He's nutty as a fruit cake! |

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Idioms: odd one -- off key (music)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| odd one | (See the odd one) | |
| odds and ends | small pieces that are not used, tie up loose ends | When you build the fence, save the odds and ends to make toys. |
| odds-on favorite | (See the odds-on favorite) | |
| of course you can | you can do it; yes, you can | "I can't read this fat book." "Of course you can, Johnny." |
| of the lot | of the group, of the bunch | This rug is the best of the lot. It's nicer than the others. |
| of two minds | having two opinions, mixed feelings | Speaking of abortion, I'm of two minds: pro choice and pro life. |
| off | sour, spoiled | The cream tastes a bit off. I think we should buy fresh cream. |
| off-beat | different, unusual | His condo has an off-beat design. There's a shower in the kitchen. |
| off color | bad, dirty, impolite | His wife gets so embarrassed when he tells an off-color joke. |
| off key (music) | not at the right pitch, not in tune | He has a beautiful voice, but wasn't he singing a bit off key? |

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Idioms: odd one -- off key (music)

Idioms: off kilter -- off the record

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| off kilter | off balance, not straight, out of whack | One of the poles was off kilter. It was leaning toward the road. |
| off my back | (See get off my back) | |
| off the bat | (See right off the bat) | |
| off the beaten track | not on the main road, out of the way | I like to explore places that are off the beaten track - wild places. |
| off the cuff | quickly, without thinking | Off the cuff, I'd say there are 75 applicants. That's my guess. |
| off the deep end | (See go off the deep end) | |
| off the hook | not charged with a crime, not obligated, let off | The police found the murderer, which lets Louis off the hook. |
| off the kitchen etc. | leading from the kitchen, attached to the kitchen | The laundry room is off the kitchen - very convenient. |
| off the mark | not correct, wrong | His answer is a bit off the mark. Canada Day is July 1, not July 4. |
| off the record | not to be reported, not official | What the President said is not to be printed. It's off the record. |

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Idioms: off the shelf -- off with you

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|--|
| off the shelf | from the store shelf, run of the mill | It isn't a special gift, just an off-the-shelf radio with batteries. |
| off the top of my head | without thinking carefully, off the cuff | Off the top of my head, I believe the US has 50 states. |
| off the wagon | drinking again, drunk again | He's off the wagon again. He started drinking last night. |
| off the wall | unrelated, unusual, off topic | His idea of selling time is really off the wall - quite strange. |
| off to a bad start | not a good start, a poor beginning | The class got off to a bad start because the teacher was sick. |
| off to a good start | a successful beginning, away to the races | Jim's off to a good start in math. He has the basic skills. |
| off to the races | moving quickly ahead, off to a good start | When we get our business loan, we'll be off to the races. |
| off topic | not on the chosen topic, not related to the topic | If you're writing about dogs, flowers are off topic. |
| off with | remove clothing or a covering | Off with your overcoat, Ben. Stay and visit awhile. |
| off with you | leave, go, skidaddle | Off with you, girl, or you'll be late for school. |

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Idioms: off the shelf -- off with you

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Idioms: off your high horse -- Old Boys' Club

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| off your high horse | (See get off your high horse) | |
| off your rocker | crazy, not rational, around the bend | You gave away your piano? You're off your rocker! |
| offer I couldn't refuse | (See an offer I couldn't refuse) | |
| offhand | casual, without much thought, off the cuff | I didn't think before I spoke. It was an offhand remark. |
| offside (hockey) | going into the opponent's zone ahead of the puck | Wayne scored a beautiful goal, but Kurri was offside on the play. |
| oh my gosh | oh no, oh dear, darn , rats | Oh my gosh! I've lost my keys! |
| oilpatch | the local oil industry, the oil business | Calgary's oilpatch does not control the price of oil and gas. |
| okay, OK | fine, good, cool | It's okay with me if your friends come to play. |
| okay, OK | yes, alright | "Can I borrow your sweater?" "OK - if I can use your cell phone." |
| Old Boys' Club | a group of wealthy old men with political power | For City approval, talk to Craig. He's in the Old Boys' Club. |

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Idioms: all your eggs in one basket -- an attitude

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| all your eggs in one basket | depending on one plan or one investment, hedge your bets | If you invest all your money in one hotel, you'll have all your eggs in one basket. |
| all's fair in love and war | there are no rules to guide you in love or war, that's life | When your girlfriend leaves you for your best friend, remember, <i>All's fair in love and war.</i> |
| all's well that ends well | a happy ending is the most important thing, the end justifies... | Although we argued and fought, we are happy with the result. All's well that ends well! |
| along for the ride | just a passenger, not a helper, joyride | You've met the workers. This is my nephew - he's just along for the ride. |
| along those lines | similar, on the same topic, in that vein | He wants a job in health care or nursing, along those lines. |
| American as apple pie | (See as American as apple pie) | |
| an ace up your sleeve | an important card to play, an important fact to reveal | To survive, one needs an ace up one's sleeve - a special talent. |
| an airhead | a person who talks without thinking, a fool | Sally is such an airhead. She said that chicklets are baby chickens. |
| an apple a day keeps the doctor away | eat one apple each day for good health | Mom gave me an apple, saying, "An apple a day... ." |
| an attitude | a negative attitude, a poor outlook | If you don't do your work, they will think you have an attitude. |

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Idioms: all your eggs in one basket -- an attitude

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Idioms: old coot -- on a pedestal

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| old coot | an old man, geezer | That <i>old coot</i> , as you call him, is a person with feelings. |
| old flame | a former lover, an old sweetheart | In Toronto, I met an old flame. We were lovers many years ago. |
| old goat | an old man, a cranky man | Henry Wilson - that old goat - told the kids to get off his lawn. |
| old hat | an old idea or fashion, passé | Sunday picnics are old hat. They're not popular now. |
| old man | (See my old man) | |
| old money | an inheritance, money that has been in the family for decades | She bought that property with old money - money that her great-grandfather saved. |
| old wives' tale | a myth, an old story that contains little truth | One old wives' tale says that goose fat will cure a cold. |
| on a full stomach | with a stomach full of food, soon after eating a meal, on an empty stomach | I've heard that it's not a good idea to run or do strenuous exercise on a full stomach. |
| on a lark | carefree, happy in a natural way | It's fun to be with him when he's on a lark - when he's carefree. |
| on a pedestal | in the position of a hero, in a high place | If you put your girlfriend on a pedestal, she won't respect you. |

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Idioms: on a roll -- on cloud nine

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| on a roll | having good luck, lucky streak | I'm gonna play bingo all night. I'm lucky - I'm on a roll! |
| on a silver platter | like a beautiful gift, served in style | Success won't come on a silver platter. You have to work for it. |
| on a string | controlled by a person, wrapped around his finger | He's got you on a string, Bonny. Are you thinking for yourself? |
| on about | (See go on about) | |
| on all fours | on your hands and knees, crawling around | There was Julie, on all fours, looking for her contact lens. |
| on an empty stomach | without food in your stomach, on a full stomach | He never has a drink on an empty stomach. He says it affects his appetite. |
| on approval | taking a purchase home to decide if you want it | I buy clothes on approval so I can return them if they don't fit. |
| on behalf of | representing a group, acting for a group | He presented the award to me on behalf of the community club. |
| on board | loaded on a vehicle, riding on a boat etc. | Two thousand passengers were on board the ship to Canada. |
| on cloud nine | very happy, riding high | When Bev received her diploma, she was on cloud nine. |

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Idioms: on deck -- on loan

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|--|
| on deck | next in order, next to bat | Gary's at bat; Tim's on deck. |
| on drugs | using drugs, do drugs | "Do you know he's on drugs?" "Yes. His eyes look blank." |
| on edge | not relaxed, nervous, anxious, edgy | Gina's a little on edge. She gets her test results back today. |
| on even terms | having equal skills, having the same ability | When we play chess, we're on even terms. We're both average. |
| on fire | eager, energetic, all fired up , gung ho | When he began working here, he was on fire - very enthusiastic. |
| on good terms | in a good relationship, able to talk and work with | Steve is on good terms with all his co-workers. They like him. |
| on his last legs | very tired or old, at the end of his career | Gordie was on his last legs, but he could still shoot hard. |
| on his tail | following him closely, chasing him | The thief knew the police would follow him. They'd be on his tail. |
| on in years | (See get on in years) | |
| on loan | borrowed, signed out | The book you want is on loan to someone else until May 12. |

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Idioms: on deck -- on loan

Idioms: on moral grounds -- on our last legs

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| on moral grounds | based on what is right and wrong | We refuse to accept money from drug dealers - on moral grounds. |
| on my back | criticizing me, on my case , ride me | The coach is on my back about missing the game last week. |
| on my best behavior | being polite to everyone, behaving in an appropriate manner | I promised my mother that I will be on my best behavior at her wedding. I will be a very good boy. |
| on my case | looking for my mistakes, criticizing me | The coach is on my case again, yelling at me to play harder. |
| on my deathbed | nearly dead, very ill, at death's door | I was so sick, I thought I was on my deathbed. |
| on my good side | to become my friend, in my good books | He says nice things to me, hoping to get on my good side. |
| on my plate | on my schedule, on my list of duties or tasks | I have too much on my plate right now. I'm too busy. |
| on my way | continue my journey, departing | Before I leave, I'd like a cup of coffee. Then I'll be on my way. |
| on my word | (See upon my word) | |
| on our last legs | nearly dead or bankrupt, nearly done for | Financially, we were on our last legs. We couldn't get a loan. |

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Idioms: on parade -- on side

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| on parade | walking in a parade, displaying | When Jack's on parade, he marches straight and tall. |
| on parole | still supervised, not free of prison | He's on parole now. He can leave the prison during the day. |
| on pins and needles | waiting anxiously, worried | Mom will be on pins and needles until we arrive. She'll be worried. |
| on probation | becoming a permanent employee, proby | As an employee on probation, you will be learning new skills. |
| on purpose | for a reason, intentional | Did she drop her glove on purpose - so he would find it? |
| on queer street | dizzy or stunned, not acting normal | After he hit me I felt like I was on queer street - I was dazed. |
| on schedule | within the dates on the plan, on target | They arrived on Mars on June 11, which means they're on schedule. |
| on shaky ground | missing a proper foundation, prone to fail | "If you don't start learning for your next exam now, you'll be on shaky ground." |
| on short notice | without much warning, at a moment's notice | Can you come to work on short notice? Within a day or two? |
| on side | for our side, supporting our group | In order to have a majority, we need to bring the clerks on side. |

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Idioms: on speaking terms -- on the bright side

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| on speaking terms | not friendly but saying hello etc. | Louise and I are not friends, but we're on speaking terms. |
| on tap | available from the tap on a keg of beer or ale | There was a red neon sign in the window: <i>COLD BEER ON TAP</i> |
| on target | done by the planned date, on schedule | If we can complete the drawings by Monday, we'll be on target. |
| on tenterhooks | carefully, cautiously, afraid to move | He's cautious since his accident. He drives around on tenterhooks. |
| on the back burner | to be done later, not as important | The playground project is on the back burner until next spring. |
| on the ball | smart, intelligent, bright , sharp | Max has a lot on the ball. He can solve our problem. |
| on the bandwagon | helping, supporting, on side | Get on the bandwagon, folks! Our man is going to be Premier! |
| on the beat | on the job, working, doing a task or assignment | A journalist must be on the beat, working among the people and telling their stories. |
| on the books | listed, accounted for | Is it legal to sell items that aren't on the books - that aren't listed? |
| on the bright side | positive, optimistic | Chan is positive. He always looks on bright side of things. |

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Idioms: on speaking terms -- on the bright side

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Idioms: on the brink -- on the fence

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| on the brink | close, almost there, on the verge | Their marriage is failing. They're on the brink of divorce. |
| on the bubble | between the ones that pass and fail, may be included or excluded | There are seven applicants. Two will be interviewed, three will not, and two are on the bubble. |
| on the button | correct, accurate, dead on , spot on | When Fern guessed my age, she was right on the button: 39. |
| on the carpet | asked to explain a mistake, give me the third degree | Tom's on the carpet because he lost company documents. |
| on the clock | o'clock, at the time showing on the clock | "Did you come to work on time, Michael?" "Yes, sir. At eight on the clock, sir." |
| on the cutting edge | (See the cutting edge) | |
| on the dot | exactly on time, not early or late | The concert started at 7:30 on the dot. |
| on the double | quickly, now, move it | Coach Keyser said, "Sutton, get over here - on the double!" |
| on the edge of your seat | very interested in a movie, feeling suspense in a story | The movie <i>The Firm</i> will have you on the edge of your seat. |
| on the fence | (See sit the fence) | |

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Idioms: on the brink -- on the fence

Idioms: on the fringe -- on the mark

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| on the fringe | not familiar, radical, not mainstream | The Canasaurus Party is new - definitely on the fringe. |
| on the fritz | not operating, broken, out of order | The VCR is on the fritz again. We can't watch videos tonight. |
| | Several conjectures about the origin can be found on www.worldwidewords.org/qa/qa-ont4.htm | |
| on the go | busy, not stopping to rest | We've been on the go all day, shopping and preparing food. |
| on the ground floor | (See get in on the ground floor) | |
| on the heels | immediately after, following | On the heels of the typhoon was a five-day rain. |
| on the lam | running away from the police, lay low | When he's not in jail, he's on the lam - always running. |
| on the limp | limping, walking with a leg injury | Norman is on the limp today. He sprained his ankle playing ball. |
| on the loose | free, running around, not in a pen or cage | The zoo notified the media that a giraffe is on the loose. |
| on the make | looking for romance or sex | Most of the men in the bar were on the make, looking for action. |
| on the mark | accurate, correct, dead on , spot on | Your answer is right on the mark. Canada became a country in 1867. |

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Idioms: on the fringe -- on the mark

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Idioms: on the market -- on the run

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------|--|---|
| on the market | ready to sell, for sale, up for sale | Yes, our house is on the market. We want to sell it by October 1. |
| on the mend | healing, becoming healthy again | Jake's had open-heart surgery, but he's on the mend. |
| on the money | correct, accurate, on the mark , spot on | Your answer is on the money. You win a new Honda! |
| on the move | moving, going from place to place | The caribou are on the move again, migrating to find food. |
| on the outs | not friendly, not speaking | Amy and Pat are on the outs. They had a fight. |
| on the QT | as a secret, not to be told to anyone | I'm telling you this on the QT. Please don't tell anyone. |
| on the rails | operating smoothly, on track | Troy helped me get back on the rails when I was depressed. |
| on the rise | increasing, growing | The number of female engineers is on the rise - more every year. |
| on the road | going toward, improving, on the mend | Jill is feeling much better today. She's on the road to recovery. |
| on the run | very busy, having much to do, on the go | I've been on the run since early this morning. What a busy day! |

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Idioms: on the market -- on the run

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Idioms: on the run -- on the take

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| on the run | running from the police, running from a problem | He's been on the run ever since he robbed a bank in Tulsa. |
| on the same wavelength | understanding each other, communicating clearly | I understand Ted's beliefs. We're on the same wavelength. |
| on the shit list [B] | on the list to be punished, in your bad books | Greg's on the shit list because he missed the sales meeting. |
| on the side | extra, in addition, under the table | By typing reports and resumes, I earned a few dollars on the side. |
| on the sly | secretly, illegally | Phil was selling cigarettes to his friends on the sly. |
| on the spot | immediately, at that time and place, then and there | He admitted the accident was his fault and wrote me a check for the damage on the spot. |
| on the spur of the moment | immediately, impulsively | On the spur of the moment we decided to drive to Banff. |
| on the stand | on the witness stand, testifying in court | Jack was on the stand today. He told the court what he saw. |
| on the table | offered, proposed | Our offer is on the table: a 7% increase in salary for the clerks. |
| on the take | stealing, robbing | A week after he got out of jail, he was on the take again. |

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Idioms: on the run -- on the take

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Idioms: an axe to grind -- anal retentive

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|---|
| an axe to grind | a point to discuss or argue about | Jason had an axe to grind at the meeting - job security. |
| an earful | a lecture, a scolding, a bawling out | If Mom catches you smoking, you'll get an earful. |
| an easy mark | one who can easily be persuaded, a soft touch | Ask Charlie for a loan. He's an easy mark. |
| an even keel | good balance, stability | We need a steady manager, one who can keep an even keel. |
| an eye for an eye (a tooth for a tooth) | equal punishment or revenge | Canadian laws do not demand an eye for an eye. |
| an offer I couldn't refuse | an offer that contains a threat or force, a request that is a command | The border guards invited me to stay for further questioning - it was an offer I couldn't refuse. |
| an old hand at | a person with a lot of practice or experience | Tom's an old hand at cribbage. He's played since he was a boy. |
| an old warhorse | a veteran, an old soldier, a classic story or tune | The band played marches and overtures - the old warhorses. |
| an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure | prevent a problem so you don't have to solve it, a stitch in time... | Forest fires deserve an ounce of prevention: public education in campfire safety. |
| anal retentive | too concerned with detail, pedantic | Amy is anal retentive. She writes down everything the teacher says. |

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Idioms: on the throne -- on thin ice

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| on the throne | sitting on the toilet, in the john | Archie's on the throne. He'll be down in a few minutes. |
| on the tip of my tongue | almost able to recall, beginning to remember | Her name is on the tip of my tongue. It begins with K. |
| on the up and up | legal, within the law, not underhanded | If a company gives away cars, can it be on the up and up? |
| on the verge | close, nearly, almost doing it | Our baby is on the verge of talking. She said, "Da-da." |
| on the wagon | not drinking liquor, not getting drunk | The old man is on the wagon. He promised he wouldn't drink. |
| on the wane | decreasing, diminishing | The number of men who smoke is on the wane. It's decreasing. |
| on the whole | generally, considering the whole group or situation | On the whole, women are making progress toward equal status. |
| on the wing | flying, in flight | Canada geese were on the wing, going south for the winter. |
| on the wing | without a plan, creating as you go, wing it | Paul can perform on the wing - he has a great imagination! |
| on thin ice | in a risky position, in danger | His grades are very low in this course. He's on thin ice. |

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Idioms: on the throne -- on thin ice

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Idioms: on time -- on your side

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| on time | not late, at the scheduled time | Mary is always on time. She is very punctual. |
| on top of | informed, prepared, up on | Addie stays on top of math by doing problems every day. |
| on track | in the right direction, on the rails | After a few problems, our project is back on track. |
| on trial | in court as a defendant, defending your actions | The man charged with the assault is on trial now. He's in court. |
| on vacation | having a holiday from work or school | I don't feel like getting up early when I'm on vacation. |
| on your ass [B] | wrong, misinformed, all wet | He doesn't know how to manage a business. He's on his ass! |
| on your deathbed | very ill, nearly dead | When I get a cold, you think I'm on my deathbed. Relax. |
| on your guard | careful, cautious | Be on your guard when you buy a used car - don't buy a "lemon". |
| on your own | independent, supporting yourself | When you're on your own, you can stay out all night if you wish. |
| on your side | supporting you and your efforts | "I'm on your side," Kelly said. "I want you to pass this course." |

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Idioms: on time -- on your side

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Idioms: on your toes -- one by one

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| on your toes | ready, alert | I have to be on my toes in her class. I have to listen and think. |
| on your way | traveling, leaving, on the road home | You can be on your way as soon as the tire is repaired. |
| once-over | (See give it the once-over) | |
| once in a blue moon | very seldom, rarely, in a long time | "Have you heard from Paul?" "Once in a blue moon he calls, maybe once a year." |
| once upon a time | a long time ago, at one time | Once upon a time, there was a king named Arthur... |
| one and the same | the same as, not different, part and parcel | Some people believe abortion and murder are one and the same thing. |
| one at a time | one then another, one by one | Don't push, kids! It's one at a time. |
| one born every minute | many easy customers, lots of suckers | "There's lots of suckers," he said. "There's one born every minute!" |
| one brick short of a full load | mentally slow, not all there | I'm okay, but you may be one brick short of a full load. Ha ha. |
| one by one | one then another; one at a time , single file | One by one the children entered the shelter. |

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Idioms: on your toes -- one by one

Idioms: one false move -- one-track mind

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|--|
| one false move | one move to get away or call for help | "One false move and you're dead," the gunman said to his hostage. |
| one fell swoop | (See in one fell swoop) | |
| one for the money, two for the show... | prepare to go or run, children's countdown | Before bedtime, Dad would say, "One for the money..." |
| one for the road | one drink or kiss etc. before you leave | If you have one for the road, have a cup of coffee (or a kiss). |
| one hell of a time | one very difficult task, one major problem, a hell of a time | I think that bull knew we were taking him to market. We had one hell of a time getting him into the truck! |
| one man's garbage is another man's art | each person has different likes and dislikes, to each his own | You pick up what somebody throws away, so one man's garbage is another man's art. |
| one man's meat is another man's poison | one person likes what another person hates, to each his own | Some people love his music; others hate it. One man's meat is another man's poison. |
| one of the boys | a typical member of the group, a regular guy | Roger is one of the boys, eh. He's always ready to play or help. |
| one on one | one player against one player | I like it when the coach lets us go one on one in soccer practice. |
| one-track mind | tendency to think about only one subject | My son has a one-track mind these days. He thinks only about cars. |

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Idioms: one false move -- one-track mind

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Idioms: onto something -- open to criticism

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| onto something | found some important information | Nick looks very confident. I think he's onto something. |
| onto us | knows that we are doing bad things, wise to us | The doorman is onto us. He knows we didn't buy a ticket. |
| oodles | lots, more than we need, scads | "Do we have enough salad?" "Yes. Oodles!" |
| open a can of worms | (See can of worms) | |
| open a window | find a new way of looking at a topic or problem | That idea opens a window on the causes of war. What do you see? |
| open and shut | easy to judge, not complex | If either spouse admits adultery, divorce is an open and shut case. |
| open mind | (See keep an open mind) | |
| open season | legal to hunt or kill at this time | Nancy said there should be an open season on sex offenders. |
| open some doors | provide opportunities, help someone succeed | I'm hoping my college diploma will open some doors. |
| open to criticism | in a position that can be criticized, vulnerable | If you become a politician you will be open to criticism. |

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Idioms: open to question -- out in the cold

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| open to question | not clearly correct, debatable | Your decision to allow liquor at the party is open to question. |
| open up | talk openly, express feelings | When we become friends, I'll open up with you - I'll share. |
| open up a big can of whoop-ass | punish, discipline, whup your ass | If you don't stop jumping on the couch, I am going to open up a big can of whoop-ass! |
| other fish to fry | (See bigger fish to fry) | |
| ounce of prevention | (See an ounce of prevention) | |
| out and out | bold, not hidden, a bare-faced lie | The advertisement was an out-and-out lie. It contained no truth. |
| out cold | unconscious, knocked out | Liam is out cold. A baseball hit him on the side of the head. |
| out for blood | trying to defeat or hurt, seeking revenge | The Jets are out for blood tonight because they lost 7-0 last night. |
| out in left field | not logical or sensible, all wet | Don't listen to his advice. He's out in left field. |
| out in the cold | not included in a group, not invited | He was left out in the cold because of his religious beliefs. |

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Idioms: out loud -- out of harm's way

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| out loud | loud enough to hear, spoken clearly | Dad was very angry, but he didn't swear out loud. |
| out of | have no more, have none, run out | Stop at the bakery, please. We're out of bread. |
| out of bounds | off the playing field, across boundary lines | Ramone kicked the soccer ball over my head and out of bounds. |
| out of breath | short of breath, puffing, out of breath | She was out of breath after climbing the stairs. |
| out of circulation | not visiting, don't get around | I've been out of circulation. I've been studying. |
| out of commission | not operating, out of order | My brain is out of commission. I can't think today. |
| out of context | taken out of the sentence, missing important words | Brian's comment, "Roll of the dice," was taken out of context. |
| out of control | not managed, wild, not under control | The crowd was out of control. People were fighting and looting. |
| out of hand | not controlled or disciplined | The children got out of hand. I couldn't control them. |
| out of harm's way | out of danger, in a safe place | Jerry parked the car off the road - out of harm's way. |

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Idioms: out of here (outa here) -- out of my hair

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| out of here (outa here) | going, leaving | When I get paid, I'm outa here. |
| out of his element | not trained, too deep for him | He was out of his element when they began discussing DNA. |
| out of hock | not having debts, not owing any money | We paid off our mortgage today. It feels good to be out of hock. |
| out of it | not feeling right, not with it | For some reason, I'm out of it today. I have no energy. |
| out of joint | (See nose is out of joint) | |
| out of kilter | (See off kilter) | |
| out of line | not showing respect, not polite | Ty was out of line when he called you a hooker. |
| out of luck | nothing left for you, shit out of luck [B] | We're out of luck. There are no tickets left. |
| out of my depth | not having the knowledge, over my head | I was out of my depth talking about genetics with the doctors. |
| out of my hair | not bothering me, not a problem for me | Next week the kids will be back at school - out of Mom's hair. |

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Idioms: out of my head -- out of sight

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| out of my head | crazy, out of your mind , wacko | I must have been out of my head to lend him my car. I was crazy. |
| out of nowhere | without warning, without an introduction | Out of nowhere a motorcycle passed us, going like a bullet. |
| out of order | not operating, broken | The stamp machine is out of order. I think it's broken. |
| out of our hands | not able to change or control the result | The decision is out of our hands. The voters will decide who wins. |
| out of patience | having no more patience, lose patience | I'm out of patience with the kids. They're fighting all the time. |
| out of place | in the wrong place, not appropriate | I felt out of place wearing shorts in the dining room. |
| out of pocket | expense paid from personal funds | Larry is out of pocket for the team lunch at McDonald's. |
| out of range | too far away, not close enough | The FM station is out of range of my radio. The signal is weak. |
| out of sight (outa sight) | too much, too high | The price was outa sight! They wanted \$200 for a nylon jacket. |
| out of sight | too far away to see, not visible anymore | He watched the plane until it was a speck. Then it was out of sight. |

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Idioms: out of my head -- out of sight

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Idioms: out of sight, out of mind -- out of the norm

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| out of sight, out of mind | if you do not see it you will forget about it | When I moved away, I forgot her - out of sight, out of mind, eh. |
| out of sorts | feeling negative, down , in a funk | Andre is out of sorts because he didn't get enough sleep. |
| out of step | not with the others, not designed for today | Your business plan is out of step with the 21st century. It's old. |
| out of the ball park | not close to the correct number or price | Few people will buy your product if the price is out of the ball park. |
| out of the blue | not expected, not on topic | Then out of the blue, he says, "What color are your shorts?" |
| out of the closet | not hiding your sexual orientation or secret | Jay decided to come out of the closet - to tell people he's gay. |
| out of the corner of my eye | at my far right or left, to the side | Out of the corner of my eye, I saw something move. It was the cat. |
| out of the goodness of my heart | because I am kind, because I want to help | I help her out of the goodness of my heart. I don't want to be paid. |
| out of the loop | not included on the list, not in the loop | Ever since I moved across town I've been out of the loop. Nobody tells me the news anymore. |
| out of the norm | not normal, not common | Having six husbands at the same time is out of the norm, eh. |

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Idioms: out of sight, out of mind -- out of the norm

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Idioms: anchor you -- any way you slice it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| anchor you | make you feel stable or confident | When you have a crisis, your faith will anchor you. |
| and how | very much | The kids love pizza - and how! |
| and stuff | and other things or activities, et cetera | We were watchin' TV an' stuff, just hangin' out. |
| and that's that | that is final, that is the way it will be done | You will be home by 10 p.m., and that's that! |
| and then some | with lots to spare, plus a few more | We invited everybody in town - and then some! |
| angels fear to tread | (See where angels fear to tread) | |
| another nail in your coffin | another cigarette; harmful substance | Every cigarette he smoked was another nail in his coffin. |
| ante up | put some money in the center of the table | As the dealer shuffled the cards, he said, "Ante up, boys." |
| any old thing | any word, any answer | When the teacher asks him a question, he says any old thing. |
| any way you slice it | (See no matter how you slice it) | |

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Idioms: anchor you -- any way you slice it

Idioms: out of the picture -- out of touch

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| out of the picture | not a factor, not competing or playing | Mario returned to Italy, so he's out of the picture. He's gone. |
| out of the question | not possible, no way | Because of the storm, traveling by car is out of the question. |
| out of the way | off the road or path, not blocking or obstructing | "Get out of the way!" he shouted. "Here come the runners!" |
| out of the way | done, no longer a problem, over with | Our Christmas shopping is finally done - out of the way. |
| out of the way | off the main road, off the beaten track | Rumsey is an out-of-the-way town, just east of the river. |
| out of the woods | out of difficulty, not in danger any more | Pedro survived the heart surgery, but he's not out of the woods yet. |
| out of the woodwork | from hidden places, from unknown places | Gas at 40¢ per litre will bring customers out of the woodwork. |
| out of this world | excellent, very delicious | Naomi is an excellent cook. Her carrot cake is out of this world! |
| out of touch | not communicating, not in touch | I'm not sure where Diane lives. We've been out of touch. |
| out of touch | not aware of reality, head in the clouds | He's been doing drugs. He's completely out of touch. |

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Idioms: out of the picture -- out of touch

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Idioms: out of tune (music) -- out to get you

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| out of tune (music) | not at the correct pitch, not in tune | The violins were out of tune, but I enjoyed the singing. |
| out of whack | not aligned, poorly constructed, off kilter | The door doesn't close properly. Something is out of whack. |
| out of wind | short of breath, winded, out of breath | After running the race he was out of wind - exhausted. |
| out of work | not employed, unemployed, laid off | Lyle is out of work, so he stays at home with the kids. |
| out of your gourd | (See out of your mind) | |
| out of your mind | not thinking logically, crazy, crackers | You must be out of your mind to lend him money. You're crazy. |
| out of your tree | crazy, loony, nuts , out of your mind | You're out of your tree if you think I'm going sky diving. |
| out on a limb | in a dangerous place, taking a chance (see take a chance) | I went out on a limb and said that you would donate \$1000. |
| out on the town | enjoying the city's entertainment | On Saturday night, let's go out on the town and have a good time. |
| out to get you | wanting revenge, waiting for a chance to get even | Ever since I beat him at table tennis he's been out to get me. |

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Idioms: out of tune (music) -- out to get you

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Idioms: out to lunch -- over the edge

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| out to lunch | not working effectively, not with it | The Service Manager is out to lunch. He's not helpful. |
| out to win | wanting to win, competitive | When Jon plays checkers, he's out to win. He's a competitor. |
| outdo yourself | perform better than before, do your personal best | Don't try to outdo yourself every time you run. Just jog sometimes. |
| outplay | play better than the opponent | The Flames outplayed the Kings in the third period of the game. |
| over and done with | done and forgotten, out of the way | We were glad when the trial was over and done with - finished. |
| over and out | message complete, signing off | "Over and out," the radio operator said when he completed his call. |
| over easy | eggs fried on both sides without breaking the yolks | "How would you like your eggs?" "Over easy, please - on toast." |
| over my dead body | do not try to do it, I'll stop you | "I want to marry your sister." "Over my dead body!" |
| over my head | I do not understand, too deep for me | That lesson went over my head. Did you understand it? |
| over the edge | become ill or unable to cope, around the bend | Poor Ernst went over the edge when his twin brother died. |

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Idioms: out to lunch -- over the edge

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Idioms: over the hill -- own worst enemy

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| over the hill | too old, on his last legs | At 35, he was over the hill - too old to play pro soccer. |
| over the hump | past the difficult part, into an easier phase | After saving \$2000, I was over the hump. I could pay the tuition. |
| over the rainbow | eccentric, weird, a bit off , spinny | Aunt Freda? She's been over the rainbow for years, poor lady. |
| over the top | too much, exaggerated, ham it up , a send-up | His interpretation of Hamlet was over the top. Hamlet is a tragic figure, not a comic figure. |
| over with | completed, finished, over and done with | Now that the trial is over with, we can return to a normal life. |
| overdo it | work too hard, become too tired | The doctor said I can work in the garden if I don't overdo it. |
| owly | cranky, unco-operative, negative | When Herb gets drunk he gets owly - kind of stubborn. |
| own medicine | giving what you got, tit for tat | She hurt me so I'll hurt her - give her some of her own medicine! |
| own up | admit a mistake, come clean | If Jason is involved in the crime, he'll own up. He'll tell the police. |
| own worst enemy | create our own problems, prevent our own success | A smoker is his own worst enemy. He's harming himself. |

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Idioms: over the hill -- own worst enemy

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Idioms: P's and Q's -- pain in the butt

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|--|
| P's and Q's | (See watch your P's and Q's) | |
| pack a punch | hit hard, have a strong effect | Here's a word that packs a punch: <i>guilty</i> . |
| pack a rod | carry a hand gun, have a gun on a belt | The boys knew that one of the students was packing a rod. |
| pack it in | quit, leave, pull the pin | "What if you don't get paid?" "I'll pack it in. I'll quit." |
| pack Uzis | carry automatic rifles, have powerful weapons | The news report stated that the soldiers were packing Uzis. |
| pad | apartment, digs | You have a nice pad, Nora. I love your leather furniture! |
| pad an expense account | claim more money than spent, add false expenses | How can I pad my expense account if I don't have receipts? |
| paddle your own canoe | be an individual, be independent | <i>Love many, trust few, but always paddle your own canoe.</i> |
| pain in the ass [B] | (See a pain in the ass) | |
| pain in the butt | (See a pain in the butt) | |

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Idioms: paint a picture -- part and parcel

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| paint a picture | describe in detail, portray with words | The speaker painted a picture of a ghetto with kids on the streets. |
| paint the town red | have a party downtown, go out on the town | During the carnival they paint the town red - have a great time. |
| paint with the same brush | include in the same group, generalize | He was with the gang, but can we paint him with the same brush? |
| pair off/pair up | find a partner, organize people in two's | The coach asked us to pair off and practise passing the ball to each other. |
| pale by comparison | is not as good, is not as beautiful or talented | Most European parks pale by comparison to Banff. |
| paltry sum | (See a paltry sum) | |
| pan out | succeed, go as planned, work out | Blair's ideas usually pan out. His suggestions are practical. |
| parachute | to lose a job and be given another, to land in a safe position when your position is in danger, Bob's your uncle | A vice-president in trouble can parachute to one of several positions, or the board can create a position! |
| pardon me | what did you say? please repeat it | Pardon me? Did you say you grew up in Hong Kong? |
| part and parcel | the same as, similar, one and the same | Socialism and communism are part and parcel of the same thing. |

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Idioms: part company -- pass on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| part company | separate, go in different directions, split up | Mel and Brad parted company after they arrived in Germany. |
| part with | sell, allow someone else to own, let go of | Papa won't part with his Peugeot. He'd never sell it. |
| partners in crime | people who plan and commit crimes together, boozing buddies | As kids, Andy and I took apples from a neighbor's tree. We were partners in crime, so to speak. |
| party-pooper | one who leaves a party, stick-in-the-mud | You party-pooper! Stay here and dance with us. |
| party to that | (See a party to that) | |
| pass around | pass from person to person in the room, hand out | The speaker passed around a sheet of paper for us to sign. |
| pass away | die, pass on | Grandma passed away in 1974. She was 92. |
| pass for | appear similar to, look like | In that uniform, you could pass for a police officer. |
| pass off | offer as real or genuine, use a fake object or paper | If you pass off counterfeit money, you can be charged with a crime. |
| pass on | die, bite the dust , kick the bucket | Before her dad passed on, she visited him every day. |

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Idioms: pass out -- pat on the back

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| pass out | faint, become unconscious | He passed out after running the marathon. He fell on the road. |
| pass the buck | blame others, refer the problem to others | I won't pass the buck. I won't blame others for our problems. |
| pass through | drive or travel through a town or city | When we were passing through Regina, I called my cousin. |
| pass up | not take an opportunity, not do it when you can | Do not pass up this opportunity to go back to school. |
| pass water | urinate, take a leak [B], take a pee [B] | The nurse came in and asked him if he'd passed water yet. |
| pass wind | let out gas, let a fart [B] | Mother says it's not polite to pass wind while you are eating. |
| passé | old fashioned, dated, old hat | It's passé to say <i>beg your pardon</i> . We don't hear that now. |
| past is slipping by without a trace | (See the past is slipping by without a trace) | |
| pat answer | (See a pat answer) | |
| pat on the back | praise, a compliment, tip of the hat | Chaya's compliment was like a pat on the back. She praised my work. |

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Idioms: patch things up -- pay in kind

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| patch things up | agree to stop fighting, become friends again | Jon and May fight a lot, but they patch things up and go on. |
| paths will cross | (See cross paths) | |
| pave the way | make it easier to do, prepare a path | A \$5000 scholarship paved the way for her career in medicine. |
| pay a compliment | say nice things about, say you did a good job | Tony paid you a compliment, Rita. He said you have a lovely garden. |
| pay a visit | go to visit someone, drop over | I must pay her a visit. I want to see her before we move. |
| pay attention | watch and listen, listen up | Pay attention to my words. Please listen carefully. |
| pay back | repay, return money that was borrowed | He said he would pay back every cent he borrowed from us. |
| pay down | pay more, pay off | Interest rates are high, so let's pay down our mortgage. |
| pay him back | do what he did to you, get revenge | Sally paid Harry back by going on a date with Jim. |
| pay in kind | (See repay in kind) | |

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Idioms: patch things up -- pay in kind

Idioms: pay my respects -- pay up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| pay my respects | attend a ceremony or send a symbol of your respect for someone | Remembrance Day allows us to pay our respects to the people who defended our country. |
| pay off | pay all that you owe, pay the balance | I want to pay off my loan now - pay the whole balance. |
| pay off | reward you, give you what you want | Studying pays off. You get higher grades. |
| pay-off | reward, profit | We invested in property, hoping for a pay-off when we sell it. |
| pay the penalty | pay a fine, endure, receive punishment | He paid the penalty for his laziness: failure. |
| pay the price | work hard, endure, suffer | To be an Olympic athlete, you have to pay the price: pain. |
| pay the shot | pay the whole bill, pay for everybody's ticket etc. | Uncle Sammy paid the whole shot for our trip to Europe. |
| pay through the nose | pay high rates for rent or service, cost an arm... | If you rent a condo in Dover, you'll pay through the nose. |
| pay tribute | show that you respect or admire a person, honor someone | In a letter to Ms. Lee, the City paid tribute to her for service to her community. |
| pay up | pay what is owed, pay a bet you lost | When I see Todd, I'll ask him to pay up. He owes me \$20. |

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Idioms: any word -- as a matter of fact

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| any word | any phone calls or letters, any reply | Any word from Dale? He should have called us by now. |
| anything goes | there are no rules; expect anything to happen | Anything goes during Stampede week. People do crazy things! |
| apple a day... | (See an apple a day keeps the doctor away) | |
| apple of his eye | (See the apple of his eye) | |
| apple-pie order | very neat, well organized, shipshape , tickety-boo | "Is your room in apple-pie order?" "Yes, Mom. It is." |
| armed to the teeth | prepared to fight or defend, having lots of evidence | By the time the trial began, the lawyer was armed to the teeth. |
| around Robin Hood's barn | (See all around Robin Hood's barn) | |
| around the bend | crazy or insane, off your rocker | If I had to listen to that noise all the time, I'd go around the bend. |
| around the clock | twenty-four hours, 'round the clock | Julie worked around the clock to finish her sewing project. |
| as a matter of fact | to state a fact, in fact , to be perfectly honest | The burrowing owl is a protected species. As a matter of fact, it's an endangered species. |

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Idioms: pay your dues -- peed

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| pay your dues | work hard and learn, be loyal for years | In the sport of rodeo, you have to pay your dues to get respect. |
| pay your way | pay your share of the expenses | "I don't want charity," she said. "I pay my way." |
| peace of mind | freedom from worry or guilt | If you want peace of mind, you should buy insurance. |
| peaches-and-cream | beautiful skin, clear complexion | This new lotion will give you a peaches-and-cream complexion. |
| peachy | fine, great, wonderful, neat | When I asked Ko if she liked her job, she said, "Yes! It's peachy!" |
| peanuts | small amount of money, loss of a negligible value, a paltry sum , chicken feed | "Isn't the loss of one billion worth of credits a problem for you?" "Oh, that's peanuts for a bank like us." |
| pecking order | from strongest to weakest, line of authority | The first thing to learn about a company is the pecking order. |
| pedal her ass [B] | sell sex, become a prostitute | Jane used to joke about pedaling her ass to earn extra money. |
| pedal to the metal | accelerator all the way down, flat out | He always drives fast - pedal to the metal all the time. |
| peed | (See she peed) | |

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Idioms: peek-a-boo -- people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|--|
| peek-a-boo | peek through the fingers with hands covering eyes | Shelly was playing peek-a-boo with the baby. |
| peep this | look at this, check this out , eyeball this | Peep this! My fingernails are as long as Dolly's! |
| peer sneer | an unfriendly look from a person who is the same age | When the manager praised my work, Vic gave me a peer sneer. |
| pell-mell | in a wild manner, in panic, harum-scarum | When the fire alarm sounded we ran pell-mell down the hall. |
| pen those words/lines | write those words or lines, compose that line | <i>The medium is the message</i> : Do you know who penned that line? |
| penny for your thoughts | (See a penny for your thoughts) | |
| penny pincher | a person who spends carefully, a thrifty person | He used to be a penny pincher, but now he spends freely. |
| penny wise, dollar dumb | wise in saving, foolish in spending; burn a hole in your pocket | You spent our carefully-saved money on an expensive electric organ that neither of us can play! Now that is penny wise, dollar dumb! |
| penny wise, pound foolish | careful with pennies but careless with pounds, penny wise, dollar dumb | Our budget is penny wise and pound foolish - we save a little on food, and waste a lot on a luxury car! |
| people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones | people who have faults should not criticize others | Perfect people can be critical, but people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones. |

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Idioms: perfect stranger -- phone-in

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|--|
| perfect stranger | (See a perfect stranger) | |
| perk up | show interest or enthusiasm | When we mention girls, he perks up. His eyes sparkle. |
| pernickety/persnickety | fussy, critical of details, perfectionistic | When Dale was teenager, he was pernickety about his hair. |
| pet | touch intimately, kiss and caress | Petting is a prelude to sex. It is the touch of passion. |
| peter out | gradually lose power, reduce, run out | After 6, sales began to peter out. We had fewer customers. |
| petrified | very frightened, scared stiff | Gigi was petrified when a spider crawled up her leg. |
| phase me | (See faze me) | |
| phase me out | (See it phased me out) | |
| phat | pretty hot and tempting, nice, cool | Hey, phat wheels! The WRX is a cool car. |
| phone-in | a radio/TV show that invites phone calls | The topic for the phone-in show was <i>Animal Rights</i> . |

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Idioms: phooey -- pick up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| phooey | oh no, darn it , nuts , rats , shucks | Phooey! I hit my golf ball into the water again! |
| photo op | photo opportunity, chance to have your photo taken | Then Brian shook hands with students to create a photo op. |
| piano tied to your ass [B] | something preventing you from moving | If you want coffee, make some! There's no piano tied to your ass. |
| pick a fight | start a fight, begin an argument | If Jamie tries to pick a fight with you, just walk away. |
| pick holes in | criticize, look for errors or faults, nitpick | Grant won't show you his work because you pick holes in it. |
| pick-me-up | (See a pick-me-up) | |
| pick of the litter | (See the pick of the litter) | |
| pick on | criticize, tease, get on my case | Why is everybody picking on me? I feel like a victim. |
| pick up | learn, understand, catch on | We pick up the street idioms faster than the grammar, eh. |
| pick up | improve, increase | If business doesn't pick up soon, we'll need another loan. |

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Idioms: phoey -- pick up

Idioms: pick up the pace -- picture-perfect

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| pick up the pace | go a little faster, step on it | We're walking rather slowly. Can we pick up the pace? |
| pick up the pieces | put together again, mend | After her husband died, she tried to pick up the pieces of her life. |
| pick up the tab | pay the bill, pay the shot | Who picked up the tab for the hotel rooms? Who paid? |
| pick you up | give you a ride in a car, give you a lift (see give me a lift) | I'll pick you up at 6:45 and we'll drive to the mall. |
| pick you up | make you feel better, make you happy or natural high | Here, have a cup of tea. That will pick you up. |
| pick your brains | learn what you know, ask you questions | Maria wants to pick your brains about Freud and Jung. She wants to ask you what you know about them. |
| pick yourself up | do not quit, persevere, roll with the punches | Don't let a failure stop you. Pick yourself up and try again. |
| picky | fussy, looking for the perfect one | Don't be so picky, Dennis. Just choose a candy and eat it. |
| picture is worth a thousand words | (See a picture is worth a thousand words) | |
| picture-perfect | perfectly made or performed, excellent, letter-perfect | Olga's performance on the balance beam was picture-perfect! |

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Idioms: piddly -- piece of tail [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| piddly | little, small, tiny | "What a piddly car!" "Yes. It's a Micra." |
| piddly-assed [B] | (See piddly) | |
| pie-eyed | drunk, intoxicated, hammered | Byron was pie-eyed when we got to the party. He was drunk, man. |
| pie in the sky | unrealistic, not practical, hairbrain , half-baked | When first invented, the car and phone were pie-in-the-sky ideas. Now we have phones in cars. |
| piece of ass [B] | (See a piece of ass) | |
| piece of cake | (See a piece of cake) | |
| piece of me | (See want a piece of me) | |
| piece of my mind | (See a piece of my mind) | |
| piece of piss | (See a piece of piss) | |
| piece of tail [B] | (See a piece of ass) | |

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Idioms: pig -- pin down/pin him down

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| pig | police, cop , flatfoot , fuzz | Rocky says, "There was pigs on every corner. We couldn't move." |
| pig in a poke | (See a pig in a poke) | |
| pig out | eat a lot, fill your face | Then we went to the Dairy Queen and pigged out on soft ice cream. |
| piggy bank | glass or porcelain pig used for saving coins | The little girl was counting the money in her piggy bank. |
| piggyback | carried on someone's back, riding on someone's back | Jurgen loved to ride piggyback when his dad walked in the park. |
| piggyback | succeed on the efforts of others | A catering firm piggybacked to success on United Airlines. |
| pill | (See the pill) | |
| pilot project | the model or prototype, trial run | This solar generator is our pilot project. If it's successful we'll learn from it and build more. |
| pimple pole | youth with pimples, teenager with zits | Hey, pimple pole! You left your locker door open. |
| pin down/pin him down | get a direct answer, obtain the facts | Jed won't answer my questions. He's difficult to pin down. |

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Idioms: pig -- pin down/pin him down

Idioms: pin money -- pine float

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| pin money | extra money, money to spend on candy etc. | Janet used to earn pin money by painting signs. |
| pin your hopes on | hope for one big chance, hope without planning, all your eggs... | If you pin your hopes on some horse winning a race, you will probably be disappointed. |
| pinch | steal, rob, take what does not belong to you | When he was a boy he pinched pennies from his mom's purse. |
| pinch an inch | pinch an inch of fat on your body | "If I can pinch an inch, am I fat?" "No. Just pleasantly plump." |
| pinch-hitter (baseball) | substitute batter, extra batter | Gomez is the best pinch-hitter on the team. His average is .372. |
| pinch of coon shit [B] | (See a pinch of coon shit) | |
| pinch of salt | (See a pinch of salt) | |
| pinch off a loaf [B] | have a bowel movement, drop a log | "Where were you?" "In the can, pinching off a loaf." |
| pinch to grow an inch | (See a pinch to grow an inch) | |
| pine float | (See a pine float) | |

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Idioms: pinhead -- piss away [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|--|
| pinhead | one who does not use his brain, dipstick | "Who broke your glasses?" "Some pinhead sat on them!" |
| pinko | a socialist; one who is not as red as a communist, nor as white as a democrat | The pinkos want big business to pay for their social programs. |
| pinpoint | locate the exact place or point, determine the time | Lawrence is trying to pinpoint the time of the plane crash. |
| pins and needles | (See on pins and needles) | |
| pipe down | do not be so noisy, be quiet, keep it down | The teacher opened the door and said, "Pipe down, Grade 7." |
| pipe dream | a dream based on luck, pie in the sky | Do you have a pipe dream or a plan? There's a big difference. |
| pipes | voice, carry a tune | K.D. Lang has great pipes, eh. |
| pipsqueak | tiny person, weak man, potlicker , wimp | Keith was a pipsqueak until he started lifting weights. |
| pirate | steal, take someone else's property, bootleg , rabbit | His computer is loaded with pirated games and movies - all stolen. |
| piss away [B] | waste, spend on liquor | He pissed away a lot of money when he was an alcoholic. |

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Idioms: piss in the pickles [B] -- pissed [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| piss in the pickles [B] | ruin a project, wreck a piece of work | Plans for a school were OK until the Premier pissed in the pickles. |
| piss like a race horse [B] | have to urinate, back teeth are floating | I hope this mall has a washroom. I have to piss like a race horse. |
| piss off [B] | leave, go, beat it , take off | "If you don't like cigar smoke," he said, "you can piss off." |
| piss on them [B] | who cares about them? they are worthless | When Scotty heard you quit the team, he said, "Piss on him!" |
| piss parade [B] | a group of people pissing together | On bus trips we stopped for a piss parade every two or three hours. |
| piss poor [B] | of poor quality, not well made | Grandpa said, "That's a piss-poor tractor. Don't buy it." |
| piss pot full [B] | a lot, very many, more than expected | After the poker game, Sammy had a piss pot full of loonies. |
| piss your pants [B] | become very frightened, be very scared | The House of Horrors is so scary you'll piss your pants! |
| pissed [B] | angry, upset, teed off | She was really pissed when you told her to carry your luggage. |
| pissed [B] | drunk, hammered , sloshed | When I saw her walk, I knew she was pissed. She nearly fell down. |

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Idioms: as all get-out -- as luck would have it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| as all get-out | very much, a lot, like crazy , to the max | Tracy is not only beautiful. She's as talented as all get-out. |
| as American as apple pie | very American, like an American custom | Jeans and T-shirts are American, as American as apple pie! |
| as busy as a beaver | very busy, working steadily | When the teacher returned, the students were as busy as beavers. |
| as clean as a whistle | without any dirt or marks, smooth and clean | The hen squeezed, and out popped an egg as clean as a whistle. |
| as drunk as a skunk | very drunk, polluted , sloshed | You don't remember the party because you were as drunk as a skunk! |
| as dumb as a sack of hammers | very dumb, ignorant, dumbbell | If your dog doesn't learn your tricks, who is as dumb as a sack of hammers? |
| as far as I know | based on my knowledge, to the best of my... | As far as I know, the company will pay your travel expenses. |
| as full as a tick | (See full as a tick) | |
| as if | unlikely, unbelievable | As if we'd leave for Banff without you. We'd never do that! |
| as luck would have it | as luck is sometimes good and sometimes bad | By the time we arrived, as luck would have it, the fight was over. |

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Idioms: pissed off [B] -- Plan B

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| pissed off [B] | angry, mad, pissed , ticked off | He'll be pissed off if I leave him. He'll be mad. |
| pissed to the gills [B] | drunk, plastered , snapped | He was pissed to the gills, so we sent him home in a taxi. |
| pissing into the wind [B] | working at a hopeless job, feeling futile about a task | Cleaning up an oil spill is like pissing into the wind - hopeless! |
| pit of my stomach | (See the pit of my stomach) | |
| pit stop | a brief stop to buy gas or go to the washroom | Excuse me. I have to make a pit stop before we go to the movie. |
| pits | (See the pits) | |
| place on a pedestal | (See on a pedestal) | |
| plain as day | easy to see, clearly visible, in broad daylight | I saw it, plain as day - Bigfoot - not twenty feet away! |
| plain as the nose on your face | very easy to see or understand, very clear, crystal clear | We have photos of the earth from outer space that prove the earth is round. It's plain as the nose on your face! |
| Plan B | the substitute for Plan A, an alternative plan | Plan A depends on getting a student loan. What is Plan B? |

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Idioms: plastered -- play a trick on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| plastered | very drunk, hammered , looped , sloshed | After losing the fight, Jock went and got plastered. |
| plastic | credit cards, bank cards | I like to use plastic when I travel. I don't feel safe carrying cash. |
| plate is full | too much to do, cannot do any more | I'm busy writing exams. My plate is full. |
| play a big part | do much to help, be a main factor | The nice weather played a big part in the success of our festival. |
| play a bit-part | be a minor actor in a movie or a stage play | Irene played a bit-part in a movie last year. She's a good actor. |
| play a joke on | fool or trick someone, play a prank on | I played a joke on Ty. I phoned and said he'd won the lottery. |
| play a mean game | play very well, play to win | Ingrid may beat you. She plays a mean game of chess. |
| play a part | be a cause, affect the result | His drinking played a part in his dismissal. Drinking was a cause. |
| play a prank on | arrange a surprise for you so people will laugh | Ty played a prank on me. He left a message to call the president. |
| play a trick on | deceive you for fun, play a joke on | We played a trick on Liz. We sent her picture to a beauty contest. |

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Idioms: play along -- play hardball

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|--|
| play along | pretend to believe, go along with , let on | Lisa played along with the joke on Mark. She didn't tell him. |
| play around | have other mates, sleep around | She knows he's playing around, but she won't confront him. |
| play catch-up | try to score the number of goals the opponent has scored, catch up , too little too late | They scored four goals in the first period, and we were playing catch-up for the rest of the game. |
| play dead | pretend to be dead, lie down as if you are dead | If a grizzly bear attacks you, play dead and it may go away. |
| play dirty | play rough, break the rules , play hardball | Even if his opponents cheat and lie, Pat won't play dirty. |
| play dumb | act as if you do not know, play along | Play dumb when she tells you I won. Pretend you don't know. |
| play fair | play using rules, give everyone an equal chance | A referee will help us to play fair, to play according to the rules. |
| play games | deceive people, not be sincere, mind games | He's been playing games with us. We can't believe what he says. |
| play hard to get | pretend you do not care; you do not want him | When Tom invites you to go on a date, you could play hard to get. |
| play hardball | play tough, try to hurt the opponent, play dirty | If the manager wants to play hardball, show him that you are tough. |

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Idioms: play havoc with -- play my cards right

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| play havoc with | interfere with, cause sudden changes | The wind played havoc with the ball, causing it to rise or fall. |
| play hooky | not attend classes, stay away from school | One spring day, some of us played hooky. We went fishing. |
| play into his hand | do as he planned, fall into his trap (see fall into a trap) | By accepting a ride in Paul's car, you played right into his hand. |
| play it by ear | play without a plan, improvise, jam | If our plans fail, we can play it by ear. We'll be creative! |
| play it cool | be calm, do not become excited, chill out | If Lisa tells you she's pregnant, play it cool. Don't become angry. |
| play it for all it's worth | get the most out of it, dramatize it, ham it up | When Uncle Saul tells a story, he plays it for all it's worth. |
| play it safe | be careful, do not take a chance | Play it safe when you go out in a boat. Wear a life jacket. |
| play it up | act like it is important, make it a big deal | If there's an argument, he plays it up. He makes it worse. |
| play musical chairs | move people around but not change the operation, shuffle the chairs on the deck | The government is playing musical chairs again - moving the the ministers around but not improving anything. |
| play my cards right | behave in the best way, do the right things | If you play your cards right at the interview, you should get the job. |

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Idioms: play on my heart strings -- play the ponies

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| play on my heart strings | cause me to feel emotional, make me feel sentimental | The movie <i>Hey Jude</i> will play on your heart strings. It will make you cry. |
| play on words | (See a play on words) | |
| play out | become tired or exhausted, become winded | After two sets of tennis, Ling said, "I'm played out!" |
| play out | happen, conclude, pan out , work out , | Nina used to work for Ed. Now Ed works for Nina. I want to see how this plays out. |
| play second fiddle | accept a lower position, take a back seat | Kirk won't play second fiddle to her. He wants to be the boss. |
| play the field | date many people, go out with various men/women | After a long relationship with Sue, he began to play the field. |
| play the fool | pretend you are a fool, act simple or foolish | If you play the fool, people will often tell you secrets. |
| play the ham | act for an audience, ham it up | After a couple of drinks, he likes to play the ham - to be a clown. |
| play the heavy | be the strong man or tough guy | In our gang, Don plays the heavy. He talks and acts tough. |
| play the ponies | bet on horses at the race track | He's lost a lot of money playing the ponies. He bets on every race. |

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Idioms: play on my heart strings -- play the ponies

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Idioms: play the stock market -- plumb loco

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| play the stock market | buy stocks and shares, sell stocks and shares | At first he invested in real estate; then he played the stock market. |
| play to the crowd | play a sport just for the crowd, a hotdog | The coach wants us to play to win, not play to the crowd. |
| play with fire | do risky things, live dangerously, take chances | "If you play with fire," Trine explained, "you may get burned. You may get hurt." |
| pleased as punch | very pleased, happy about | Our minister is pleased as punch when there's a large offering. |
| pluck at the heart strings | cause us to feel sadness or longing, move you to tears , touch you | I'm feeling sentimental. That song is plucking at my heart strings. |
| plug away | work slowly and steadily, slug away | If you plug away at physics, you will eventually understand it. |
| plug into | become familiar with, learn to use | If he wants to be a dentist, he'll have to plug into the sciences. |
| plug the product | (See put in a plug for) | |
| plug the team | add the best players from other teams | The Flyers plugged their team with star players from the league. |
| plumb loco | completely crazy, crackers | After several crop failures, one farmer went plumb loco. |

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Idioms: play the stock market -- plumb loco

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Idioms: plump full -- point out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| plump full | very full, full to the top, chock full | Johnny's glass was plump full - so full he spilled some milk. |
| pocket Hercules | a small person with great strength | In the 1970s a guy named Stan Jonathan played for the Boston Bruins. He was small but very tough - a pocket Hercules. |
| pocket of resistance | (See a pocket of resistance) | |
| pogey | checks from employment insurance | Some guys work all summer and collect pogey all winter. |
| point a finger at | accuse, suggest that someone is guilty | If you aren't guilty, fine. But don't point a finger at me! |
| point-blank range | close range, only a few feet away | The report stated that the gorilla was shot at point-blank range. |
| point is well taken | opinion is true, statement is logical | Your point about smoking is well taken. It <i>is</i> expensive. |
| point of no return | (See the point of no return) | |
| point of view | opinion, what you think of it | This is my point of view: Religion is a private matter. |
| point out | tell, show, indicate | The teacher pointed out that the word <i>run</i> has several meanings. |

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Idioms: plump full -- point out

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Idioms: pointed questions -- pony up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| pointed questions | questions that accuse, on the carpet , the third degree | "Why did you take the files?" he asked. "Stop with the pointed questions!" I replied. "I didn't take the files!" |
| poke fun at | laugh at, make fun of | Would you poke fun at someone who can't speak Chinese? |
| poker face | (See a poker face) | |
| pokey | jail, prison, behind bars , in the clink | Don't mention <i>pokey</i> in your resume. You don't want to advertise your time in jail. |
| polish off/polish it off | eat all of it, drink it all | Somebody polished off the last few cookies. Who ate them? |
| political football | a program or issue used by politicians to get votes, play political games | A day-care program is a political football. Politicians use it to get the votes of parents with babies. |
| politically correct | appropriate, not racist or sexist | Advertise for a sales <i>person</i> . Use the politically correct term. |
| polluted | very drunk, loaded , plastered , wasted | Every Friday night he goes to the bar and drinks till he's polluted. |
| pony tail | tying the hair at the back leaving a <i>tail</i> of hair | Stan pulled on Judy's pony tail as he walked past her desk. |
| pony up | contribute, give some money, do your part | Okay guys, it's time to pony up. Ten dollars will pay for a taxi into town. |

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Idioms: poontang [B] -- pop your buttons

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| poontang [B] | sex, intercourse, nookie | Listen, guys, poontang should be measured in <i>quality</i> , not <i>quantity</i> . |
| poop | excrement, droppings | "Please take with you what your dog brought: We need no poop in the playground." |
| poor as a church mouse | (See as poor as a church mouse) | |
| poor house | (See in the poorhouse) | |
| pop a cap [B] | shoot, murder, knock off | He says he's going to pop a cap in the supervisor. We've got to stop him. |
| pop in | visit without warning, drop in | When I'm in your part of town I'll pop in for a visit, okay? |
| pop over | visit for a few minutes, drop over | Why don't you pop over and see our wedding pictures? |
| pop the question | ask an important question, ask someone to marry you | In the old days, a man would buy the ring and then pop the question. |
| pop up | appear, occur, be visible | The name <i>M. Greig</i> kept popping up in the company records. |
| pop your buttons | feel very proud, be full of pride | When you received the award, did you pop your buttons? |

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Idioms: poontang [B] -- pop your buttons

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Idioms: popcorn brain -- pound salt

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| popcorn brain | one who has not learned to think, an airhead | When I forgot my phone number they called me <i>popcorn brain</i> . |
| pope's nose | (See the pope's nose) | |
| positive | certain, very sure, dead certain | Are you positive it was Ming? Do you know for sure it was him? |
| pot | marijuana tobacco, reefer | The room smelled of tobacco, like someone had been smoking pot. |
| pot calling the kettle black | a guilty person accusing another guilty person | When thief accuses robber, it's the pot calling the kettle black. |
| pot of gold | a fortune, a lot of money | Izzy believes there's a pot of gold buried in every acre he buys. |
| potato sack | loose fitting jacket or clothing | Potato sack looks good on Ken. Baggy clothes suit him. |
| potlicker | little person, small competitor; originally a dog or other pet | George - that potlicker! I can beat him with my little finger! |
| pound of flesh | revenge, an eye for an eye | For that insult, Simon will get revenge - his pound of flesh. |
| pound salt | leave, go, take off | If you don't want to play by our rules, you can pound salt, man! |

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Idioms: as new -- as slow as molasses in January

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| as new | like new, in mint condition | For Sale: 1999 Mazda Miata, red, all options, low km, as new. |
| as plain as day | easy to see, clearly visible, in broad daylight | I saw it, as plain as day - Bigfoot - not twenty feet away! |
| as plain as the nose on your face | very easy to see or understand, very clear, crystal clear | We have photos of the earth from outer space that prove the earth is round. It's as plain as the nose on your face! |
| as poor as a church mouse | very poor, having little, the wolf is at the door | How can they refuse to help her? She's as poor as a church mouse. |
| as right as rain | (See right as rain) | |
| as scarce as hen's teeth | rare, uncommon, not many of them | Country doctors are as scarce as hen's teeth. |
| as sick as a dog | very sick, very ill, as sick as a parrot , in sick bay | Barry can't come to practice. He's sick as a dog! |
| as sick as a parrot | very, very sick; on your deathbed , sicker than a dog | Samuel's voice sounds weird because he's as sick as a parrot. |
| as slow as a dead snail | unbeatable in slowness | He writes as slow as a dead snail, only a word or two per day! |
| as slow as molasses in January | only a dead snail is slower | The tortoise is very slow - as slow as molasses in January. |

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Idioms: pound the pavement -- power user

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| pound the pavement | look for a job, walk from company to company to find a job | Carrying several copies of his resume, Tang was pounding the pavement in Vancouver. |
| pour it on | praise a lot, compliment too much | When Harry starts pouring it on, I know he wants something. |
| pour out your soul | tell your private feelings, tell all | When Zora visits, she pours out her soul to me. She tells me all about her lover. |
| pow | a word to describe a hit or a punch, bam | Then pow! This guy hits Cody in the stomach. |
| powder my nose | go to the ladies' washroom, go to the bathroom | Excuse me. I'm going to powder my nose. Are you coming, Judy? |
| power play (business) | a show of power, a grab for power | If a general manager demotes two managers, it's a power play. |
| power play (hockey) | five skaters against four or three | The Russians scored twice on their five-minute power play. |
| power to burn | very powerful, lots of horsepower, go like stink | That old Chev has a 454 motor. It has power to burn. |
| power trip | showing power, showing authority | Last week he went on a power trip and told us to work harder. |
| power user | a person who uses a computer a lot | Jay uses the computer about 12 hours a day. He's a power user. |

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Idioms: powers that be -- press charges

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|--|
| powers that be | (See the powers that be) | |
| practice what you preach | do what you say people should do | If you want to hear truth, tell the truth. Practice what you preach. |
| prairie oyster | the testicle of a young bull or bull calf | Do you believe that some folks in Alberta eat prairie oysters? |
| praise him to the skies | praise him a lot, sing his praises | Wade is an excellent student. His teachers praise him to the skies. |
| pre-menstrual syndrome | emotional crises the week before menstruation, pms | Judy says pms causes most of her personal problems. |
| preach to the choir/preach to the converted | tell people who already know the message, talk to the wrong audience, | When I complained to the class about students who were absent, Ed reminded me that I was preaching to the choir! |
| prepare like crazy | prepare thoroughly, be ready for an event or test | Before I go to a job interview I prepare like crazy. |
| preppy | a youth who wears trendy clothes, clean cut | Brad is a preppy. He wears Polo sweaters and drives a Celica. |
| presence of mind | ability to think clearly and act appropriately, cool under pressure | When the bear charged the car, Jill had the presence of mind to sound the burglar alarm. |
| press charges | ask the police to charge someone with a crime | The police asked her if she wanted to press charges against the thief. |

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Idioms: press into service -- pride goeth before a fall

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| press into service | required to help, forced to serve | The young men were injured, so the old men were pressed into service. |
| press on | continue traveling, keep on going | Dumont wanted to stop at Batoche, but he pressed on to Fort Carlton. |
| press the panic button | become very scared, panic, freak | If a dog growls at me, I press the panic button. I scream and run. |
| pretty as a picture | very pretty, beautiful | "How do I look in my new dress?" "Pretty as a picture, my dear." |
| pretty penny | (See cost a pretty penny) | |
| price out | check the price of, find out the price | Before we buy a European car, we should price out parts and service. |
| price you have to pay | (See the price you have to pay) | |
| prick [B] | penis, dork , hoo-haw | When the doctor asked me where it hurt, I pointed to my prick. |
| prick [B] | foolish man, jerk | Only a prick would feed liquor to his pet. |
| pride goeth before a fall | you lose self-respect before you do an evil deed | I think this proverb is taken from the Bible: <i>Pride goeth before a fall.</i> |

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Idioms: prima donna -- pub crawl

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| prima donna | one who expects special treatment or privileges | A prima donna on our team might upset the other players. |
| Prince Charming | the perfect man, the ideal mate | Colin is not Prince Charming, but I love him and he loves me. |
| proby | an employee who is on probation, a new employee | When I was a proby, I tried to impress my supervisors. |
| promise the moon | promise that everything will be perfect | If you promise the moon, the kids may be very disappointed. |
| pronto | now, immediately, right away | You'll miss your bus if you don't leave now. Pronto! |
| proof of the pudding... | (See the proof of the pudding is in the eating) | |
| props | respect for ability or effort; derived from "proper respect" | David deserves his props for scoring points against the champion. |
| psych out | lose confidence, be unable to concentrate, faze me | If I think about making a mistake, I get psyched out. |
| psyched/psyched up | prepared, excited, pumped , up for it | Claire was psyched for the exam. She was ready for the challenge. |
| pub crawl | drink at many pubs in one day, bar hopping | If you go on a pub crawl today, you'll have a headache tomorrow. |

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Idioms: prima donna -- pub crawl

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Idioms: public property -- pull out all the stops

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| public property | what everybody knows, public information | If you tell Zora about the plan, it'll be public property. |
| puddlejumper | small car, subcompact | "Why did you buy that puddlejumper?" "Because it gets good gas mileage." |
| pull a face | wrinkle your face, make a face | Lyle is 14, but he's still a boy. He pulls a face when he's upset. |
| pull a few strings | help by talking to powerful people, it's not what you know... | My application was late, but a friend of mine pulled a few strings and got me an interview. |
| pull a muscle | injure a muscle, strain a muscle, charley horse | One of our best players pulled a muscle and can't play tonight. |
| pull for | support, cheer for | We were pulling for your team. We're glad you won. |
| pull in your horns | not be so aggressive, stop attacking or criticizing | Father's advice is to pull in your horns or you could be dismissed. |
| pull it off | cause it to happen; succeed, win, snatch victory... | With Jean as leader of the party, the Liberals can pull it off. They can win the election. |
| pull it out | win just before the end; before it is too late | The score was tied, but we pulled it out with a last-minute goal. |
| pull out all the stops | work as hard as possible, go all-out , go for broke | You're losing this match. If you want to win, you'll have to pull out all the stops. |

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Idioms: public property -- pull out all the stops

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Idioms: pull punches -- pull up stakes

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| pull punches | talk nice, ease up , take it easy on you | If the service is poor, he doesn't pull punches. He complains. |
| pull that | do that, do something wrong, try that | She reached for the phone to call the police, but the thief said, "Don't try to pull that." |
| pull the goalie (hockey) | remove the goaltender and use an extra skater | After our coach pulled the goalie we scored and tied the game. |
| pull the pin | quit, resign, leave, pack it in | If the company doesn't give us a raise in pay, I'm pulling the pin. |
| pull the plug | stop working on a project, not support any more, leave you in the lurch | When Zoe lied to Social Services they pulled the plug on her. They stopped paying her expenses. |
| pull the rug out | take away your help, remove your support, leave you holding the bag | Some insurance companies pull the rug out from under you when you file a claim. |
| pull the wool over your eyes | deceive you, trick you, fool you | Don't let him pull the wool over your eyes. He's not at the office. |
| pull through | recover, get well, get over the operation | The doctor didn't think he'd pull through, but he's feeling fine. |
| pull together | work together, co-operate | If we pull together, we can complete this project on time. |
| pull up stakes | move away, go to live in another place | We pull up stakes when winter comes. We move to Arizona. |

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Idioms: pull up your socks -- puppy love

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| pull up your socks | do better, improve | He'll have to pull up his socks in math - if he wants to pass. |
| pull your chain | ask you what you think, ask for your opinion | If we want your opinion we'll pull your chain. We'll ask you. |
| pull your leg | fool you, tell you a false story as a joke | If he said Canada has a tropical climate, he was pulling your leg. |
| pull your weight | do your job, do your share of the work | If we all pull our weight - do our share - we can achieve our goals. |
| pull your wire [B] | masturbate, jerk off [B] | "Why do you pull your wire?" "Because it feels good." |
| pull yourself together | control your sadness, get a grip on yourself | It's difficult to pull yourself together after a divorce. |
| pumped/pumped up | excited about performing, ready to play | John's pumped for today's game. He really wants to play. |
| punch your lights out | hit you, knock you down, knock you out | If you try to kiss my girlfriend I'll punch your lights out. |
| puppy | a name for someone or something familiar | Your old Honda? Don't sell that puppy. It's "a keeper". |
| puppy love | young love, love between children or teenagers | Puppy love is sweet, but it's just a step on the path to mature love. |

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Idioms: pull up your socks -- puppy love

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Idioms: pure luck -- pussy whipped

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| pure luck | just luck, not skill or talent | Hank won the fishing contest, but it was pure luck, not skill. |
| push me (to the limit) | put pressure on me, bug me too much | Don't push me. One more insult and I'll punch you. |
| push the boat out | work harder to complete the job, give 110% , go the extra mile | Chris, my son, to make your marriage work, sometimes, well, many times, you have to push the boat out. |
| push the envelope | challenge yourself, innovate, take risks , think outside the box | If we are going to lead this industry, we need to push the envelope. |
| push the right buttons | say the right things, do the right things | The players want to play for Pat. She pushes all the right buttons. |
| push your luck | (See don't push your luck) | |
| pusher | a person who sells illegal drugs | The judge sentenced the pusher to ten years in prison. |
| pushing fifty | nearly 50 years old, 48 or 49 years old | Bart is pushing fifty, but he looks much younger. |
| pushing up daisies | dead and buried in a graveyard, deep six | Old Tom's pushin' up daisies. He died a long time ago. |
| pussy whipped | controlled by his wife, afraid his wife will cut him off | Tim loves his wife, but he's not pussy whipped. He has a mind of his own. |

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Idioms: put 'em up -- put away

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| put 'em up | raise your hands, reach for the sky | Merv sticks his finger in my ribs and says, "Put 'em up." |
| pussyfoot around | not have the courage to say what you think, wimp | "Say what you believe!" Marilyn shouted. "Stop pussyfooting around here like we're made of crystal!" |
| put 'er there | let us shake hands, I want to shake hands with you | After the argument, I apologized and said, "Put 'er there, eh." |
| put a bug in my ear | told me secretly, a little bird told me | "Who told you I need a wallet?" "Mom put a bug in my ear." |
| put a different slant on it | change the way you see it, change your view, put things in perspective | If you called the police because you thought I needed help, that puts a different slant on it. |
| put a hex on me | bring a curse upon me, put me under a spell | I haven't won a game of cards today. Did you put a hex on me? |
| put a lid on it | do not be noisy, keep it down | When we shout, he says, "Put a lid on it. Not so loud, eh." |
| put all your eggs in... | (See all your eggs in one basket) | |
| put an end to | stop or end it, cause it to stop | The policeman came and put an end to the fighting. |
| put away | eat or drink, pig out | Dennis has a good appetite. He put away ten pancakes! |

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Idioms: put down -- put in time

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| put down | criticize, knock , put-down | Those poor kids are put down all the time - criticized and yelled at. |
| put down | kill, shoot, dispatch, put out of its misery | The horse had to be put down because it was badly injured. |
| put-down | criticism, disapproval | His speech was a put-down of our policies - very negative. |
| put down roots | live in one place for years, buy land and raise a family | After moving from town to town, we put down roots in Moose Jaw. |
| put her there | let us shake hands, I want to shake hands with you | After the argument he apologized and said, "Put 'er there." |
| put him in his place | tell him he is wrong - that he is out of line | Dwayne has insulted all of us. I hope Dad puts him in his place. |
| put in a good word for | tell the employer that you are a good applicant | If you apply for a job with us, I'll put in a good word for you. |
| put in a hard day | work hard all day, a hard day | You've put in a hard day, Fran. Let's have supper at a cafe. |
| put in a plug for | advertise free, promote free | When you speak on TV, please put in a plug for my book. |
| put in time | be there a lot, hang out , spend time | Raj puts in a lot of time at the piano. He practices a lot. |

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Idioms: put down -- put in time

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Idioms: as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar -- ass

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar | very solid or stable, not movable or wobbly | "What is the foundation made of?" "Concrete - it's as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar!" |
| as sure as shit | certain to happen, predictable, a foregone conclusion | Robert will come, sure as shit. He comes every day. |
| as the crow flies | the shortest distance between two places | The farm is about ten miles northeast of town, as the crow flies. |
| as useless as a fifth wheel | not useful, not needed, redundant, (four wheels are sufficient) | I sat there watching the four of them play bridge, and feeling as useless as a fifth wheel. |
| as useless as tits on a boar | not useful, not necessary, having no function | Our toenails are useless - as useless as tits on a boar. |
| ask for it | invite or deserve an attack | When you called him a thief, you asked for it. You made him mad. |
| ask for the moon | ask for a lot, ask for more than you need or want | When we negotiate our salary let's try this strategy: <i>Ask for the moon and hope for a 10% raise.</i> |
| asking price | a starting price, a price to begin negotiations | The asking price for the lot was \$29,500. It sold for \$28,000. |
| asleep at the switch | not alert, not watching, not paying attention | If you're asleep at the switch, you won't learn much in class. |
| ass | fool, dipstick , jerk | Don't be an ass, Duddy. Stay in school and get your diploma. |

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Idioms: put it -- put on airs

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| put it | say it, express it | She said, "He's my favorite cowboy." That's how she put it. |
| put it on the bill | charge a purchase, charge it , run a tab | When I buy something at the grocery store, I put it on the bill. |
| put me on | (See putting me on) | |
| put my finger on it | (See can't put my finger on it) | |
| put my foot down | say no, say you cannot do that, no way | When the kids ask if they can go to a restricted movie, I put my foot down. |
| put my neck on the line | risk my job or safety, stick my neck out | As a manager, I'll put my neck on the line for a good employee. |
| put off | upset, unhappy, miffed , put out about | He was put off when Nola refused to go out with him. |
| put off | do it later, postpone | We've put off the wedding until Chad completes his education. |
| put on a pedestal | (See on a pedestal) | |
| put on airs | pretend you are better or richer or smarter | Martha would never put on airs. She is very sincere. |

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Idioms: put on the dog -- put the heat on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| put on the dog | use your finest dishes or clothes etc.; show off | When we visit Mame, she likes to put on the dog - get dressed up. |
| put out | do, function, perform | Vern's crew really puts out. They do a lot of work in a day. |
| put out | unhappy, upset | Was he put out when you asked for more money? Was he upset? |
| put out about | bothered, annoyed, ticked off | What's Jan put out about? She seems irritated. |
| put out feelers | discover indirectly, ask subtle questions, through the grapevine | I'm not really looking for a new job, but I'm going to put out a few feelers and see what happens. |
| put out of its misery | kill because it is suffering, put down | One of our dogs had diabetes, so we put it out of its misery. |
| put stock in | believe in, have faith in | An atheist doesn't put much stock in the Bible. |
| put the finishing touches on | add the last details or trimmings | Lan decorated the cake - she put the finishing touches on it. |
| put the hammer down | go faster, floor it , pedal to the metal | If we's goin from New York to LA in two days, you got to put de hammer down. |
| put the heat on | cause someone to feel pressure or stress | The cops put the heat on them by asking a lot of questions. |

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Idioms: put the kibosh on -- put too fine a point on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| put the kibosh on | prevent, stop | The manager put the kibosh on our dental plan. He said no. |
| put the right spin on it | say it in a diplomatic way, bafflegab , doctor it , spin doctor | Don't say <i>it's lost</i> . Say <i>it's been misplaced</i> . Put the right spin on it! |
| put them up | put your hands up, stick them up | The outlaw drew his gun, saying, "Put 'em up, folks, or I'll shoot." |
| put things in perspective | see things as they are, see the actual size | A few days after the flood, I was able to put things in perspective. |
| put to bed (print media) | put in a box when it is ready to print | The editor always checks the paper before he puts it to bed. |
| put to death | killed, shot, hanged, put down | If a soldier deserted the army he was put to death. |
| put to rest | not think or worry about it any more | It's time we put to rest our quarrel over Dad's will. |
| put to shame | defeated very badly, feel ashamed of losing | Our baseball team was put to shame by the Cubans: 11-0. |
| put to the test | be tested, be challenged | Your computer skills will be put to the test in your new position. |
| put too fine a point on | be too precise, split hairs | If you want to put too fine a point on it, the color is actually russet. |

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Idioms: put the kibosh on -- put too fine a point on

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Idioms: put up or shut up -- put your foot in it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| put up or shut up | pay for or be quiet, do instead of talk | If you brag about your cooking we'll ask you to put up or shut up. |
| put up the money | pay for, finance, front me | If I start a new business, will you put up the money? |
| put up with | tolerate, endure, not get frustrated | Alice puts up with a lot of complaining from Jackie. |
| put you at ease | cause you to relax, break the ice | An embarrassing moment can sometimes put you at ease. |
| put you away | defeat you, knock you out | If the score is tied, he must win two points to put you away. |
| put you in a bad mood | cause you to feel upset or unhappy | The violence in that movie put me in a bad mood. I dislike violence. |
| put you off your game | cause you to play poorly, cause you to make errors | Wearing a helmet will put me off my game. It will bother me. |
| put you through the mill | test your endurance or will, give you a hard time , run the gauntlet | On the first day, the workers will put you through the mill. They want to know if you are strong. |
| put your best foot forward | try to do your best work, present yourself well | If you put your best foot forward, the employer will be impressed. |
| put your foot in it | say or do something that causes an argument | He really put his foot in it when he said that doctors are underpaid. |

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Idioms: put your foot in your mouth -- putting on the ritz

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| put your foot in your mouth | say something that causes pain or embarrassment | If you speak the truth, you will often put your foot in your mouth. |
| put your heart into it | try hard, do your best, give it your best shot | If you hope to succeed in life, you have to put your heart into it. |
| put your mind to it | use the power of your mind, be focused, mind over matter | You can do this calculus problem if you put your mind to it. Find a quiet place to work and apply all of your skill. |
| put your money where your mouth is | pay what you offered, put up or shut up | I accept your offer. Now put your money where your mouth is. |
| put your shoulder to the wheel | begin to work | If you want a share of the profits, put your shoulder to the wheel. |
| put yourself out | give too much, sacrifice, go to a lot of trouble (see go to any trouble) | When I visit, don't put yourself out. Don't do anything special. |
| put yourself through college | earn money to pay for your college education | You need a good summer job to put yourself through college. |
| putting me on | joking, fooling me, kidding me | You won a Nobel Prize? You're putting me on! |
| putting on the ritz | dressing fancy or classy, doing things high class | She's dining and dancing in Paris. She's putting on the ritz! |

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Idioms: put your foot in your mouth -- putting on the ritz

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Idioms: quake in his boots -- quit while you're ahead

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|--|
| quake in his boots | feel afraid, be scared, scared spitless | When the war began, it was scary. We were quaking in our boots. |
| question of | (See a question of) | |
| quick and dirty | fast or easy, instant, short cut | I know a quick and dirty way to calculate interest. It's easy. |
| quick like a bunny | very quick, without delay | Get into bed now - quick like a bunny! |
| quick on the draw | quick to speak or shoot; get the drop on | Think before you speak. Don't be so quick on the draw. |
| quick study | (See a quick study) | |
| quicker than you can say Jack Robinson | very quickly, before you can say Jack Robinson | The ghost was gone - quicker 'n you can say Jack Robinson! |
| quickie | (See a quickie) | |
| quit this place | leave, go away from here, blow this joint | I'm bored. Let's quit this place. Let's get out of here. |
| quit while you're ahead | quit before you begin to lose, don't push your luck | If he lets you have the car, don't ask for his credit card. Quit while you're ahead. |

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Idioms: rabbit -- ragtop

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------|---|---|
| rabbit | steal, take company supplies, pinch , scoff | Those sailors will rabbit anything that isn't chained to the deck! They're ruddy thieves! |
| rabbit died | (See the rabbit died) | |
| rabbit food | lettuce, carrots, cabbage etc. | Dad says salad is tasteless. He calls it rabbit food. |
| rabble-rouser | a person who makes noise and causes problems | A bunch of rabble-rousers were fighting at the football game. |
| rack my brain | think hard, try to remember | I've racked my brain, but I can't remember where I saw that man. |
| rack up | compile, increase, build up , run up | He racked up a lot of points with his first hand of cribbage. |
| rad | radical, weird, on the fringe | What a rad video! The singer's head was sitting on a table! |
| rag | clothes, threads | I need some new rags. My clothes are old and worn. |
| rag to riches | (See from rags to riches) | |
| ragtop | convertible car, ragtop | In the summer, Pam drives a ragtop - a Fiat Spyder. |

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Idioms: railroad -- raise the bar

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| railroad | push a plan, force a person | No, I didn't want to resign. I was railroaded into it! |
| rain check | using a service later, credit for a product | The store had sold all the CD's, so they gave me a rain check. |
| rain on their parade | ruin the party, spoil the fun, piss on them [B] | When Barb found out she wasn't invited to the wedding, she said, "I hope it rains on their parade." |
| raining cats and dogs | raining hard, raining heavily | You need a raincoat, Dear. It's raining cats and dogs! |
| raise a stink | complain a lot, cause an argument or a bad scene | Gunter raised a stink by accusing the chairman of stealing funds. |
| raise an eyebrow | (See raised eyebrows) | |
| raise Cain | shout and make noise, cause a disturbance | They were having a wild party upstairs - really raising Cain. |
| raise hell [B] | make noise, disturb the peace, raise Cain | The neighbors are drinking and raising hell again. |
| raise money | earn or request money for a project or a charity | The Boy Scouts are raising money to pay for a trip to China. |
| raise the bar | raise the level, set a higher standard | If we raise the bar, students will try harder but more will fail. |

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Idioms: raise your hand against -- rant and rave

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| raise your hand against | hit someone, hurt someone | If you ever raise your hand against her, I'll call the police. |
| raise your spirits | help you feel positive, help you feel happy | If you want to raise your spirits, just have a visit with Kari. |
| raised eyebrows | shock, surprise, disapproval | When Chuck and Di separated, it caused some raised eyebrows. |
| raisins | old folks, seniors | Let's invite the raisins to our concert. They're a great audience. |
| rake in the dough | receive a lot of money, earn a large salary or profit | When he played pro basketball he was raking in the dough. |
| rake you over the coals | lecture you, scold you, ask you to explain | I got raked over the coals for taking the car without asking. |
| raking it in | (See rake in the dough) | |
| ralph | vomit, puke, barf , hork , throw up | In the washroom, someone had ralphed all over the floor. |
| ram down your throat | (See shove down my throat) | |
| rant and rave | yell and cry out, preach and complain | The old man was ranting and raving about his lost goats. |

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Idioms: raise your hand against -- rant and rave

Idioms: rap your knuckles -- raw deal

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|--|
| rap your knuckles | (See get your knuckles rapped) | |
| rat fink | person who tattles, one who squeals, fink | You rat fink! Did you "blab" to Mom and Dad? Did you tell them? |
| rat on | tell the police or the authorities, squeal , tell on | Billy won't rat on me. He won't tell the teacher. |
| rat race | fast pace, busy schedule, living/working in the city | What a rat race! I want to leave the city and live in the country. |
| ratch | damage, wreck, trash | Who ratched the gears on my bike? I can't shift into low! |
| rats | oh no, darn , nuts | Rats! We have a flat tire! |
| rattle my chain | annoy me, anger me, get under my skin | That woman rattles my chain, the way she gossips about me! |
| rattle on | continue to talk, ramble, hold forth | The professor was rattling on about Canadian culture. |
| rattle sabres | threaten to attack, appear to be preparing for war | The workers are rattling their sabres, but they won't strike. |
| raw deal | (See a raw deal) | |

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Idioms: a basket case -- a bimbo

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| a basket case | a person who is very nervous, in bad shape | If Gloria has one more crisis, she'll be a basket case. |
| a bawling out | a scolding, a lecture, an earful , catch it | When I forgot to do my chores Dad gave me a bawling out. |
| a bed of roses | an easy life, a pleasant place to work or stay | Who said that retirement is a bed of roses? |
| a bee in her bonnet | upset, a bit angry, on edge | Aunt Betsy was kind of cranky, like she had a bee in her bonnet. |
| a beehive of activity | a busy place, a room full of working people | The kids are making crafts. It's a beehive of activity in there! |
| a big rig | a big truck, a semi-trailer truck | Do you have a driver's license? Have you ever driven a big rig? |
| a big shot | an important person, a boss, a big wheel | On payday he spends money like a big shot, buying drinks for all. |
| a big wheel | a person with power, a big shot | Bing has been acting like a big wheel since he got promoted. |
| a big wig | an important person, a president etc., VIP | Barry is a big wig in Gulf Oil - a vice president or something. |
| a bimbo | a foolish girl, an airhead | Don't call any girl a bimbo, please. |

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Idioms: a basket case -- a bimbo

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Idioms: ass [B] -- at bay

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|--|
| ass [B] | buttocks, backside , butt | Those jeans fit you, but they're a little tight around the ass. |
| ass into gear | moving, working, doing | After holidays, I'll get my ass into gear and paint the house. |
| ass on the line | be accountable for an error or failure, take the rap | I sent the package Overnight Air Mail, because my ass is on the line if it arrives late. |
| ass over teakettle | falling over backwards, head over heels | The cowboy knocked him off his feet - ass over teakettle! |
| at a glance | with one look, a quick look | I could see at a glance that the car was unsafe. A wheel was loose. |
| at a good clip | fast, at a high speed | When you passed us you were going at a pretty good clip. |
| at a loss for words | unable to think of a reply or something to say | When he asked why I wanted the vase, I was at a loss for words. |
| at a moment's notice | with little warning, on short notice | We may call you at a moment's notice - whenever we need help. |
| at all | in any way, in the least | "Are you sleepy?" "No. Not at all." |
| at bay | at a distance, away from you | The smoke keeps the mosquitoes at bay. They don't like smoke. |

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Idioms: ass [B] -- at bay

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Idioms: razzle-dazzle -- read me (CB radio)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| razzle-dazzle | spectacular show, dazzling display, showboat | Grandpa said the rodeo had too much razzle-dazzle. It was too fancy. |
| reach for the sky | raise your hands, put them up | The cowboy drew his gun and said, "Reach for the sky, mister!" |
| reach me | phone me, contact me | You can reach me by leaving a message at my brother's place. |
| reach me | cause me to feel your message | The minister said he was trying to reach the kids through a film. |
| reach out | offer to help, let people know that you care | Magdalena reaches out to the children in violent families. |
| read along | read with the leader, read together | The instructor asked the class to read along in their text books. |
| read between the lines | see what is not written, read the implied message, find the hidden meaning | If we read between the lines, the memo says the company is going to be sold. |
| read into | add your own meaning, see what you are hoping to see | Teri reads love into every letter you write to her. |
| read it over | read it, go over it | Read it over and tell me what you think it says. |
| read me (CB radio) | hear my voice, hear my message | "Do you read me?" she asked. "Yes. Loud and clear," he replied. |

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Idioms: read my lips -- rear end

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| read my lips | my lips are saying what you are hearing, believe it | Edie said, "Read my lips, people. We have no more money." |
| read them and weep | check your cards and cry about your poor hand | After dealing the cards, Walt said, "Read 'em and weep, boys." |
| read up on | read about, study, look up | I'm going to the library to read up on Louis Riel. |
| read you | see what you're thinking or feeling | You have an expressive face. Anybody can read you. |
| real McCoy | (See the real McCoy) | |
| realize your potential | be the best you can, come into your own | If you work for a good company, you can realize your potential. |
| really deaf | not willing to listen, not wanting to hear about | When you talk about smoking, he's really deaf. |
| ream out | scold, give you hell , tie into | He reamed me out for driving too fast. He said I could have caused an accident. |
| reap what you sow | (See you reap whatsoever you sow) | |
| rear end | buttocks, posterior, backside , butt | "Where did she pinch you?" "On my rear end - my bum." |

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Idioms: read my lips -- rear end

Idioms: rearend -- regular guy

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|--|--|
| rearend | bump a car in the back, run into the rear of a car | "Your back bumper is dented." "Ya, some guy rearended me." |
| red carpet | (See roll out the red carpet) | |
| red-faced | embarrassed, ashamed when something private is made public | Judy was red-faced after you kissed her in class. She was embarrassed. |
| red herring | a false issue, make a mountain... | She said, "Fluoride is a red herring. It's not important." |
| red-letter day | (See a red-letter day) | |
| red tape | government forms and procedures | An immigrant faces a lot of red tape - many interviews, forms. |
| redneck | (See a redneck) | |
| reduce to tears | ask hurtful questions until someone cries | The lawyer's hurtful questions soon reduced Karla to tears. |
| reefer | marijuana cigarette, pot | After smoking two reefers, he laughed at anything they said. |
| regular guy | (See a regular guy) | |

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Idioms: reject out of hand -- ride herd

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| reject out of hand | reject without thinking, throw away quickly | If the apples aren't from B.C. he rejects them out of hand. |
| relate to that | know about that, have experienced that | He said he was afraid to speak in public. I can relate to that. |
| rented lips | lips that mispronounce, lips that say strange words | Did I say <i>ossifer</i> ? I meant <i>officer</i> ! Excuse my rented lips! |
| repay in kind | give the same as you get, help one who helped you | If you help a neighbor, he may repay in kind. |
| rest assured | be sure, be certain, count on | If Johnny said he would vote for Kim, you can rest assured he will. |
| rest his soul (God rest his soul) | may his soul rest in peace; I hope his soul is peaceful | I remember when Jock Reynolds (rest his soul) saved Pete's life. |
| rest my case | have no more arguments, have completed my work | After speaking for abortion for an hour, he said, "I rest my case." |
| rest on your laurels | depend only on past success to help you, you're only as good... | If you win an award, you can rest on your laurels, or you can set new goals. |
| rhyme or reason | (See no rhyme or reason) | |
| ride herd | try to control a group; supervise children | When my wife goes shopping, I have to ride herd on the kids. |

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Idioms: reject out of hand -- ride herd

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Idioms: ride his coattails -- right on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|--|
| ride his coattails | depend on his success, use his success | My dad was a great doctor, but I don't want to ride his coattails. |
| ride me | continue to remind me of a duty or habit | You can stop riding me about doing my homework. It's done. |
| ride the clutch | drive a car with your foot on the clutch pedal | If you ride the clutch, we will soon have to replace it. |
| ride the wave | use luck or success to achieve more success | Enjoy your success. Ride the wave to a better life. |
| riding high | feeling great, on cloud nine | Jane is riding high after getting an A in math. |
| right as rain | as welcome as rain, naturally good | We always enjoyed Uncle Mel's visits. They were right as rain. |
| right away | now, immediately, on the double , pronto | If you leave right away, you can get to school on time. |
| right before my eyes | in front of me, in plain view | There, right before my eyes, was the Eiffel Tower! I had finally arrived in Paris. |
| right off the bat | at the start, the very first thing | Right off the bat she says, "Are you married?" |
| right on | that's good, great, okay | When I told him he passed the test he said, "Right on, man!" |

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Idioms: ride his coattails -- right on

Idioms: right on the money -- rip-snorting mad

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|--|
| right on the money | (See on the money) | |
| right, left and center | (See left, right and center) | |
| rigmarole | (See what a rigmarole) | |
| rile up | become afraid, upset, worked up | The horses get all riled up when they smell smoke. |
| ring a bell | remind you, cause you to remember | Does the name Kurelek ring a bell? Have you heard of him? |
| ring leader | leader of a gang, leader of some criminals | The ring leader, Tony Amamo, helped the prisoners escape. |
| ring me | phone me, call me, give me a ring | Ring me when you get home from work. Tell me about your day. |
| ring off the hook | receive many phone calls | We put an ad in the paper. Now the phone's ringing off the hook! |
| rip-off | (See a rip-off) | |
| rip-snorting mad | very angry, violent | The bull got rip-snorting mad when he missed the toreador. |

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Idioms: ripped off -- rob the cradle

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| ripped off | cheated, taken | Dar paid too much for the watch. He got ripped off. |
| rise and shine | wake up and be happy, get out of bed smiling | "Rise and shine," he called to us each morning - at 6 a.m.! |
| rise to the occasion | be able to do what is needed at the time | When we need a speaker, Ed rises to the occasion. He speaks well. |
| risky business | a risky plan, a gamble | Being a peacemaker is risky business. You could get shot! |
| ritzy | very nice, luxurious, putting on the ritz , snazzy | Curt has a ritzy apartment in Berlin. It's a neat "pad"! |
| road apple | a frozen horseturd used as a puck for road hockey | Let's play hockey. You get the sticks and I'll find a road apple. |
| road to hell is paved... | (See the road to hell is paved) | "with good intentions") |
| Roaring Twenties | the decade following World War I (1920-1929) | In the Roaring Twenties, ladies had short hair with kiss curls. |
| rob Peter to pay Paul | move money from one part of a budget to another | If we use grocery money to buy gas, we rob Peter to pay Paul. |
| rob the cradle | court a person who is too young, date a minor | You're seeing Lisa? She's only 17! That's robbing the cradle! |

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Idioms: ripped off -- rob the cradle

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Idioms: Rock -- roll around

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Rock | (See The Rock) | |
| rock | shock, cause a personal change, shake him | <i>Killing Fields</i> is a powerful movie. It will rock you. |
| rock | is great, is as good as great rock music, is cool | This webcam really rocks. I can send movies to all my friends! |
| rock bottom | (See hit rock bottom) | |
| rock the boat | disturb or upset things, don't make waves | If you rock the boat, you may be asked to leave the project. |
| rocks in your head | (See got rocks in your head) | |
| rocks socks | so good it will blow your socks off, cool beans Coined by William Burns III | "You've just won a million dollars." "Holy crap! That rocks socks!" |
| rocky road | difficult path, rough going | In life, he traveled the rocky road. He always chose the difficult way. |
| rodchester | single armrest between two airplane seats | The woman beside me rested her arm on the rodchester. |
| roll around | future becomes present, future date arrives, time passes | By the time your birthday rolls around, I'll have no money to buy you a present. |

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Idioms: Rock -- roll around

Idioms: roll in the hay -- root for

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| roll in the hay | (See a roll in the hay) | |
| roll off the tongue | natural to say, easy to pronounce | Podnzilowicz is a name that doesn't roll off the tongue. |
| roll out the red carpet | welcome in a special way, show lots of hospitality | We roll out the red carpet when the Queen comes to Calgary. |
| roll over and play dead | not try, not compete hard, give up | The coach said, "Don't expect the Jets to roll over and play dead." |
| roll their eyes | eyes express boredom or disapproval | When he told the joke again, the students began rolling their eyes. |
| roll with the punches | be a flexible competitor, pick yourself up | In politics you learn to roll with the punches and keep going. |
| rolling in it | rich, wealthy, filthy rich , loaded | "Is Erica rich?" "My dear, Erica is rolling in it." |
| rolling in the aisles | laughing so hard they fall out of their chairs | Robin Williams made us laugh. We were rolling in the aisles. |
| rolling stone | (See a rolling stone gathers no moss) | |
| root for | cheer for, pull for | Who are you rooting for - the Leafs or les Canadiens? |

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Idioms: roll in the hay -- root for

Idioms: root of the problem -- round up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| root of the problem | (See the root of the problem) | |
| rope into | be asked to help, talk into helping | We got roped into delivering posters because we have a car. |
| rot gut | homemade liquor, hooch , moonshine | If you drink that rot gut, you'll get sick. It tastes awful! |
| rotten to the core | all bad, corrupt | Hitler's regime was rotten to the core - corrupt. |
| rotter | one who cheats or lies, dirty rat | Hank, you rotter! You sold me a car that won't start. |
| rough and ready | strong and willing, a game one | For the oil-well crews, we need people who are rough and ready. |
| rough going | difficult work, tough sledding | It was rough going the first year. We had financial problems. |
| rough up | beat a little bit, push and slap | The leader roughed me up a bit because I lied to him. |
| round the clock | (See around the clock) | |
| round up | bring together, chase into a herd | Will you round up the kids and tell them to come inside? |

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Idioms: at death's door -- at liberty

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|---|
| at death's door | dying, near death, brush with death | Poor Sarah! She has lung cancer and I fear she's at death's door. |
| at ease | stand at ease, do not stand at attention, relax | The lieutenant said, "At ease, soldier. We're not on duty." |
| at face value | the value shown by the surface, what you see ... | At face value, this car appears to be in good condition. |
| at fault | caused the problem, to blame | The judge will decide who's at fault - who caused the crash. |
| at first glance | when you first see it, when you notice it | At first glance, it looked like a cat - a large cat. |
| at first light | just before the sun rises, at the crack of dawn | At first light, the ducks would fly to the grainfields to feed. |
| at heart | with feeling for you, with you in mind | Believe me, she has your needs at heart. She cares about you. |
| at it again | doing it again, back at it | That dog is at it again - barking in the middle of the night. |
| at least | not very much, very little to ask | At least he could have phoned. He could have done that. |
| at liberty | free to speak or act, allowed to speak | Are you at liberty to tell us who won? Can you tell us? |

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Idioms: at death's door -- at liberty

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Idioms: row of beans -- rube

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| row of beans | (See a hill of beans) | |
| royal pain | (see a royal pain) | |
| royal treatment | special hospitality, roll out the red carpet | We received royal treatment when we visited our relatives in Sweden. |
| rub elbows | work beside, associate with | Fran and I used to rub elbows when we worked at the fish plant. |
| rub salt in the wound | cause it to be worse, aggravate, add insult to injury | If you criticize a student's work in front of the class, you are rubbing salt in the wound. |
| rub shoulders with | work with, associate with | Art dealers rub shoulders with people from all the professions. |
| rub the wrong way | bother, irritate, bug | That waiter rubs me the wrong way. He's too impatient. |
| rubber match | final game, showdown | Each team has won a game. They play the rubber match today. |
| rubberneck | listen to a conversation on a party (co-op) phone line | Grandma used to rubberneck so she could hear the local news. |
| rube | rural man, local yokel | Axel Nelson is a rube - a farmer. He doesn't know about city life. |

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Idioms: row of beans -- rube

Idioms: ruddy -- run across

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|--|
| ruddy | awful, cotton-picking , darn , friggin | I can't find the ruddy light switch! Ouch! Here it is. Now we can see. |
| ruffle your feathers | annoy you, bother you, get your dander up | Don't let that insult ruffle your feathers. Don't let it upset you. |
| rug up | dress warmly, bundle up | Rug up, my dear. It's winter in Winnipeg! |
| rule of thumb | general rule, guideline | The rule of thumb for a resume is <i>Don't exceed two pages</i> . |
| rule out | not allow, not permit, put the kibosh on | "How about the right to strike?" "That's been ruled out. They're passing a law against strikes." |
| rumor has it | people say that, through the grapevine | Rumor has it you're moving to Tuktoyaktuk. Is that true? |
| run a red light | go through an intersection when the light is red | The driver of the stolen car ran a red light and hit a truck. |
| run a tab | charge your purchases, put it on the bill | You can run a tab for groceries at my store if you pay every month. |
| run a tub | turn on the tap and fill the bathtub with water | When you're finished your bath, will you run a tub for me? |
| run across | discover, happen to see, run into | While I was in Vancouver, I ran across an old friend of yours. |

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Idioms: ruddy -- run across

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Idioms: run amuck -- run for your money

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| run amuck | not go smoothly, go haywire | We ran amuck when Gus joined the band. He can't play the tuba! |
| run an errand | deliver something, go and get something | Paul, please run an errand for me. Take this bread to Aunt Matty. |
| run circles around you | run faster than you, win easily | Billy can run circles around any boy in school. He's very fast. |
| run down | go to, walk to | Lu, please run down to the store and get an onion. |
| run down | check, look over , run through | Run down the list before we go to the store. Did I miss anything? |
| run down | criticize, put down | Fred doesn't run down his staff. He never says negative things. |
| run down | tired, in poor condition, worn out | His car was a run-down Buick. It belonged in the junk yard. |
| run for office | be a candidate in an election | I do not plan to run for office this year. I'm leaving politics. |
| run for the hills | run away to a safe place, run and hide | A tiger has escaped from the zoo! Run for the hills! |
| run for your money | (See a run for your money) | |

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Idioms: run amuck -- run for your money

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Idioms: run-in -- run out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| run-in | argument, fight | Doug had a run-in with the boss yesterday. They had an argument. |
| run interference | protect from attack, come between the attacker and the victim | We've been running interference for the President all week - people calling and demanding to speak with him about lying "under oath". |
| run into | bump, crash into | My car slid on the ice and I ran into a mail box - knocked it down. |
| run into | meet by chance, bump into , run across | Did you run into anyone you know? See any old friends? |
| run it by me again | tell me again, come again | I didn't get the postal code. Would you run that by me again. |
| run its course | go until it stops, take its course | We don't have a cure for a cold. It will just have to run its course. |
| run of the mill | average, common, off the shelf | It was a run-of-the-mill novel, the story of a man who returns to the place he was born. |
| run off | make copies at a photocopier | Please run off extra copies of her resume before the job interview. |
| run off at the mouth | talk a lot, talk when you should be quiet | Why do you run off at the mouth and disturb this class? |
| run out | use all, not have enough, run short | Dad, we've run out of coffee. Will you make some more? |

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Idioms: run out of patience -- run through

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| run out of patience | (See lose patience) | |
| run out of town | chase out of town, the bum's rush | If you don't pay property taxes they'll run you out of town. |
| run rampant | spread quickly, go out of control | A disease can run rampant in a ghetto. It's difficult to control. |
| run roughshod | force his way, step on people | The foreman is mean. He'll try to run roughshod over you. |
| run short | have less than you need, run out | First we ran out of coffee. Then we ran short of wine. |
| run the gamut | look at what is available, check the range of choices | We ran the whole gamut of colors but she didn't like any of them. |
| run the gauntlet | run past the enemy, go through a dangerous area | After three job interviews, I felt like I'd run the gauntlet. |
| run the risk | be at risk, be unable to control the risk or danger | When you invest in stocks, you run the risk of losing money. |
| run the show | manage the project, call the shots | Talk to Luc if you want to change anything. He's running the show. |
| run through | practise, read, go through | Let's run through the answers again. I want to know them well. |

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Idioms: run up -- rust out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| run up | drive to, go to, travel to | I have to run up to Edmonton tomorrow. Do you want to come? |
| run up | increase, add to a total, charge it | Ming lets us run up a bill if we pay it once a month. |
| run you out | force you to leave, the bum's rush | If they find drugs in your room they'll run you out of the hotel. |
| run you ragged | make you feel tired, wear you out | Grade 8 students use up all your energy. They run you ragged. |
| runaround | (See the runaround) | |
| running water | tap water, water from a pressure system | At the cabin in the woods we don't have running water. |
| runt of the litter | (See the runt of the litter) | |
| rush | (See what a rush) | |
| rush hour | the hour of heavy traffic, bumper to bumper | During rush hour, many drivers become impatient and angry. |
| rust out | become rusty, be ruined by rust | Nobody wants that car because it's all rusted out. |

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Idioms: rustbucket -- rye

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------|--|--|
| rustbucket | a car that is very rusty, beater | Can you fix my rustbucket? Can you repair the rusty fenders? |
| rye | Canadian whisky, whisky made from rye | "What's your favorite drink?" "Rye and Coke." |

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Idioms: sabre rattling -- salt of the earth

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| sabre rattling | (See rattle sabres) | |
| sack of hammers | (See a sack of hammers) | |
| sack out | sleep, catch some z's , crash | If you bring your sleeping bag, you can sack out on the floor. |
| sacred cow | protected part, the part that must not be changed | If our company is going to change, <i>everything</i> should be evaluated - no sacred cows. |
| sacred moose | (a sacred cow in Canada) | |
| sad sack | (See a sad sack) | |
| saddle up | put a saddle on a horse, place a saddle on a horse | Let's saddle up and ride our ponies to the river. |
| saddled with | burdened with, responsible for | She doesn't want to be saddled with a bus load of teen-age boys. |
| salt away | save a little money each month, save tiny amounts | By the time Jake died, he had salted away about \$50,000. |
| salt of the earth | (See the salt of the earth) | |

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Idioms: salty -- save your bacon

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| salty | of the sea, accustomed to the ocean, like a sailor | Peter is a salty old bugger. The ocean is "in his blood". |
| same here | I feel the same way, I have the same feeling | "I like reading stories." "Same here." |
| same to you | I wish the same to you, ditto | "I hope you have ugly children!" "Same to you!" |
| Saskatchewan pheasant | magpie, black and white bird | Two Saskatchewan pheasants flew out of the bush. |
| Sasquatch | a large ape-man living in the forests of Western Canada; Bigfoot | A man who was hunting moose in Northern Saskatchewan says that Sasquatch visited him. They sat around the campfire drinking coffee. |
| sassy | rude, impolite, cheeky , lippy | "I won't go to church!" he said. "Don't be sassy!" Mama said. |
| save a bundle | save a lot of money, save big time | If you buy a new car through a broker, you can save a bundle. |
| save face | prevent embarrassment, prevent more shame | To save face, the accused member should resign. It's embarrassing. |
| save for a rainy day | save money for a time when you really need it | Ed and Vi spend little money. They're saving for a rainy day. |
| save your bacon | save you from failure or disaster, save your skin | If the boat sinks, a life raft may save your bacon. |

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Idioms: save your skin/neck -- say what's on your mind

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| save your skin/neck | save you from risk, dismissal or death | The dog saved your neck. His barking helped us find you. |
| saw logs | sleep, fall asleep , sleep like a log , sound asleep | When we got home, you were sawing logs. You were asleep. |
| saw-off | tie game, even score | The game ended in a saw-off: Leafs 3, Flames 3. |
| saw off a chunk [B] | have sex, have intercourse | I could hear the couple upstairs. They were sawing off a chunk. |
| saw sawdust | review a decision or failure too many times | "Don't saw sawdust," said the old man. "Don't live in the past." |
| say jump...how high | (an idiom to show how one person controls another) | Fritz is afraid of Olga. When she says <i>jump</i> , he says <i>how high</i> ? |
| say my piece | say what I think, say my two cents' worth | When everyone else had spoken, I said my piece. |
| say the word | say yes or no, tell us when you want to begin | We're waiting for you. Just say the word and we'll start working. |
| say what | what did you say? pardon me ? | Say what? Did you insult my pet pig? |
| say what's on your mind | say what you are thinking, speak your mind | Now, Mother, say what's on your mind. Give us your opinion. |

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Idioms: save your skin/neck -- say what's on your mind

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Idioms: at loggerheads -- at rest

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| at loggerheads | not agreeing, opposed to each other | They're at loggerheads over who owns the farm. They don't agree. |
| at loose ends | disorganized, unable to concentrate | I was at loose ends when the kids were fighting. I couldn't think. |
| at my wits' end | very tired and nervous, at the end of my rope | After a wedding and a funeral she was at her wits' end. |
| at odds | not in agreement, opposed, at loggerheads | Your testimony in court is at odds with the statement you gave to the police. Why are they different? |
| at one fell swoop | (See in one fell swoop) | |
| at once | at the same time, simultaneously | You can't do two things at once. You can eat or talk, but not both. |
| at once | now, immediately | Your mother said you should come in at once - immediately. |
| at one time | in the past, during a time past, once upon a time | At one time, the sun didn't seem so hot. We didn't need sunscreen when we worked or played in the sun. |
| at peace | feeling peaceful, without worry | After talking about his problem he was at peace with himself. |
| at rest | stopped, not moving | Tie these ropes while the boat is at rest - before it moves. |

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Idioms: at loggerheads -- at rest

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Idioms: say your piece -- scared to death

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| say your piece | state your opinion, tell us what you think | OK, Vic, say your piece. Then we can vote on this offer. |
| scads | lots, many, oodles | "Are there any cookies left?" "Yes, scads of them." |
| scandal is brewing | an evil story is being told, there are rumors of a scandal | A scandal is brewing in the Pacific Ocean. A whale and a shark are living together without a marriage license! |
| scarce as hen's teeth | not many of them, few or none | Rural doctors are scarce as hen's teeth. Doctors like the city life. |
| scare the life out of me | frighten me a lot, scare me badly, scared out of my wits | My son jumped out of the closet and shouted <i>boo!</i> He nearly scared the life out of me. |
| scared out of my wits | so scared I couldn't think, scared spitless | When I heard a low moan coming from the bathroom I was scared out of my wits. |
| scared shitless [B] | very frightened, scared, petrified , scared spitless | When I woke up and saw a figure standing beside my bed, I was scared shitless. |
| scared spitless | very frightened, scared stiff | Believe me. I was scared spitless when the wolves started to howl. |
| scared stiff | very frightened, frightened to death , petrified | "Are you afraid of heights?" "Yes. I'm scared stiff of anything higher than a bicycle seat." |
| scared to death | very scared, very anxious, scared stiff | I was scared to death that your plane had crashed. I was worried. |

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Idioms: scaredy cat -- scout's honor

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| scaredy cat | a person who is afraid, a coward, fraidy cat | The girls will say <i>scaredy cat</i> if I don't go in the water. |
| schmooze | (See shmooze) | |
| school of hard knocks | (See the school of hard knocks) | |
| school's out | school is finished for the day or for the year | When the bell rings at 3:30, school's out! Yea! |
| scoff | steal, pinch | People who scoff books from the library are thieves. |
| scoop | news report, story | What's the scoop on the murder? Do you know who did it? |
| scoop them | get news before they do, print the story first | The reporter said, "We scooped them all on the Harding story." |
| score to settle | (See a score to settle) | |
| scot-free | free of work or discipline, not asked to pay, get off | Four members of the gang were convicted, but two went scot-free. |
| scout's honor | what I say is the truth; the gospel truth | We didn't take your golf ball - scout's honor. |

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Idioms: scrape by -- screw [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| scrape by | have just enough to live, get by | We can scrape by if we sell the car and the TV. |
| scrape me off the ceiling | help me become normal or recover from shock | If I win a million dollars, you'll have to scrape me off the ceiling. |
| scrape the bottom of the barrel | use the last ones or the worst ones, seconds | He's a bad referee. We scraped the bottom of the barrel to find him. |
| scratch | money, cash, bread , moola | If we sell these bottles, we'll have enough scratch to buy cigarettes. |
| scratch | remove from the list, cancel | I saw the list of players on the team. I've been scratched. |
| scratch the surface | barely begin, uncover only a few facts | His first lecture on Stravinsky only scratched the surface. He told us the basic facts about the composer. |
| scratch your head | feel confused, wonder who or why | They're still scratching their heads about who assassinated Kennedy. |
| screech | homemade liquor, hooch , moonshine | We can't afford a bottle of gin, so I bought a jug of screech. |
| screw | cheat, shaft , get an unfair advantage (also see get screwed) | Twice I tried to strike a deal with him and twice he screwed me. |
| screw [B] | have sex with, make love | When he heard the bed squeaking he knew they were screwing. |

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Idioms: screw loose -- second nature

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------|--|---|
| screw loose | (See a screw loose) | |
| screw up | perform poorly, ruin it, blow it | I hope I don't screw up when I take my driver's test. |
| screw-up | a careless mistake, a bungled job | Those screw-ups were his fault. He forgot to order materials. |
| screw you [B] | the worst to you, up yours [B] | After I defeated him, he said, "Screw you." He hates to lose. |
| scrut | oh no, darn , nuts , rats | Scrut! My bike has a flat tire! |
| scum/scumbag | unpleasant person, dirty rat , slimebucket | "Scum!" he shouted at the man who had attacked his daughter. |
| search me | I do not have the answer, I do not know | "Who took my Coke?" "Search me. I don't know." |
| second fiddle | (See play second fiddle) | |
| second guess | guess what people think or what they will do | Don't try to second guess people. Ask them what you need to know. |
| second nature | natural ability or interest, talent | Skating is second nature to Paul. He's got natural skating ability. |

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Idioms: second wind -- see it through

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| second wind | a feeling that your energy is returning as you run | In a 10 K race, I usually get my second wind after 15 minutes. |
| seconds | second-rate products, products with flaws | For work, I buy seconds - shirts and pants with minor flaws. |
| seconds | second helpings of food, more food on your plate | Mom, can we have seconds? This is great apple pudding! |
| see | date , go out with , hang out with | Derek is seeing Angie. Aren't they a nice couple? |
| see a man about a dog | go to the bathroom or washroom | Excuse me. I have to see a man about a dog. |
| see eye to eye | agree, have similar views or opinions, on the same wavelength | Bob and Sue don't see eye to eye on religion. He's an atheist and she's a Christian. |
| see fit | decide it is right, decide it is good | I hope you will see fit to approve their request for assistance. |
| see hide nor hair | not see a person because he has gone | You won't see hide nor hair of him after he borrows money. |
| see it coming | predict it will happen, sense it will happen | I should have seen it coming. Now I know they were planning to dismiss me long before it happened. |
| see it through | work until you finish, follow through | If you renovate the kitchen, please see it through. Finish it. |

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Idioms: second wind -- see it through

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Idioms: see me for dust -- see your way

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| see me for dust | not see me because I leave so fast, tail lights | If a sumo wrestler was chasing me, you wouldn't see me for dust. |
| see red | become angry, burn up | When she interrupts me, I see red. I get really angry. |
| see the light | understand, become aware | Now I see the light. I understand. You multiply first, then divide. |
| see the light of day | be exposed, be revealed | The treasure was buried, never again to see the light of day. |
| see through | see the real reason, see your motive | Mom saw through me. She knew I wanted the money for cigarettes. |
| see to it/see to that | be certain that it is done, be responsible for doing it | The doors should be open at 7. Ken, will you see to that? |
| see you stuck | (See won't see you stuck) | |
| see you through | allow you to survive, help you pay the bills | Here's \$100. Will that see you through till the end of the month? |
| see you/see your | match your bet, bet as much as you did | I'll see your \$50 and raise you \$100. That's my bet. |
| see your way | be able to, afford to | Can you see your way to give \$50 to the Food Bank? |

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Idioms: see me for dust -- see your way

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Idioms: seeing things -- sell out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| seeing things | imagine that you see things, hallucinate | If John said there's a ghost in the house, he must be seeing things. |
| seek revenge | try to hurt a person who hurt you, get back at | If a dog bites you, there are many ways to seek revenge. |
| seen better days | not in good condition, worn out | This jacket has seen better days. Look how the sleeves are worn. |
| seen dead in | (See wouldn't be caught dead) | |
| seize the opportunity | act now to gain most, take advantage of | He seized the opportunity to invest in gold. He didn't wait. |
| self-made man | one who succeeds by his own efforts | Ming built his business by himself. He's a self-made man. |
| self-starter | a person who will begin to work without a supervisor; a go-getter | We're looking for self starters - people who can begin a job and work by themselves. |
| sell like hotcakes | sell many, sell fast | Hockey cards sell like hotcakes. The kids collect them. |
| sell out | sell a business, sell all assets | Grandpa was 60 years old when he sold out and moved to Victoria. |
| sell out | sell information or support | The Bible tells us that Judas sold out to the bad guys. |

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Idioms: sell the farm -- sentence to death

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| sell the farm | over-react, sell everything to invest in a new venture | They've discovered diamonds in B.C., but don't sell the farm, eh. |
| sell yourself short | not mention some of your skills or qualifications | If the employer asks about your awards, don't sell yourself short. |
| seller's market | sellers are receiving high prices, a good time to sell, firm market | Real estate prices are high. It's a seller's market. |
| selling point | best feature, nicest part | The Peugeot's strongest selling point is comfort. |
| send a bouquet | compliment a person, announce a compliment | I would like send a bouquet to the volunteers at the Food Bank. |
| send him flying | trip him, cause him to fall, ass over teakettle | His motorcycle hit a rock and sent him flying into the ditch. |
| send him up | send him to prison, find evidence to convict him | The criminal threatened to kill the policeman who sent him up. |
| send-up | (See a send-up) | |
| sense of humor | ability to see a joke; knowing what is funny | He has a broad sense of humor. He laughs at himself and others. |
| sentence to death | say that a person will be killed because he is guilty | After the jury said he was guilty, the judge sentenced him to death. |

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Idioms: sell the farm -- sentence to death

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Idioms: serious coin -- set in

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| serious coin | a lot of money, big bucks | Membership in the Pines Golf Club will cost you serious coin. |
| serve notice | state your plans, say what you will do, spread the word | If you enter the novel contest, you are serving notice that you are a serious writer. |
| serve the purpose | do the job, accomplish the task | If you don't have an organ, a piano will serve the purpose. |
| serve them right | give them what they deserve | If they cheat on a test, it serves them right if they get an <i>F</i> . |
| set a spell | sit down for awhile, visit a spell | Hannah had to set a spell after doing the chores. She rested. |
| set about | begin, start | After we found the problem with the car, we set about fixing it. |
| set fire | start a fire, light a fire | A child playing with a cigarette lighter set fire to the curtains. |
| set foot | walk, step, come for a visit | He hasn't set foot in this house since his mother died. |
| set for life | have enough money to last a lifetime | He inherited a lot of money. He's set for life. |
| set in | begin, start | He had a cold. Then pneumonia set in, and it nearly killed him. |

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Idioms: serious coin -- set in

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Idioms: set in her ways -- set-up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| set in her ways | having old habits, not able to change easily | After living alone for fifty years, Florence was set in her ways. |
| set of wheels | vehicle, car, truck, wheels | The Ford needs a lot of repairs. I need a new set of wheels. |
| set off | start, trigger | Who set off the fire alarm? Who pushed the button? |
| set out | place where you can see it, put where it can be used | Tomorrow we go to the lake, so set out your swim suit and towel. |
| set out for | leave, embark | Then we set out for Pluto, where it's much colder than the arctic. |
| set out to | plan to, hope to | "What did you set out to do?" "I wanted to change the world." |
| set the table | set plates and cutlery on the table | If you will set the table, I won't ask you to wash the dishes. |
| set the world on fire | do great things, achieve fame and wealth | I don't want to set the world on fire. I just want a career. |
| set-to | argument, fight | After playing cards, the brothers had a set-to. They argued. |
| set-up | plan, scheme | Here's the set-up: You buy the tickets; I'll collect the money. |

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Idioms: set in her ways -- set-up

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Idioms: at sixes and sevens -- at the wheel

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| at sixes and sevens | not in agreement, confused, in a state of confusion, arguing, at loggerheads | Parents and teachers are at sixes and sevens over sex education. |
| at stake | what you could lose or gain | If you're involved in a crime, your career may be at stake. |
| at the crack of dawn | at the first sign of light, at first light | At the crack of dawn he would rise, wash and go for a walk. |
| at the drop of a hat | without hesitation, quickly | He'll argue at the drop of a hat. He likes to argue. |
| at the end of my rope/ at the end of my tether | losing control of myself, losing patience (see lose patience) | Babysitting five kids, I was at the end of my rope. |
| at the hands of | while competing against, when fighting | It was at the hands of his former student that he was defeated. |
| at the ripe old age | at a very old age; being unusually old | He could still play checkers at the ripe old age of ninety-eight. |
| at the top of her game | at her best, playing as well as she can | If Val's at the top of her game she can defeat Olga. |
| at the top of his voice | as loud as he can, shouting loudly | Ben called for help at the top of his voice. "Help!" he shouted. |
| at the wheel | driving a car, steering a car or truck | Who was at the wheel when the car went off the road? |

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Idioms: set up shop -- settle down

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| set up shop | organize a place to do business, buy a store | You could set up shop and sell this pizza. It's delicious! |
| set you back | pay, pay for, cost you | That looks like a fine camera. How much did it set you back? |
| set you straight | give you the facts, tell you how it is | If you want to know who's got the gold, Pat will set you straight. |
| set you up | cause you to appear guilty, frame you | We know you didn't steal your friend's car. He set you up. |
| set your mind at ease | help you to stop worrying, cause you to relax | Here is some news to set your mind at ease: the kids are safe. |
| set your price | choose a price for an item you want to sell | If you want to sell it quickly, set your price lower than the others. |
| set your sights | choose a goal, decide what you want to get | If you set your sights on being a doctor, I will help you. |
| set your teeth on edge | irritate, irk, bug | Some songs set my teeth on edge - really bother me. |
| settle down | be calm, relax, calm down | Let's wait until the baby settles down. Then we can eat. |
| settle down | live in one place, town or city, put down roots | We moved from place to place before we settled down in Guelph. |

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Idioms: set up shop -- settle down

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Idioms: settle in -- shagging wagon

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| settle in | become comfortable in a new house or apartment | We'd like to get settled in before we have visitors. |
| settle it | decide what is fair, work for an agreement | If the dispute is about property lines, a survey will settle it. |
| seven come eleven | 7 followed by 11 are lucky numbers | "Seven come eleven," he whispered as he threw the dice. |
| shabby | worn, torn, ragged, lousy , mousy | I love these shabby old slippers. They're ragged but comfortable. |
| shack up [B] | live together before you get married, live common-law | "Tarzan and Jane are shacked up." "Oh, I hope they're happy." |
| shades | sunglasses, tinted glasses | Erica looks cool in her shades. She looks like a model. |
| shades of | like, similar to | That building looks familiar - shades of our old school. |
| shady deal | unfair business deal, a rip-off | Cal is a good salesman, but he's put together some shady deals. |
| shaft | cheat, swindle, screw (see get screwed)[B] | Tom got shafted. He only got 3% commission on his sales. |
| shagging wagon | a van designed for relaxing and having sex | Tony's van has a bar and a bed. It's his shaggin' wagon. |

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Idioms: settle in -- shagging wagon

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Idioms: shake a habit -- shareware

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|--|
| shake a habit | quit a habit, kick a habit | It's difficult to shake the habits you learn as a child. |
| shake a leg | hurry, move it | Shake a leg or you'll be late for work. Hurry! |
| shake a stick at | (See more than you can shake a stick at) | |
| shake hands | be friends after a fight, agree the fight is over | They argue for hours, but they always shake hands afterward. |
| shake him | make him nervous, cause him to lose confidence | Even the divorce didn't shake him. He didn't change at all. |
| shake on it | shake hands to show you agree on a price or a deal | After they agree on a price, they shake on it. It's a deal. |
| shaky ground | (See on shaky ground) | |
| shape up | improve, reform, get it together | The coach told us to shape up - to come to practice on time. |
| shape up or ship out | improve your work or go away, if you can't cut it... | "Soldiers must obey orders," the officer said. "You will learn to shape up or ship out." |
| shareware | computer programs that people share | Shareware will help us to save money. We'll share software. |

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Idioms: sharp -- sheesh

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| sharp | intelligent, quick to learn | Geoff is a sharp kid. He's doing calculus at the age of twelve. |
| sharp | sarcastic, abrupt | Even when Anne was tired, she never gave you a sharp reply. |
| sharp | at a specific time, on the dot | The preacher began the service on time - at 11 a.m. sharp. |
| sharp as a tack | quick to understand, able to think quickly | He may be 85, but he's sharp as a tack - plays chess every day. |
| sharpen up | think carefully, use your intelligence | If I make a mistake, I don't want him telling me to sharpen up. |
| sharpen your pencils | be ready, be prepared | Let's sharpen our pencils, gang. We have to set some goals. |
| she peed | she is great, she took risks and succeeded, did good , done good , totally awesome | "Hey John, how'd Jessie's concert go?" "She peed. She peed all over the stage. She was awesome!" |
| shed a little light on | explain, enlighten, help you understand, | To shed a little light on the topic of idioms, we'll read this book. |
| shed a tear | cry, weep | He hides his emotions. When his dog died, he didn't shed a tear. |
| sheesh | this is frustrating, I am embarrassed, darn , nuts | Sheesh! I did it again! Why do I say <i>lay</i> when I mean <i>lie</i> ? |

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Idioms: shekel -- shit hot [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| shekel | dollar, coin, buck , loonie | He earns a few shekels a day by selling bottles that he finds. |
| shell out | pay money for, fork over | How much did you shell out for that calculator? Thirty dollars? |
| shellack | defeat in a game, win by many points | The Bears were shellacked by the Pirates. The score was 19-2. |
| shipshape | everything is clean and orderly, ready for inspection, tickety-boo | We're ready for the demonstration. Everything is shipshape. |
| shirty | impolite, rude, cheeky , lippy | Brad has an attitude. He gets a little shirty with his teachers. |
| shit disturber [B] | a person who tries to cause problems | Cal is a shit disturber. He tries to embarrass the boss at meetings. |
| shit-faced [B] | very drunk, plastered , polluted | He goes to the bar every day and drinks until he's shit-faced. |
| shit fire and apple butter | I am getting upset, good grief , hell's bells | You still haven't taken your shower? Shit fire and apple butter! We have to leave in 10 minutes! |
| shit hit the fan [B] | (See the shit hit the fan) | |
| shit hot [B] | very skilled, talented | I've played golf with him. He's not so shit hot. |

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Idioms: shekel -- shit hot [B]

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Idioms: shit list [B] -- shitting bricks [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| shit list [B] | (See on the shit list) | |
| shit myself [B] | so surprised or scared that I shit in my pants | When lightning struck the tree beside me, I nearly shit myself. |
| shit or get off the pot | do it or move, dog in the manger | He's holding the phone but he's not using it. I wish he'd shit or get off the pot! |
| shit or wind my watch | surprised, shocked, confused, discombobulated | When she announced that I was the father, I didn't know whether to shit or wind my watch! I don't even know the woman! |
| shit out of luck [B] | have no more, none left for you | There are no tickets left. We're shit out of luck. |
| shit through a goose | (See like shit through a goose) | |
| shitface [B] | ugly face | Tom's bulldog is a real shitface, but Tom loves him. |
| shithead [B] | stupid or foolish person, dipstick , jerk | What a shithead! He put water in the gas tank! |
| shitload | (See a shitload) | |
| shitting bricks [B] | very frightened, scared to death | When my parachute didn't open, I was shitting bricks! |

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Idioms: shitty [B] -- shoot-out (sports)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| shitty [B] | bad behavior, awful, crappy | He borrowed your car and took your girl? That's pretty shitty. |
| shmooze | visit with, be friendly, rub shoulders with | You don't have to sell wine. Just shmooze with the clients. |
| shoe-in | (See a shoo-in) | |
| shoes like boats | very large shoes, gigantic shoes | This guy had shoes like boats. I bet he could've walked on water! |
| shogun | (See a shogun) | |
| shoo-in | (See a shoo-in) | |
| shoot | tell me, say it, I am listening, fire away | "Do you have any news?" "No. Just a rumor." "Shoot. I love rumors." |
| shoot from the hip | talk without thinking, run off at the mouth , shoot your mouth off | Juan, my friend, if you tell a traffic cop to "shove it", you are shooting from the hip. |
| shoot it out | shoot at each other, shoot until one is killed | The thief decided to shoot it out with the police. |
| shoot-out (sports) | taking shots at each goal to determine the winner | Sweden won the gold medal by defeating Canada in a shoot-out. |

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Idioms: shitty [B] -- shoot-out (sports)

Idioms: shoot-out -- shooting fish in a barrel

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| shoot-out | a gunbattle, a duel | Two men died in the shoot-out: one "cop" and one robber. |
| shoot the breeze | talk, visit, chat, chew the fat | Hank and I were drinking beer and shooting the breeze. |
| shoot the shit [B] | visit, have a conversation, a chin wag | The ladies went shopping, and the men sat around shootin' the shit. |
| shoot up | inject an illegal drug, get a hit , do drugs | One of the addicts was in the bathroom shooting up. |
| shoot up | shoot guns to celebrate and scare people | The cowboys used to get drunk and shoot up the town. |
| shoot-up | shoot guns in the air without aiming | Do you remember the shoot-ups in the old western movies? |
| shoot your mouth off | talk without thinking, blab , squeal | Moe won't shoot his mouth off. He won't tell anybody. |
| shoot your wad | spend all your money, use all you have | If you shoot your wad today, what will you spend tomorrow? |
| shoot yourself in the foot | ruin your chances, cut off your nose... , your own worst enemy | If you want the job, don't be late for the interview. Don't shoot yourself in the foot. |
| shooting fish in a barrel | a task that is too easy, a game without challenge | We won 18-2. It was like shooting fish in a barrel. |

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Idioms: shooting match -- short with me

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|--|
| shooting match | (See the whole shooting match) | |
| shop talk | (See inside joke) | |
| shop-floor struggle | a battle for control in the workplace, a fight between workers and managers | This is a shop-floor struggle about quality control. The workers want the right to choose the tools they use in the plant. |
| shoplifting | stealing products from a store while you shop | He's charged with shoplifting. He stole some cigarettes. |
| short cut | a shorter path, a quicker method, quick and dirty | To become an actor, you learn the skills and work very hard. There are no short cuts. |
| short end of the stick | (See the short end of the stick) | |
| short one | (See a short one) | |
| short strokes | (See down to the short strokes) | |
| short temper | quick to become angry, hot tempered | Dr. Jones has a short temper. He gets mad very quickly. |
| short with me | cross, abrupt, curt, cut me off | Mrs. Gore was short with me. I wonder if she's angry. |

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Idioms: shortchange -- shove down my throat

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| shortchange | not return enough money to the purchaser, a rip-off | I gave the clerk \$10 for a book costing \$6.95 and got \$2.05 back. Was I shortchanged? |
| shortfall | loss, deficit | Shoplifting is one of the reasons for the shortfall - for the deficit. |
| shot | worn, broken, ruined, had it | When they returned my bike, the gears were shot - worn out. |
| shot in the arm | (See a shot in the arm) | |
| shot in the dark | (See a shot in the dark) | |
| should be so lucky | one would be lucky if that happened, that would be very lucky | Your goal is to find your bliss? You should be so lucky! |
| shoulder the blame | accept the blame, take the rap | The managers agreed to shoulder the blame for the error? Sure. |
| shoulder to shoulder | working beside him/her, side by side | Poet and peasant stood shoulder to shoulder during the war. |
| shoulder to the wheel | (See put your shoulder to the wheel) | |
| shove down my throat | force me to accept it, force me to agree to that, eat that | Our preacher said that babies are sinners. He's not going to shove that down my throat! |

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Idioms: at this point in time -- awesome

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| at this point in time | now, at this time | At this point in time, ten cases of AIDS have been reported. |
| at will | freely, without restraint | He shared his feelings, speaking at will about his problems. |
| at your beck and call | serving you, doing everything for you | You don't have to be at his beck and call, doing whatever he asks. |
| at your fingertips | easy to find, ready to use | When I repair a car, I like to have all my tools at my fingertips. |
| attaboy (that a boy) | good work, well done, 'at a boy | Whenever I win, Don says, "Attaboy! Good game!" |
| attagirl (that a girl) | good work, well done, 'at a girl | When Judy gets good grades, her mom says, "Attagirl, Judy!" |
| away out | (See way out) | |
| away out of line | (See way out of line) | |
| away to the races | going without a problem, smooth sailing | When they approve our business loan, we'll be away to the races. |
| awesome | great, super, bonzer , totally awesome | We had an awesome time in Rome! It was a great trip! |

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Idioms: at this point in time -- awesome

Idioms: shove it [B] -- showboat

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| shove it [B] | put it away, stick it up your ass , stuff it | If that dental plan pays only half the cost, they can shove it. |
| show off | brag, boast, showboat | "Did you see Eric scale the stairs on his rollerblades in front of everybody? He loves to show off." |
| show-off | one who displays, showboat | Ron is the show-off in our class. He's always advertising himself. |
| show promise | show some of your ability, show that you will develop | Len shows promise as a teacher. He is patient and articulate. |
| show up | attend, go to class or work | Vi shows up every week for her lesson. She's always on time. |
| show you around | show you where things are, guide you | When we get to the ranch, follow me. I'll show you around. |
| show you the ropes | teach you the first steps, learn the ropes | It is my duty to take you to the plant and show you the ropes. |
| show you up | be better than you, cause you to look inferior | If you play tennis with Martina, she'll show you up. She's good! |
| show your stuff | do your best, show what you can do | When it's your turn to dance, show your stuff. Impress them! |
| showboat | a person who displays, a show-off | The peacock is one of nature's showboats - he's magnificent! |

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Idioms: shove it [B] -- showboat

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Idioms: showdown -- shut-in

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| showdown | final fight or contest, rubber match | Ali defeated Frazier in the boxing showdown of the '70s. |
| shrink/head shrink | psychiatrist, therapist | If I can't manage my personal life, I can always visit a shrink. |
| shrinking violet | (See no shrinking violet) | |
| shrug it off | not let it affect you or bother you | He was hurt by the remark, but he shrugged it off and kept working. |
| shuck on down to the fraidy hole | go to the cellar for shelter from a cyclone or tornado, hide when you are afraid | When my uncle saw the sky turn black in the afternoon, he would shuck on down to the fraidy hole. |
| shucks | oh dear, well, heck | Aw shucks, Beth Ann, you know I care a whole lot for you. |
| shuffle the chairs on the deck | appear to change by moving things around, play musical chairs , | Shuffling the chairs on the deck will not help a sinking ship! |
| shut down | stop operating, quit | Without electricity, the factory will have to shut down. |
| shut-down | closure, end of operations | Cold weather sometimes causes a shut-down of our schools. |
| shut-in | someone who is ill and cannot go outside | Our priest visits the shut-ins - people who must stay at home. |

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Idioms: shut my mouth -- sick to my stomach

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| shut my mouth | sorry for what I said, slap my afro | "The girl you called an idiot last week has carried off the best marks." "Well, shut my mouth! There's more to her than meets the eye." |
| shut up | do not talk, keep quiet | "Shut up!" he yelled at the dog. "Be quiet or I'll muzzle you!" |
| shut your face | stop talking, shut up | When I told him he was a racist, he said, "Shut your face." |
| shutout (sports) | no goals scored against a goal keeper in one game | Our goalie has three shutouts this season - three zeros! |
| sick as a dog | (See as sick as a dog) | |
| sick at heart | sad, sorrowful | Papa was sick at heart after the hailstorm ruined our crop. |
| sick building | (See a sick building) | |
| sick of | not interested any more, bored by, tired of | We're sick of his jokes because he repeats them. |
| sick to death | wishing for a change, fed up , sick of | People are sick to death of the debate on gun control. They've heard too much about guns. |
| sick to my stomach | vomit, puke, throw up | Stop the car! I think I'm going to be sick to my stomach. |

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Idioms: shut my mouth -- sick to my stomach

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Idioms: sicker than a dog -- silkhead

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| sicker than a dog | very, very sick; as sick as a parrot | He wants to go and play hockey, and he's sicker 'n a dog! |
| sicko | weird person, pervert, psycho, scumbag | "Who would pour ketchup all over my car?" "Oh, some sicko, I guess." |
| side by side | standing/walking beside, shoulder to shoulder | The children were standing side by side on the stairs. |
| sight for sore eyes | (See a sight for sore eyes) | |
| sign in | sign your name to show you are in the building | Be sure to sign in. We want to know that you are safe inside. |
| sign off | say goodbye, close, stop writing or talking | "I'll sign off now, but I'll write again soon. With love, Kim." |
| sign out | sign your name to borrow something, on loan | If you want to sign out a book you will need a library card. |
| sign up | sign the list, enrol, enlist | "Did you sign up for lessons?" "Yes. My name is on the list." |
| silence is golden | silence is wonderful, silence is peaceful | After a day of teaching grade two students, silence is golden. |
| silkhead | bald person, chromedome | If you were a silkhead, would you wear a toupee? |

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Idioms: sicker than a dog -- silkhead

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Idioms: silver spoon -- sit in judgement on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| silver spoon | (See born with a silver spoon in his mouth) | |
| silver-tongued | nice-talking, smooth talker | A silver-tongued salesman sold me this car, but I can't drive! |
| simmer down | control your anger, chill out , cool off | Simmer down, Sassy. You are very angry. Try to control yourself. |
| sin bin (hockey) | (See the sin bin) | |
| sing his praises | praise him a lot, talk in glowing terms | His mom is always singing his praises, saying he's a good boy. |
| sing up a storm | sing loud, sing vigorously | After dinner we gathered around the piano and sang up a storm. |
| single file | a single row of people, one by one | We marched single file through the prison door. |
| single out | choose one person from a group | Why does the priest single me out for extra duties? Why me? |
| sinking feeling | feeling of failure; despair | When I saw the ambulance at our house, I got a sinking feeling. |
| sit in judgement on | judge someone's actions, evaluate | Gary is afraid because you sit in judgement on whatever he does. |

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Idioms: silver spoon -- sit in judgement on

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Idioms: sit the fence -- skate on thin ice

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| sit the fence | not choose either side, try to be in the middle | People don't like politicians who try to sit the fence. |
| sit tight | not move, wait here | I'll go and buy the hotdogs. You sit tight until I get back. |
| sit with you | relate to you, appeal to you | If we build a fence on your land, how would that sit with you? |
| sitting duck | (See a sitting duck) | |
| sitting pretty | in a good position, in favorable circumstances | Rich in oil and timber resources, Alberta was sitting pretty. |
| six bits | seventy-five cents, 3 x two bits | Grandfather told us that he used to pay six bits for a hotel room. |
| six of one, half a dozen of the other | nearly equal, about the same, like twins | Panasonic and Quasar are very similar - it's six of one, half a dozen of the other. |
| sixes and sevens | (See at sixes and sevens) | |
| size up | evaluate, check over | The teacher sized up the new student. He looked scared. |
| skate on thin ice | (See on thin ice) | |

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Idioms: skaters -- skip out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|--|
| skaters | skate boarders, boarders | The skaters were asked to leave the downtown area. |
| skeleton in the closet | unpleasant secrets, old scandals | Every family has a skeleton in the closet - a dark secret or two. |
| skidaddle | leave, go, off with you , vamoose | "Get out of here! Skidaddle!" the old man shouted at the boys. |
| skids | drug users, skids | A few skids were playing video games at the mall. |
| skin virgin | never had a tattoo, skin has not been tattooed | Our club has no skin virgins. Every member has at least one tattoo. |
| skinhead | youth with a short haircut, member of the Nazi Party | Three skinheads shouted "Heil!" as they marched up the street. |
| skinny dip | swimming naked, in the buff | They took off their clothes and went for a skinny dip in the lake. |
| skins game | gambling game, betting on who will win a game of golf, curling, etc. | Jake would rather bet on a skins game than watch it. |
| skip classes | miss classes, not attend classes, play hooky | Riza had low grades in history because he skipped classes. |
| skip out | take a leave, do not attend, duck out | The students were so enthusiastic about math that nobody skipped out on the voluntary Saturday lesson. |

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Idioms: skoal -- sleep in

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| skoal | a Scandinavian toast or salute, cheers , drink up | Jonas, here's to the monster fish we caught. Skoal! |
| skunk | not score one goal, goose egg | In the final game we got skunked 6-0. We were humiliated. |
| sky isn't blue | (See the sky isn't blue) | |
| slackass [B] | lazy person, lazy bones | Larry, you slackass, get over here and help us load the truck! |
| slam | criticize, insult, knock , put down | The newspaper article slammed the government for being slow to help the flood victims. |
| slammer | (See in the slammer) | |
| slap my afro / slap my fro | slap me to help me think, wake me up, shut my mouth | "Did you know that a Pentium computer is smarter than most Americans?" "Well, slap my fro! I didn't know that!" |
| slash and burn | reduce and cut programs without care or mercy | To save money, the Government used slash-and-burn policies. |
| sleep around [B] | sleep with and make love to many partners | Harry was sleeping around before his wife divorced him. |
| sleep in | sleep until late in the morning | Don't call me until after lunch tomorrow. I'm going to sleep in. |

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Idioms: skoal -- sleep in

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Idioms: sleep it off -- slip away

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| sleep it off | sleep until you are sober, sleep until you feel normal | "That medicine made me drowsy." "Go to bed and sleep it off." |
| sleep like a log | sleep well, sleep soundly, dead to the world , deep sleep | After working in the fields and eating a big meal, I sleep like a log! |
| sleeper | ordinary device with surprising skill or power | The Taurus SHO was a sleeper. It looked slow, but it was fast! |
| sleepy head | a child who is tired or sleepy | Go to bed, sleepy head. I'll see you in the morning. |
| slick | quick and smooth, cool , neat , swell | You ran a slick race, Leah. You paced yourself, stayed in the inside lane and left just enough for the final "kick". Congratulations! |
| slim chance | (See a slim chance) | |
| slimebucket [B] | crude, immoral person; scumbag | Children need protection from the slimebuckets in society. |
| slip | become lower, lose ground | My grades slipped last semester. My average dropped from B to C. |
| slip a notch | be less skillful, not perform as well | After the age of 30, your physical skills may slip a notch or two. |
| slip away | go away quietly, sneak out | While the men watched the fight, the boys slipped away unnoticed. |

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Idioms: slip away -- slow as a dead snail

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| slip away | die, pass away | Grandma slipped away during the night. She was gone by morning. |
| slip of the tongue | (See a slip of the tongue) | |
| slip out | leave quietly, slip away | I'll slip out and check the parking meter. Be right back. |
| slip out | speak carelessly, say it without thinking | I didn't mean to answer, Sir. The words just slipped out. |
| slip up | cause a small mistake, make a booboo | The singer didn't slip up once - not even a little mistake. |
| slip your mind | forget, not remember | I met her at church last Sunday but her name slips my mind. |
| slippery slope | dangerous path, a path that leads to problems | When you assume that people are bad, you are on a slippery slope. |
| slo mo | slow motion, movement becomes slower, time stands still | Are you in slo mo today? You're moving like a snail! |
| sloshed to the gills | very drunk, loaded , plastered , | She was sloshed to the gills and singing very badly. |
| slow as a dead snail | (See as slow as a dead snail) | |

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Idioms: slip away -- slow as a dead snail

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Idioms: axe to grind -- axe to grind

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------|--|---------|
| axe to grind | (See an axe to grind) | |

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Idioms: slow as molasses... -- small potatoes

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| slow as molasses... | (See as slow as molasses in January) | |
| slow day | a day with few customers, a day with little activity | We had another slow day at the theater - only six customers! |
| slow down | go slower, ease up | Please slow down for the bumps. You're driving too fast. |
| slowpoke | a person who is working slower than the others | I'm a slowpoke! I've done only one question; you've done six! |
| sluff off | not do, avoid doing, procrastinate | I've been sluffing off. I'm behind in my assignments. |
| slug away | work slowly but steadily, plug away | When we returned, Annie was still slugging away at her math. |
| slug of | (See a slug) | |
| smack dab in the middle | directly in the middle, in the center | The ball landed smack dab in the middle of the pizza. |
| smack of | is similar to, shades of | Even the phrase <i>person of color</i> smacks of racism. Don't use it. |
| small potatoes | unimportant things, insignificant matters | Don't worry about a few broken dishes. That's small potatoes. |

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Idioms: small talk -- smells

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| small talk | talk about unimportant topics - the weather etc. | Winnie is good at making small talk with strangers. |
| smartass [B] | a person who tries to be witty, cocky , lippy | "What do you want to drink?" "Do you have breast milk?" "Don't be a smartass!" |
| smarten up | be smarter, do not be stupid | People who drink and drive should smarten up. |
| smarts | intelligence, mental ability | Jen gets good grades. She has the smarts to win a scholarship. |
| smashed | drunk, hammered , wasted | She gets smashed on gin and dances around the living room. |
| smashing | very beautiful, very attractive | Nicole looks absolutely smashing in that red dress. |
| smell blood | sense victory, be aware of an opponent's weakness | Michael is a fierce competitor. When he smells blood, he wins. |
| smell where you're stepping | (See I smell where you're stepping) | |
| smelling yourself | acting grown-up, having signs of physical maturity, cocky | I know you're smelling yourself, but this is a conversation for adults. |
| smells | (See something smells) | |

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Idioms: smidge/smidgeon -- snap

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| smidge/smidgeon | (See just a smidgeon) | |
| smithwright it | throw it in the garbage, chuck it , eighty-six it , junk it | If the drawing isn't perfect, we smithwright it - we throw it out. |
| smoke and mirrors | false impressions, deceit, trickery, bafflegab | His speech about new projects is just smoke and mirrors. The company is bankrupt. |
| smoke like a furnace | smoke a lot of cigarettes, chain smoke | He died of lung cancer. He used to smoke like a furnace. |
| smoking gun | weapon used, evidence, caught red-handed | The company told me to dismiss the employee, so I was holding the smoking gun. |
| smooth out | solve a problem or argument | The counselor smoothed out our problem. We're friends again. |
| smooth sailing | easy job, an operation that has no problems | After we paid the bank for our loan, it was smooth sailing. |
| smooth talker | one who says nice words, butter wouldn't melt... | Janet is such a smooth talker! She should be in politics. |
| snag | problem, difficulty, glitch | If you plan a project carefully, there will be fewer snags. |
| snap | (See it's a snap) | |

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Idioms: smidge/smidgeon -- snap

Idioms: snap a picture -- snow them

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| snap a picture | (See take a picture) | |
| snap at | speak in a harsh tone, answer sharply | If I talk to you while you're watching TV, you snap at me. |
| snapped | drunk, loaded , looped | Whenever he gets snapped, he wants to fight. |
| snatch victory from the jaws of defeat | win when it appears that you will lose, mount a comeback | The opinion polls showed we were losing, but we snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. |
| snazzy | stylish, neat , way cool | That's a snazzy suit, George. It looks great on you. |
| snitch | tattle, squeal , tell on | That little devil! He snitched! He told Dad! |
| snootful | (See a snootful) | |
| snotty-nosed kid | a child, a boy with a dirty face | I was just a snotty-nosed kid when I got my first job. |
| snow job | (See a snow job) | |
| snow them | fool them, tell them a false story | You can't snow them. They know if you're telling a lie. |

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Idioms: snowball -- so small you could barely swing a cat

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| snowball | grow, become bigger, spread to other people | Among students, discontent can snowball. It can spread rapidly. |
| snowbirds | Canadians who go south for the winter | It's November, and the snowbirds are leaving Alberta for Arizona. |
| snug as a bug in a rug | warm and comfortable, cocoon | In this nice apartment, you'll be snug as a bug in a rug. |
| so and so | a person you dislike, a name you forget | Who invited that so and so to the party? I don't like him! |
| so far, so good | doing fine this far, good this far | After I had read one page, she said, "So far, so good." |
| so help me | I will need help to stop, I will need help if I do it | If that dog barks tonight, so help me, I'm going to get the shotgun! |
| so long | goodbye, see you later | So long, my friends. I have to leave you now. |
| so much as | this much will anger me, very little will anger me | If that cat so much as touches the baby, I'll tie up its tail! |
| so quiet you can hear a pin drop | very quiet, very still | The teacher said, "Class, try to be so quiet you can hear a pin drop." |
| so small you could barely swing a cat | very small room, narrow room, pokey | The bedroom was so small you could barely swing a cat in it. |

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Idioms: snowball -- so small you could barely swing a cat

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Idioms: so small you had to back out to change your mind -- soft market

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|---|
| so small you had to back out to change your mind | very small, tiny, as small as a phone booth | I've seen small apartments, but this one was so small you had back out to change your mind. |
| so-so | neither good nor bad, fair, fair to middling | "How's the wife, Byron?" "Just so-so, not much better. The doctor says she needs rest." |
| so to speak | using expressions or metaphors when speaking, to use the vernacular | Ron was up the creek, so to speak. He'd promised to marry Suzy, but he was already married to Joan. |
| so what | what is the difference, what does it matter, who cares | So we lost the game. So what! It doesn't matter. |
| soap box | (See get off your soap box) | |
| sob story | a sad story, a story about love lost or misfortune, cry the blues | Have you heard Keiko's sob story? She lost her boyfriend and her cat on the same day. |
| sober up | become sober, wait until you are not drunk | Give him a few hours to sober up. He'll be okay after he has a rest. |
| sock it to me | tell me, give it to me, hit me , shoot | "It's bad news," he said. "Sock it to me," I said. |
| soft in the head | foolish, crazy | If you quit your job at Gulf Oil, you're soft in the head. |
| soft market | a period when sales are few and prices are low, buyer's market | The real estate market is soft now. Don't try to sell your house. |

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Idioms: soft pedal -- soldier on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| soft pedal | say it is not important, downplay | The government is trying to soft pedal their failures. |
| soft sell | not pressuring the customer, showing the product and letting the customer decide, hard sell | I like the soft-sell guys - the ones who let you take a car for a drive and see if you like it. |
| soft spot | (See have a soft spot for) | |
| soft-top | (See ragtop) | |
| soften up | cause a person to be more cooperative | Ken is stubborn about his right to smoke. I can't soften him up. |
| soften your stance | cause you to change your opinion or position | If his friends go against him, he may soften his stance. |
| software | computer programs, courseware | This accounting software is very easy to use. |
| software piracy | copying computer programs, bootleg | Software piracy is a crime and we could "do time". |
| sold on | believe in, convinced of | I'm sold on this new herbal drink. It gives me energy. |
| soldier on | continue working; serving well; carry on | When the others quit searching, the family soldiered on, hoping to find their lost girl. |

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Idioms: solid as the Rock of Gibraltar -- Sophie's choice

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|--|
| solid as the Rock of Gibraltar | (See as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar) | |
| some chick | beautiful chick , great woman | Gloria is some chick! Will you introduce me to her? |
| something borrowed, something blue | two of the things required for a happy wedding and successful marriage | The bride borrowed a blue garter, so she has something borrowed, something blue! |
| something is haywire | something is wrong or broken, go haywire | Something is haywire with my back. I can't move. |
| something is rotten... | (See there's something rotten in the state of Denmark) | |
| something smells | something is wrong, something is not ethical, fishy , there's something rotten in the state of Denmark | Something smells about this case. Why would the police blow up an oil well? |
| something snapped | the brain broke, the mind failed | Something snapped when he was in the war. Now he can't speak. |
| sometimes life is a bucket of shit and the handle is inside [B] | sometimes life is very unpleasant, life is not all guns and roses | The junk dealer had a poster on the wall of his shack: <i>Sometimes life is a bucket of shit, and the handle's inside!</i> |
| song and dance | typical answer, old routine, cliché | "I was late because I had a flat tire." "Don't give me that old song and dance!" |
| Sophie's choice | choosing between your death and the death of your child | He was facing a Sophie's choice: Lose his son or lose his own life. |

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Idioms: SOS -- sow wild oats

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|---|--|
| SOS | "Save Our Ship" or "Save Our Souls", a distress call, a call for help, mayday | When I was stranded in the North that winter, I tramped messages in the snow: H E L P and S O S. |
| soul mate | the person who is your natural and compatible mate | I thought Carson and I were soul mates, but we disagree a lot. |
| sound asleep | sleeping peacefully, dead to the world | When Tara went to check the baby, he was sound asleep. |
| sound bite | radio advertisement, a few seconds of radio time | I advertise our hotel on the radio using ten-second sound bites. |
| sound off | complain, get it off your chest , speak out | He was sounding off about our papers - how bad they were. |
| sounding board | a person who listens to ideas or plans | Cliff used Linda as a sounding board for his business plans. |
| sour grapes | feeling negative because you did not win | If she loses, she complains about the referee. It's just sour grapes. |
| sour puss | one who is feeling sad, an unhappy person | Don't be such a sour puss. Let's have fun. |
| southpaw | left-handed person, lefty | Our baseball team needs another pitcher - preferably a southpaw. |
| sow wild oats | live a wild life as a young person | As a youth he lived a reckless life. He sowed a few wild oats. |

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Idioms: spaced out -- speed up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|--|
| spaced out | feeling strange or unreal, stoned | After falling, Jeff was spaced out. He looked dazed and limp. |
| spade work | first stage of the work, preparation for later work, pave the way | Paul did the spade work for our food bank. He asked each of the merchants for a donation. |
| spare me | please do not tell me, do not bore me with | Spare me the gross details of your love affairs. I'm not interested. |
| speak highly of | praise, say that a person is great or excellent | Angela's former teachers speak very highly of her. |
| speak of the devil | the person we are speaking about has just arrived | As I walked into the room, Piotr said to Dorota, "Speaking of the devil, here he is now! Ha ha." |
| speak out | say what you think, speak your mind | Did you speak out at the meeting? Did you tell them what is wrong? |
| speak up | speak louder, crank it up | Please speak up so everyone can hear you. |
| speak volumes | tells a lot, reveals much | Your smile speaks volumes about your career. You like it. |
| speak your mind | say what you think or feel, speak out | We want you to speak your mind on this issue. State your opinion. |
| speed up | go faster, accelerate, step on it | Don't speed up when you come to an intersection. Slow down! |

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Idioms: spaced out -- speed up

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Idioms: babe -- back on your feet

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| babe | darling, honey, girlfriend | "Hi, babe. Want to sit with me?" "Sure, honey. I'd love to." |
| babe in arms | (See a babe in arms) | |
| babe in the woods | (See a babe in the woods) | |
| baby blues | feeling sad when you are pregnant | After seven months, Karly had the baby blues. She was feeling sad. |
| baby boomer | a person born during the decade after World War II | Baby boomers will retire in the first decade of the 21st century. |
| back at it | having returned to a past habit or occupation, at it again | "I was so glad to hear George quit drinking." "Well, he's back at it." |
| back at ya | I wish you the same as you wished me, ditto , same to you | "Merry Christmas, Val." "Back at ya, Wayne." |
| back down | yield, not challenge, not stand up to | Ole won't back down from you. He's ready to fight. |
| back off | do not come closer, do not touch me | Back off, you animal! Don't touch me! |
| back on your feet | feeling better, recovered from an illness | When you're back on your feet, we want you to return to work. |

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Idioms: babe -- back on your feet

Idioms: spell disaster -- spike a drink

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|--|--|
| spell disaster | cause an accident, lead to a tragedy | An error in the design of a car could spell disaster for the driver. |
| spell out | explain carefully, explain each word or step | If I don't understand a question, I ask him to spell it out for me. |
| spell you off | do your job for you, allow you to rest | When you get tired of shoveling, I'll spell you off for awhile. |
| spend holidays | do during your holidays, go for your holidays | "How'd you spend your holidays?" "We drove to Texas and Tijuana." |
| spend time | wait, hang out , put in time | I spend a lot of time at her place. I'm there every day. |
| spending money | extra money, money for fun, pin money | Wayne earns spending money by washing the neighbors' cars. |
| spice of life | (See the spice of life) | |
| spice up | add spices or flavor, jazz up | The chili tastes good, but let's spice it up a bit. |
| spiffy | clean and tidy, groomed, tiddly | Grandpa, your car looks real spiffy. Did you polish it? |
| spike a drink | put alcohol in a drink of juice or pop or coffee | Somebody must have spiked my drink. I feel quite dizzy. |

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Idioms: spell disaster -- spike a drink

Idioms: spike the ball -- spinork/spinorky

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| spike the ball | hit the ball sharply over the net | Gary's ability to spike the ball gives our team an advantage. |
| spill the beans | tell a secret, tell others about it, spill your guts | Don't tell Sammy about our plan. He'll spill the beans. |
| spill your guts | tell everything you know, spill the beans | Don't spill your guts to mom. Don't tell her about our problems. |
| spin a yarn | tell a story, make up a story | We love to hear Norman spin a yarn. His stories seem so real. |
| spin crew | speech-writing crew, hired writers | The spin crew will tell me if I should say <i>racial</i> or <i>ethnic</i> . |
| spin doctor | a speech writer, an advisor to a politician, put the right spin on it | The spin doctor told us to say <i>disability</i> , not <i>handicap</i> . |
| spin the bottle | a game to decide who will kiss whom | When we played spin the bottle, Mavis always got to kiss Ron. |
| spin your wheels | waste effort, not progress | If you don't have a career goal you'll just spin your wheels. |
| spinnny | a little crazy, eccentric, drive me batty | Their family is kind of weird. Even the cat is a little spinnny. |
| spinork/spinorky | attractive, cool , groovy , neat | What a spinork sweater! It looks great on you. |

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Idioms: spike the ball -- spinork/spinorky

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Idioms: spirit away -- split the difference

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| spirit away | take away mysteriously, steal secretly, into thin air | Somebody or something spirits away my fingernail clippers. I wonder where they are. |
| spitting image | (See the spitting image) | |
| spitting mad | very angry, pissed off [B] | Mom was spitting mad when you ran across her flower garden. |
| spitting nails | very angry, very mad, hot , pissed [B] | Art was spitting nails when my dog scratched the paint on his car. |
| splashback | reaction from the public, fall-out , feedback | "Is there any splashback on the new income tax policy?" "Yes. It's all positive." |
| split | depart, go, leave | I gotta split. Class starts in two minutes. |
| split a gut | laugh very hard, crack me up | I nearly split a gut watching a John Candy video - hilarious! |
| split hairs | be very fussy, notice small differences | Clyde likes to work on research that requires him to split hairs. |
| split second | small difference in time, a fraction of a second | Many Olympic athletes win their events by a split second. |
| split the difference | divide the difference between the prices | Your price is \$100. I'm offering \$80. Let's split the difference: \$90. |

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Idioms: spirit away -- split the difference

Idioms: split up -- spread the word

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|--|
| split up | separate, part company | Charles and Di split up in the 90s. They've been separated for years. |
| spoil for a fight | try to begin a fight, chip on his shoulder , cruising for a bruising | Bud was spoiling for a fight with me. He said, "You're too chicken to fight, ain't you?" |
| spoiled brat | a child who always gets what he wants | Sure he's a spoiled brat. His mom gave him whatever he wanted. |
| spoilsport | one who will not play, party-pooper | You spoilsport! Why won't you play strip poker with us? |
| spot of tea | (See a spot of tea) | |
| spot on | correct, bang on , dead on , right on | Your answer is spot on! There are 1000 meters in a kilometer. |
| spotcheck | check anytime, inspect whenever you wish | The prison guard did spotchecks on the men during the night. |
| spread like wildfire | spread quickly, go public | News of the assassination spread like wildfire. |
| spread out | lie down with your arms and legs apart | When you spread out on the sofa, there's no room for me. |
| spread the word | tell everybody, get the word out | The teacher asked us to spread the word about the school concert. |

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Idioms: split up -- spread the word

Idioms: spring for -- square shooter

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|--|--|
| spring for | pay for, pay the shot | "Who will spring for the pizza?" "Jack will. He just got paid." |
| spruced up | (See all spruced up) | |
| spur on | encourage, motivate | Her refusal of his gifts seemed to spur him on. It challenged him. |
| square | not sophisticated, not cool , rube | What a square! He thinks Rolex is some kind of cereal! |
| square | (See call it square) | |
| square deal | fair to the purchaser, value for money spent | You get a square deal when you buy a tractor at Al's Machinery. |
| square meal | full meal: meat, bread, vegetables and milk | We need at least one square meal each day. Do you agree? |
| square off | face each other ready to fight, have a fight | If Joe and Bud square off, it will be an interesting fight. |
| square one | the beginning, back to square one | If you answer incorrectly, you have to start at square one. |
| square shooter | fair dealer, honest person | Sidney is a square shooter. He won't cheat you. |

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Idioms: square up -- stag

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------|---|--|
| square up | pay a debt, pay your share | Cal told me you owe him \$50. He's wants you to square up. |
| square up | leave prostitution or life on the street | I've heard there's a group that helps prostitutes square up. |
| squat | a place to stay, a shelter for street people, a shack | "Where's your squat?" "Across the tracks in a deserted service station." |
| squeaky clean | very clean, innocent | I've checked Todd's record. He's clean - squeaky clean. |
| squeal | tell the police, rat on | Robbie won't squeal on us. He'll never tell what we did. |
| squealer | one who tells the police or authorities, canary | Jason, you squealer! You told the teacher I copied your work. |
| squirrel away | save, hide, put in a safe place, salt away | You can have your own pension if you squirrel away a few dollars each month. |
| stack up | compare with, pale by comparison | The Lincoln is a nice car, but how does it stack up against the Lexus? |
| stacked | having large breasts, having big boobs , sweater girl | "Please describe the woman." "She was tall, blond and, well, you might say she was stacked." |
| stag | party for a man who will soon be married | Let's have a stag for Greg. It's his last party as a single man. |

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Idioms: stand away -- stand out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| stand away | turn away, shun, give you the cold shoulder | I don't want to stand away, but you have hurt me deeply. |
| stand behind | repair or replace, guarantee | Our company stands behind its products. We offer a guarantee. |
| stand by me | be my friend, be loyal to me, be there for me | I know you like me, but will you stand by me if I get in trouble? |
| stand corrected | admit a mistake or error, own up | The square root of 4761 is 69, not 68. I stand corrected. |
| stand for | believe in and represent, be the symbol for | Vicki stands for social justice. She supports public health care. |
| stand for | permit, tolerate, put up with , stand it | My parents won't allow us to smoke. They won't stand for it. |
| stand in | replace, substitute, take my place | I can't coach the soccer team today. Will you stand in for me? |
| stand it | endure it, bear it, put up with it | There's a very strong gas odor in here. How can you stand it? |
| stand on ceremony | expect everyone to know manners and customs | Leave your cap on if you like. We don't stand on ceremony. |
| stand out | appear different, not be the same as the others | Dick's voice stands out because it is lower than the others. |

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Idioms: stand away -- stand out

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Idioms: stand to lose -- start from scratch

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| stand to lose | may lose, could lose | If my son fails to make a loan payment, I stand to lose \$4000. |
| stand up | not meet you as planned, not attend an appointment | Jerry said he would take Rita to the movies, but he stood her up. |
| stand up and be counted | say you support and will vote for it, stand up for | If you really believe in gay rights, you will stand up and be counted. |
| stand up for | support, protect, speak out for | I'm not afraid to stand up for our rights. I'll ask to see a lawyer. |
| stand up to | challenge, not back down | Please stand up to the bully. Tell him to stop hitting us. |
| standoffish | not friendly, not sociable | Brett appears to be standoffish, but he's really quite friendly. |
| stark naked | wearing nothing at all, naked as a jay bird , without a stitch of clothes on | The people on the beach were stark naked. They were members of a nudist colony. |
| stark raving mad | completely crazy, out of your mind | Ophelia went stark raving mad after Hamlet rejected her. |
| start a fire under him | motivate him, get him started | Somebody started a fire under Kent. He's skating hard tonight. |
| start from scratch | start from the beginning, go back to square one | After the flood, we all had to start from scratch - to rebuild our lives. |

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Idioms: start out -- stay awake

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| start out | start, begin, leave on a journey | Fill the tank with gas and check the oil before you start out. |
| start over | begin again, go to square one | If I make a mistake, I start over. I go right back to the beginning. |
| start up | start, begin, organize, begin a business | Before you start up a business you should write a business plan. |
| start with a bang | start well, start fast, off to a good start | The party will start with a bang if Elton arrives by hot-air balloon. |
| state of mind | mood, mental attitude, frame of mind | My state of mind improves when I read a book by Northrop Frye. |
| state of the art | most advanced, cutting edge | Many state-of-the-art devices use the LASER beam. |
| state secret | (See it's not a state secret) | |
| stay abreast | be aware of developments, stay current, keep pace | Can you stay abreast of changes in computer technology? |
| stay alive | win enough to continue, continue in a series | To stay alive, the Leafs must win the next two games. |
| stay awake | not sleep, be alert | I can't stay awake any longer. I can't keep my eyes open. |

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Idioms: start out -- stay awake

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Idioms: stay in line -- stem to stern

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|--|
| stay in line | obey the rules, behave well | Stay in line, young man. We expect you to obey orders. |
| stay put | stay where you are, do not move | He took his dog out of the store and said, "Sit! Stay put!" |
| stay up | not go to sleep, wait up for | We stay up until the kids come home - if it isn't too late. |
| steal the show | be the favorite performer, receive the most applause | The little Peterson girl stole the show with her fine tap dancing. |
| steal your heart | cause you to like or love, win the hearts | The kittens will steal your heart. They're so cute and playful. |
| steal your thunder | tell your news, reveal your main message | If I mention the new product, will I steal your thunder? |
| steam up | upset, excited, worried | Poor Emil would get all steamed up when his car wouldn't start. |
| steamy | portraying lots of sex, full of love scenes | <i>Love In The Park</i> is a steamy movie. There's lots of action. |
| steer clear | avoid, not go there | I advise you to steer clear of the bridge. There's been a flood. |
| stem to stern | (See from stem to stern) | |

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Idioms: stay in line -- stem to stern

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Idioms: back out -- backroom boys

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| back out | decide not to do it, change your mind | If you sign your name, you can't back out. You have to pay. |
| back teeth are floating | have to urinate, need to pee | Please watch for a rest room. My back teeth are floating. |
| back to square one | back to the first step, start from scratch | If you forget to do one of the steps, it's back to square one. |
| back to the drawing board | back to the beginning, back to square one | If this plan fails, it's back to the drawing board. We start again. |
| back to the grind | return to the job, go back to work | After New Year's, it's back to the grind - the old routine. |
| back up | go backwards, drive in reverse | I'll back up the truck so we can load it. |
| back you | support your decision, sign your application | His brother will back him if he needs financing. |
| back yourself into a corner | put yourself in a bad position, have no escape | If you buy what you can't afford you back yourself into a corner. |
| backpack (business) | support, be the parent company | First, GM backpacked Saab. Then they bought the company. |
| backroom boys | men who play poker and smoke in a room at the back of the store | When the police raided Gino's they arrested four of the backroom boys. |

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Idioms: back out -- backroom boys

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Idioms: step aside -- stick in my craw

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| step aside | resign, quit so someone else can do the job | If Jon will step aside, Harvey can become president. |
| step down | resign, leave a position, bow out | It was time for Pierre to step down - time for him to resign. |
| step on his dick | cause an error, screw up | John really stepped on his dick when he lost that CD. It had all his customer accounts on it. |
| step on it | go faster, step on the gas, pedal to the metal | Father said, "Step on it, son. We don't want to be late." |
| step on people | hurt people to get ahead, use people to succeed | I want wealth, but I don't want to step on people to get it. |
| step on their toes | offend them, upset them | When I mentioned their debt, did I step on their toes? |
| step on your dick | cause a problem for yourself, shoot yourself in the foot | You really stepped on your dick when you told her about seeing your old girlfriend. |
| step out of line | do something bad, misbehave | If John steps out of line again, I'll remind him of the rules. |
| step up to the plate | do your best, take action , "take your turn" "" | Pedro said, "It's time for me to act. It's time to step up to the plate." |
| stick in my craw | irritate me, get to me | That decision really sticks in my craw. How could he sell Gretzky? |

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Idioms: step aside -- stick in my craw

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Idioms: stick-in-the-mud -- stickhandle

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| stick-in-the-mud | one who does not go out, party-pooper | Farley, that stick-in-the-mud! He never goes to a party. |
| stick it out | stay until you finish, hang in there | Can you stick it out until six? Can you work until then? |
| stick it up your ass [B] | put it away, forget it , shove it | You can take your useless truck and stick it up your ass! |
| stick my neck out | risk my safety to help, put my neck on the line | Why should I stick my neck out when you disobey your father? |
| stick out like a sore thumb | not fit or blend, look out of place | The ugly painting stuck out like a sore thumb in the art gallery. |
| stick them up | put your hands above your head, hands up | The man took out a gun and said to the clerk, "Stick 'em up!" |
| stick to it | stay at a tough job, hang in there | If you stick to it - practice every day - you will be a fine pianist. |
| stick to your guns | not change your belief, be firm | If you testify in court, stick to your guns. Tell the same story. |
| stick up for | support, encourage | Will you stick up for me if I get in an argument? |
| stickhandle | maneuver, negotiate, deke you | When the lawyer tried to trap me I just stickhandled around his question and talked about something else. |

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Idioms: stick-in-the-mud -- stickhandle

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Idioms: stiff -- stone unturned

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| stiff | not pay for, leave without paying | The cab driver told a policeman that a lady had stiffed him. |
| stiff | person, man | You lucky stiff! You won a TV! |
| stiff upper lip | (See keep a stiff upper lip) | |
| still wet behind the ears | still quite young, the tender age of | When we moved to Boston, you were still wet behind the ears. |
| stink the joint out | play very poorly, perform badly | In Chicago, we stunk the joint out, losing 7-1 to the Hawks. |
| stitch in time | (See a stitch in time) | |
| stitch of clothes on | (See without a stitch of clothes on) | |
| stock in trade | main product, bread and butter | Our stock in trade is tires. We sell more tires than oil or gas. |
| stone dead | very dead, no sign of life, dead as a doornail | When we finally found the goose, it was stone dead. |
| stone unturned | (See leave no stone unturned) | |

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Idioms: stone's throw -- straight cash

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| stone's throw | (See a stone's throw) | |
| stoned | drugged, natural high on drugs, spaced out , wasted | If he's stoned, he shouldn't drive. Let's hide his keys. |
| stonewall | block, prevent, not allow | The president stonewalled every one of our plans. He said no. |
| stop at nothing | do anything to succeed, not stop until you win | The Indians will stop at nothing. They will get a reservation. |
| stop on a dime | stop very quickly, stop exactly where you wish | With disk brakes, this car can stop on a dime. See? |
| stop you cold | stop you quickly, grind to a halt | One look from the old witch will stop you cold. What a fierce gaze! |
| stop you in your tracks | cause you to stop, prevent you from going further | You know what will stop you dead in your tracks? A bear, that's what. |
| straight | (See go straight , square up) | |
| straight away | (See right away) | |
| straight cash | all cash, using only cash | When I go shopping I pay straight cash. I don't use my credit cards. |

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Idioms: straight dope -- straighten you out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| straight dope | (See the straight dope) | |
| straight face | (See keep a straight face) | |
| straight from the horse's mouth | directly from the person who said it or did it | I want to hear the story from Tomas, straight from the horse's mouth. |
| straight from the shoulder | directly, plainly, call a spade... , doesn't mince words | Richler spoke straight from the shoulder when addressing his own people - the way Jesus did with the money-changers. |
| straight goods | (See the straight goods) | |
| straight man | the man who is not joking, the man who is honest or natural | When I began in comedy, my straight man was Jason. He would ask honest questions and I would give funny answers. |
| straight talk | the truth, the facts, the the straight goods | My son and I believe in straight talk. We communicate. |
| straight up | without stopping, not reduced, full strength | I do ten minutes of exercise; then I run 5 km straight up. |
| straight up | truthfully, the way it is | Give it to me straight up - exactly what she said. |
| straighten you out | tell you the facts or the truth, set you straight | Talk to the teacher. She'll straighten you out. |

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Idioms: straight dope -- straighten you out

Idioms: strapped -- strictly business

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| strapped | having very little money, nearly flat broke | I can't afford to go to a concert this month. I'm strapped. |
| straw horse | an idea to be discussed and refined, a draft proposal or motion | I have an idea that may work - kind of a straw horse. I'll tell you about it and we can discuss its potential. |
| straw that broke the camel's back | (See the last straw) | |
| street smarts | knowing how to survive, worldly wise | You need street smarts to be a police officer in Toronto. |
| street wise | wise about street life, been around | Let's ask Sal to go downtown with us. He's street wise. |
| stretch the dollar | spend carefully, buy the most for each dollar | We have a large family. I stretch the dollar as far as I can. |
| stretch the envelope | extend the boundaries, expand your horizons | I've set some goals that stretch my envelope - challenge me. |
| stretch the truth | add to a true story, include lies with the truth | Al was stretching the truth. He said the waves were 60 feet high. |
| stretching it | saying it was bigger or better than it was | To say the mosquitoes are as big as starlings is stretching it. |
| strictly business | very serious, not joking, no nonsense | When he conducts the band, he's strictly business. He's serious. |

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Idioms: strictly for the birds -- strike your fancy

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| strictly for the birds | (See for the birds) | |
| strike a bargain | find a satisfactory deal or price | After discussing the price of the carpet, we struck a bargain: \$15. |
| strike it rich | earn or win a lot of money, find a gold mine | People came to the Yukon hoping to find gold - to strike it rich. |
| strike me | causes me to pause, impresses me | What strikes me is the color of the leaves. They're crimson. |
| strike out (baseball) | fail to hit the ball while at bat | This time he'll hit the ball. Last time at bat he struck out. |
| strike out on your own | leave home and support yourself, be independent | I was eighteen when I struck out on my own and found a job. |
| strike up a conversation | begin a conversation with a stranger | Uncle Ho is sociable. He strikes up a conversation with anyone. |
| strike up the band | begin conducting the band, give the downbeat | Maestro, strike up the band. We want to hear some music. |
| strike while the iron is hot | do it before it is too late, now is the time to act | In business, timing is important. You strike while the iron is hot. |
| strike your fancy | interest you, appeal to you, turn your crank | Do you see anything on the menu that strikes your fancy? Lobster? |

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Idioms: string a line -- stroke your ego

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| string a line | create a story, make up a story | He was stringing you a line. A dog wasn't driving the car. |
| string along | pretend that you believe, go along with | When Franz talks about shark fishing, I just string along. |
| string bean | thin person, bean pole | You string bean, Kenny! You're too skinny to hit the ball! |
| string of good luck | a series of lucky events, lucky streak | He isn't the best pitcher. He's just having a string of good luck this season. |
| strip | remove all your clothes, full Monty , in the buff | "I'd like to see you naked." "Okay. I'll strip if you will." |
| strip mall | a row of stores with a small parking lot in front | Does the Langdale strip mall have a video store? |
| stripped | (See bare bones) | |
| stroke of genius | a very intelligent idea, a unique solution | Using laser light for surgery - now that's a stroke of genius. |
| stroke of good luck | a fortunate event, a lucky break , the fickle finger of fate | Then, by some stroke of good luck, a car horn scared the lion and it ran away. |
| stroke your ego | cause you to feel confident or proud | Compliments are wonderful because they stroke your ego. |

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Idioms: string a line -- stroke your ego

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Idioms: strung out -- suck eggs

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|--|
| strung out | ill or weak because of drug abuse, hungover | When she's strung out on cocaine she won't talk to her family. |
| stubblejumper | grain farmer, Saskatchewan folk | My uncle is a stubblejumper. He owns a farm near Kuroki. |
| stuck on | focused on, obsessed with | Jack is stuck on Vicki, but she doesn't care about him. |
| stuff it | put it away, forget it , shove it [B] | I don't want her money. She can stuff it! |
| stumbling block | obstacle, problem | A strip of land is in the way of peace. It is the stumbling block. |
| stump me | ask me a question I cannot answer, puzzle me | The question on the names of the Great Lakes stumped me. |
| such a card | quite a joker, such a clown | Greg tells the funniest stories. He is such a card! |
| suck | an immature person, wimp | Chad, that suck! He tells his mother everything we say. |
| suck | is a poor quality, is not acceptable, shabby | You chose to cheat your friend? That sucks! |
| suck eggs | go, leave, have a bad experience, up yours [B] | When I told him not to swear, he said, "Go suck eggs, man." |

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Idioms: strung out -- suck eggs

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Idioms: suck it up -- suffer a setback

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| suck it up | get up and do it, be strong, do not be a quitter | "I can't do it, Kate. I've searched everywhere and I can't find it." "Suck it up, Wayne. I'm counting on you to define that idiom!" |
| suck off [B] | (See give head) | |
| suck the hind tit [B] | receive less than others, not get as good service, the short end of the stick | Who is sucking the hind tit of government services? Some people say it's the seniors. |
| suck up to | be nice for personal gain, brown nose [B] | Why is Ken sucking up to me? Does he expect a raise in pay? |
| suckbucket | student's briefcase, valise | T think Zen carries a suckbucket to impress the teachers. |
| sucked in | deceived, cheated, led to believe , taken in | "You believed his story about working late at the office?" "Ya, I got sucked in." |
| sucker | a person who is gullible; easy to persuade | "Who will buy that painting?" "Oh, some sucker will come along." |
| sucker you | fool you, cheat you, "taken>/q>" | When you walk along the midway, don't listen to the men who want you to throw balls or darts. They're just trying to sucker you. Hear? |
| sucks | is poor quality, does not satisfy me | This radio sucks! I can't get my favorite station! |
| suffer a setback | lose a game, fail a test, become injured or ill | Italy's soccer team suffered a setback losing to Ireland. |

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Idioms: backside -- bafflegab

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| backside | buttocks, bum , buns | When I was learning to skate, I fell a lot. My backside was sore! |
| backup | saving information on a computer disk | Don't forget to make a backup disk of all your computer files. |
| bad apple | bad one, rotten one | He's the bad apple in that group. He's always in trouble. |
| bad blood | bad feelings, a negative relationship | John and Fred are bitter enemies. There's bad blood between them. |
| bad breath | unpleasant smell from the mouth, jungle mouth | I've been eating garlic, so I may have bad breath. |
| bad date | a man who beats a prostitute, the john | Viki had another bad date. A guy beat her and took her clothes. |
| bad news | troublemaker, someone who causes problems | Don't hire him. Everybody says he's bad news. |
| bad taste in my mouth | (See a bad taste in my mouth) | |
| badmouth | criticize, say bad things about, put down | Don't badmouth employers. Don't criticize your references. |
| bafflegab | confusing statements, jargon, political language | There was a lot of bafflegab in the speech, a lot of nonsense. |

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Idioms: backside -- bafflegab

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Idioms: suicide pass -- sure as hell

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------|---|--|
| suicide pass | (See a suicide pass) | |
| suit yourself | you choose, choose what you like | "I prefer tea." "Suit yourself." |
| suits you | looks good on you, becomes you | Red and black suit you. You look great in those colors. |
| Sunday best | best clothes, glad rags | Father was in his Sunday best - in his three-piece, navy suit. |
| sunset years | senior years, over 65, golden years | Will you still love me when I'm old - in my sunset years? |
| super-duper | very large, exciting or powerful, totally awesome | After class, Julie went to the cafe and ordered a super-duper sundae with a cherry on top. |
| super mint | excellent, the best quality | The photograph of the baby is super mint! It's excellent! |
| supercharge | boost the power, hop up , tweak | We supercharged the engine in a Datsun 510, doubling its power. |
| superstar | very talented athlete or performer, the best player | Hockey's superstars include Richard, Howe, and Gretzky. |
| sure as hell | very sure, certain, a sure bet | If you leave food around, the bears will come - sure as hell! |

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Idioms: suicide pass -- sure as hell

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Idioms: sure as shit -- sweat bullets

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| sure as shit | certain to happen, predictable, a foregone conclusion | Robert will come, sure as shit. He comes every day. |
| sure bet | (See a sure bet) | |
| sure thing | (See a sure thing) | |
| surf the Net | survey the Internet or global computer network | Olga is surfing the Net again - looking for a boy in the US. |
| swallow that | believe that, buy that , eat that | He said the company is bankrupt, but don't swallow that! |
| swallow your pride | do not let your pride stop you, control your pride | Swallow your pride. Accept the offer to return to your old job. |
| swear by | believe in a product and say that it is good | Joel swears by Chrysler cars. He's driven a Dodge for years. |
| swear like a sailor | use vulgar language, use four-letter words , the air was blue | Grace won't take her boyfriend to church because he swears like a sailor. |
| swear off | quit using, abstain from | Zack has sworn off beer until Christmas. He's quit completely. |
| sweat bullets | worry, be very concerned or afraid or nervous | I was sweating bullets when I heard your plane went down. |

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Idioms: sure as shit -- sweat bullets

Idioms: sweat it -- sweetie pie

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| sweat it | (See don't sweat it) | |
| sweat it out | wait and worry, on pins and needles | While the jury discussed a verdict, the prisoner was sweating it out. |
| sweater girl | girl with big breasts who wears a tight sweater | Jody was the sweater girl in our class. She was sexy. |
| sweep under the carpet | hide problems, cover mistakes | Don't sweep your problems under the carpet. Try to solve them. |
| sweep you off your feet | impress you, cause you to love them quickly | Andre is very charming. He will sweep you off your feet. |
| sweet on | like, love, got a crush on , stuck on | You act kind of funny when Barb is here. Are you sweet on her? |
| sweet spot | (See the sweet spot) | |
| sweet tooth | a need to eat candy, a craving for sweets | A piece of dark chocolate will satisfy my sweet tooth. Yum! |
| sweeten the pot | add more good things, make it worth more | If we sweeten the pot with a trip to Paris, we'll sell more tickets. |
| sweetie pie | dear, darling, honey | How are you, sweetie pie? It's so good to see you! So good to hug you! |

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Idioms: sweat it -- sweetie pie

Idioms: swell -- swift

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------|---|---|
| swell | great, wonderful, (often used sarcastically) | "How was your vacation?" "Oh swell. It rained every day." |
| swelled head | feeling too proud, let it go to your head | If I win the talent contest, I promise not to get a swelled head. |
| swift | intelligent, smart, bright | I'm not very swift when I try to do calculus. I usually fail. |

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Idioms: tail between his legs -- take a chance

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| tail between his legs | running away in defeat or fear, retreating quickly | When the bear followed me, I ran with my tail between my legs! |
| tail lights | gone, departed, could not see me for dust | When I heard the police siren, I was tail lights. I was gone. |
| tail wagging the dog | (See the tail wagging the dog) | |
| tailgate | drive too close to the car in front, on his tail | The instructor told me not to tailgate - to leave more space. |
| take a back seat | say you are not as good, play second fiddle | You are good at chess. Don't take a back seat to anyone! |
| take a boo | look at, take a look | Take a boo with my telescope. See the dust on the moon? |
| take a bow | bow to the audience, show you like applause | The crowd is clapping because you played well. Take a bow. |
| take a break | rest for a few minutes or days or weeks | You've been working hard. Do you want to take a break? |
| take a bullet | accept blame or injury to protect someone | Pat said she was responsible for our mistake - she took a bullet. |
| take a chance | gamble, try your luck | I'm going to take a chance and buy gold. It's a gamble, but... . |

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Idioms: take a dive -- take a leak [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| take a dive | plan to lose, throw a game | The boxer was paid to take a dive. He allowed his opponent to win. |
| take a drive/trip | travel, go for a drive, go on a trip | They take a drive in the country every Sunday afternoon. |
| take a dump [B] | shit, drop a log [B], take a shit [B] | I looked out the window and saw a dog taking a dump on my lawn. |
| take a flight | go, leave, take off | If you don't like the way I live, you can take a flight. |
| take a flight | leave by plane, travel on a scheduled airline flight take off | We're taking WestJet Flight 703 out of Toronto on Friday. |
| take a gander | look at, feast your eyes , take a boo | Take a gander at that valley! Just look at it! |
| take a guess | guess, try to answer, hazard a guess | "How old are you?" "Take a guess." |
| take a hike | go, leave, get lost | When her old boyfriend moved in with us, I told them to take a hike. |
| take a joke | not be mad if the joke is about you, a good sport | Let's tell the story about Steve getting lost. He can take a joke. |
| take a leak [B] | urinate, take a pee [B], take a whiz | We asked the bus driver to stop so we could take a leak. |

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Idioms: take a dive -- take a leak [B]

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Idioms: take a load off your feet -- take a risk

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| take a load off your feet | sit down, grab a chair , have a seat | Jim pointed to a chair and said, "Take a load off your feet." |
| take a look | look at, see that, take a boo | Take a look at that pumpkin! It's monstrous! |
| take a pee [B] | urinate, take a leak [B], take a whiz | "Where can I take a pee?" she whispered to her friend. |
| take a picture | photograph, take a picture | In Regina, he took a picture of the statue of Louis Riel. |
| take a piss [B] | urinate, take a leak [B], take a pee [B] | A drunk was taking a piss in the alley behind the hotel. |
| take a poke at | punch, hit with your fist | First he pushed Tom, then he took a poke at me. |
| take a poke at | say something negative in a humorous way | The speaker took a poke at women who want everything men have. |
| take a poll | record opinions, find out how people will vote | Take a poll before the election so you can predict the winner. |
| take a powder | leave quickly, flew the coop , take a hike | "Where's Louis?" "He took a powder when he heard the sirens." |
| take a risk | (See take risks) | |

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Idioms: take a load off your feet -- take a risk

Idioms: take a round out of -- take action

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| take a round out of | defeat in a fight, win a fight | Johnny is a tough guy. He took a round out of Pete, you know. |
| take a shine to | like, show interest in | At the age of four, Raj took a shine to the piano. Now he's a great pianist. |
| take a shit [B] | have a bowel movement, take a dump [B] | She wrote a book that explains how to take a shit in the woods. |
| take a shot | criticize or insult, put down , take a poke at | When he spoke about abortion, he took a shot at the government for not changing the laws. |
| take a shot | shoot a gun at, aim and shoot a rifle | Uncle was looking for a target, so he took a shot at a tin can. |
| take a snap shot | (See take a picture) | |
| take a stand | say what you believe, state your position, take sides | The teacher doesn't want to take a stand on the Young Offender Act until we've written our essays. |
| take a strip off | scold, lecture, give you hell | The foreman took a strip off me for driving too fast. He was mad. |
| take a whiz | urinate, take a leak [B], take a pee [B] | I have to take a whiz before we get on the plane. I'll be right back. |
| take action | act in a deliberate way, act with a purpose | Before I take action, I'll ask Bing if he was aware of the rules. |

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Idioms: take a round out of -- take action

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Idioms: take advantage of -- take chances

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| take advantage of | act at the best time, seize the opportunity | I took advantage of the low price of gasoline. I bought 500 litres. |
| take advantage of | hurt or abuse someone who trusts you | I feel very angry toward people who take advantage of children. |
| take after | have similar traits, have the same personality | Kyle is calm; he takes after me. Kris is active, just like his dad. |
| take after | chase, try to catch | If he catches the football, you take after him as fast as you can. |
| take by storm | rush in, win by force, overwhelm | The Vikings landed on the beach and took the village by storm. |
| take calls | answer the phone, receive calls | Karen isn't taking calls because she's in a meeting. |
| take care | be careful | Take care. See you tomorrow. |
| take care of | care for someone or something, look after | I'll take care of Taea while you go shopping. I'll stay with her. |
| take care of business | do what needs to be done, do my job | "You scored a beautiful goal!" "Just taking care of business." |
| take chances | live dangerously, risk something valuable, play with fire | Don't take chances with our savings. We worked hard to earn that money. |

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Idioms: take charge -- take him out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| take charge | be in control, supervise | Jim will take charge while I'm away. He'll be your supervisor. |
| take cover | hide, find a safe place | If the soldiers begin shooting, you guys take cover. |
| take drugs | use drugs, do drugs | When I take that drug, I feel sick at my stomach. |
| take effect | have an effect, cause a change | In two minutes the drug will take effect and you will feel sleepy. |
| take exception to | be upset about, object to, complain about | Vern will take exception to any questions about ethnic origin. |
| take five | rest for five minutes, take a break | We've been working hard this morning. Let's take five. |
| take for granted | expect, assume | His support cannot be taken for granted. We must ask him. |
| take heart | have courage, be strong | When we had troubles, Grandpa said, "Take heart, my children." |
| take him down a peg | push him to a lower place, get off your high horse | Ali was too proud. Somebody had to take him down a peg. |
| take him out | defeat him, eliminate him | Wei entered the tournament, but Jo took her out in the first round. |

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Idioms: take charge -- take him out

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Idioms: bag and baggage -- balderdash

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|--|
| bag and baggage | everything you own, all of one's possessions | The next day, he moved into her apartment - bag and baggage. |
| bag lady | a lady who looks for food and bottles in the streets | Behind the restaurant, a bag lady was digging in the garbage cans. |
| bag of tricks | skills, methods, plans; devices to entertain | You need a large bag of tricks to teach the Grade 8 class. |
| bag some rays | sit or lie in the sunshine, have a sun bath | While you're swimming, I'm going to bag some rays. |
| bagel | (See get bageled) | |
| bah | nonsense, it is not true | Bah! There is no tooth fairy! |
| bail me out | help me solve a problem, pay to get me out of jail | If they arrest me, will you bail me out - pay the bail money? |
| bail out | quit, leave a project, resign | Tom bailed out when Lan became Project Manager. |
| balance of power | (See the balance of power) | |
| balderdash | verbose nonsense | "Please switch off the talk show. It's just balderdash." |

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Idioms: take in -- take it in stride

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| take in | make smaller, tighten | These pants need to be taken in at the waist. They're too large. |
| take in | attend, visit | When you come to Calgary, be sure to take in the Stampede. |
| take it | endure it, accept it, stand it | He treats you very badly. Why do you take it? |
| take it | understand it is true, believe it is this way | I take it you want the whole class to write a report. Is that right? |
| take it and run | accept the offer and be happy, be satisfied | He offered to pay \$200 for the damage, so I took it and ran. |
| take it back | not mean to say it, withdraw what you said | I said you were a turkey, but I take it back. You're a rat! |
| take it easy | do not try so hard, do not work so hard | When you jog, take it easy. Rest often. |
| take it easy on | be less demanding, go easy on | When you train the dogs, take it easy on Taffy. She's just a pup. |
| take it for a spin | drive it, test drive it | Al has a new motorcycle. I hope he lets me take it for a spin. |
| take it in stride | continue without delay, cope with | Lilian is so steady. If there's a problem, she takes it in stride. |

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Idioms: take it like a man -- take me seriously

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| take it like a man | be brave when hurt, do not complain about problems | They told him not to cry when he was hurt - to take it like a man. |
| take it or leave it | take this offer or refuse it; no bargaining | I'll give you \$150 for the sofa - take it or leave it. |
| take it out on | express anger toward an innocent person | Vince gets angry at work; then he takes it out on his kids. |
| take it personally | believe you are being attacked or accused | He was criticizing the whole class; don't take it personally. |
| take it the wrong way | misunderstand, feel bad; no offense, but... | He stares because he is curious. Don't take it the wrong way. |
| take it to heart | believe it is said to you, feel it is meant for you | When he said we'll burn in hell, Ella cried. She took it to heart. |
| take it with a grain of salt | do not believe all of it, some of it is not true | When Brian talks, take it with a grain of salt. Believe very little. |
| take its course | develop naturally, go through a process, willy-nilly | We can control many parts of our environment, but the weather just takes its course. |
| take leave of your senses | act like a fool, not think clearly, off your rocker | If you wear your bathing suit to church, people will think you've taken leave of your senses. |
| take me seriously | be serious about me and what I say and do | I'm not joking about going to a psychic. Please take me seriously. |

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Idioms: take it like a man -- take me seriously

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Idioms: take my hat off to -- take on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| take my hat off to | show respect for someone, praise a person's work | I take my hat off to Roger. He has promoted business in our town. |
| take my head off | shout at me, say angry words to me | You don't have to take my head off when I ask where you're going. |
| take my place | sit or park where I usually sit or park | Mommy, he took my place! He's sitting in my seat! |
| take oath | say that something is true, give my word of honor | He took an oath that he is the child's father. I believe him. |
| take off | leave by plane, depart on a plane | Our plane takes off at 10:35. We have to go to the airport. |
| take off, eh | go, leave, beat it , buzz off , get lost | When he asked for my phone number, I said, "Take off, eh." |
| take offense | be hurt, feel offended | Jan takes offense easily. Don't be critical of her poetry. |
| take on | fight, challenge | Mac wanted to take on Ted, but Ted didn't want to fight. |
| take on | agree to do, accept a responsibility | I'm very busy. I can't take on any more work right now. |
| take on | employ, hire, hire on | AmCorp is taking on workers. Should we apply for a job? |

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Idioms: take my hat off to -- take on

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Idioms: take on a new light -- take risks

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| take on a new light | have a new meaning, see a different meaning | The music takes on a new light if you know the composer. |
| take out | court, date, go out with , see | He was taking her out when they went to college. They were lovers. |
| take-out restaurant | a restaurant that serves food to be taken outside | There's a take-out restaurant. Let's buy some food and go to the park. |
| take over | do someone's job, become the new manager | Please take over the bookkeeping while I'm away. Thank you. |
| take pains | try hard, take extra time or care | Mr. and Mrs. Wilson take pains to find families that are truly in need. |
| take part in | join, be a worker or a participant | She takes part in many activities, including gardening. |
| take place | happen, occur | The race will take place at the university track at 10 a.m. |
| take possession | receive the keys as the new owner | "We bought a house in Parkland." "When do you take possession?" |
| take revenge | hurt one who hurt you, get even | If your car is stolen, report it to the police. Don't take revenge. |
| take risks | accept challenge and change, welcome uncertainty, push the envelope | By taking risks we can discover our potential - what is possible! |

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Idioms: take on a new light -- take risks

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Idioms: take sides -- take the heat

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| take sides | support one person or group in an argument | The mayor refused to take sides in the fight to save the hospital. |
| take solace | find peace, find comfort | It was a bad fire, but I take solace in the fact that no one died. |
| take that | you deserve that, you have it coming | Take that, you devil! And that! I'm very angry at you! |
| take the blame | receive the blame, accept the blame, take the rap | Sometimes innocent people offer to take the blame for crimes. |
| take the bull by the horns | control the problem, be firm, take charge | If the class is noisy, the teacher must take the bull by the horns. |
| take the bus/plane | ride on the bus or plane, catch a plane | Lee never takes the bus. He prefers to ride his bicycle. |
| take the cake | is the worst or the weirdest or the funniest etc. | Of all the people I've met, you take the cake! You're the wildest! |
| take the chill off | make the room warmer, start the furnace/fireplace | An electric heater will take the chill off in the evening. |
| take the flack | listen to the complaints, take the heat | When children cause trouble, their parents take the flack. |
| take the heat | listen to the questions from the police or public | Vern took the heat, but Al stole the drugs. They blamed Vern. |

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Idioms: take sides -- take the heat

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Idioms: take the pulse -- take up cudgels

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| take the pulse | discover the feelings of the people | Before you change the flag, see how people feel. Take their pulse. |
| take the rap | receive the blame, take the blame | Jeremy took the rap for the crime. He alone was sent to prison. |
| take the stage | go onto the stage, be the performer on the stage | When Bob Goulet took the stage we heard some great singing. |
| take the stand | sit in the witness chair in a courtroom | You witnessed the crime, so you will have to take the stand. |
| take the trouble | do extra work, do special tasks, take pains | Maria always takes the trouble to bake my favorite pie. |
| take this job and shove it [B] | I quit, you can keep this job | Jim said to the boss, "Take this job and shove it! I'm outa here!" |
| take time to smell the roses | use some time to relax and enjoy the scenery | Yes, pursue your goals, but take time to smell the roses. |
| take umbrage | feel hurt, feel offended, take offense | If you refuse her invitation to her party, she'll take umbrage. |
| take up | begin a hobby or activity, learn a skill | First, Alice took up karate. Then she learned how to meditate. |
| take up cudgels | pick up weapons, prepare to defend or attack | We may have to take up cudgels against people who invent and spread viruses on the Internet. |

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Idioms: take the pulse -- take up cudgels

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Idioms: take up the slack -- take your pick

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| take up the slack | do somebody's work, fill in | When I'm away, Hal takes up the slack. He does my job. |
| take with a grain of salt | (See take it with a grain of salt) | |
| take you down a peg | (See knock you down a peg) | |
| take you for all you've got | take all your money by suing you or cheating you | If she divorces you, she could take you for all you've got. |
| take you in | give you shelter and food, take care of | Will your relatives take you in if you lose your job? |
| take you to court | sue you, bring a lawsuit against you | If you don't pay for the damage, they could take you to court. |
| take you to task | ask you to explain, haul you up on the carpet | Did Reverend Klinck take you to task for drinking beer? Did he tell you drinking is a sin? |
| take you to the cleaners | defeat you badly, win by many points | If you play checkers with Lars, he'll take you to the cleaners. |
| take your lumps | endure bumps and hits, suffer through injuries | To play hockey, you have to learn to take your lumps. |
| take your pick | choose one, say which one you prefer | You can have Coke or Pepsi. Take your pick. |

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Idioms: take up the slack -- take your pick

Idioms: take your pulse -- takeoff on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| take your pulse | measure your heart rate, check your pulse | When you visit the health clinic, the doctor will take your pulse. |
| take your seat | sit in your chair or desk, be seated | Judy, please take your seat so we can begin the exam. |
| take your time | do not rush, do it when you have enough time, no rush | "When do you need it?" "It's not urgent. Take your time." |
| take your sweet time | you are too slow, you could work faster, pick up the pace | "You took your sweet time to do this job. It could have been done much faster!" "Yes, but would it have been done well?" |
| take your turn | act or speak when your name is called, it's your turn | You're up to bat, Buddy. Take your turn, knock it outa here! |
| take your word for it | believe what you say, not ask for proof, the benefit of the doubt | You say you are eighteen. Since you don't have your ID card, we'll have to take your word for it. |
| taken | cheated, ripped off | If he paid \$1500 for that car, he got taken. |
| taken for a ride | tricked, deceived, taken in | We were taken for a ride. We lost thousands of dollars. |
| taken in | deceived, fooled, taken for a ride | I was taken in by their ads. I believed what they said. |
| takeoff on | (See a takeoff on) | |

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Idioms: take your pulse -- takeoff on

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Idioms: takes one to know one -- talk it over

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| takes one to know one | (See it takes one to know one) | |
| takes two to tango | (See it takes two to tango) | |
| talk a mile a minute | talk fast, talk quickly | Mimi talks a mile a minute. It's hard to understand her. |
| talk about | if we are talking about, if you want to discuss | Talk about cold! Last winter it was -43° |
| talk away | continue talking, talk and talk | The baby was talking away, but no one could understand her. |
| talk back | reply without respect, lip off | In China, kids don't talk back to their parents, do they? |
| talk big | brag, exaggerate, promise a lot | Bert talks big <i>before</i> a game. He's more humble afterwards. |
| talk into | persuade, convince | Try to talk him into buying a new car. His Fiat is rusty. |
| talk is cheap | talk is not action, saying is easier than doing | He says he's going to pay his debt, but talk is cheap. |
| talk it over | discuss it, hash it over | I don't agree with you, but let's talk it over before we decide. |

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Idioms: takes one to know one -- talk it over

Idioms: talk it up -- tall tale

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| talk it up | talk with enthusiasm, tell people about it | If we want to build an arena, we have to talk it up with the people. |
| talk shop | talk about jobs, talk about what we do at work | I don't like to talk shop when we have visitors. It's too boring. |
| talk the leg off the lamb of God | talk a lot; persuasively; have the gift of the gab | Minerva was a talker. She could talk the leg off the lamb of God! |
| talk through your hat | talk without logic, say unbelievable things, hot air | If you tell Dad about building a house in outer space, he'll say you're talking through your hat. |
| talk to the hand | I am not listening to you, I am not interested in your comment | "But he hit me first!" "Talk to the hand." |
| talk turkey | discuss a fair deal, negotiate seriously | If the owner really wants to sell, he'll talk turkey. |
| talk your ear off | talk too much, talk all the time | Polly is only three years old, but she can talk your ear off. |
| talk your head off | talk a lot, say too much | You can talk your head off, but I won't change my opinion. |
| tall one | (See a tall one) | |
| tall tale | a story that is partly true, an exaggerated story | Fishermen love to tell tall tales. They lie a little, eh. |

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Idioms: talk it up -- tall tale

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Idioms: a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush -- a blackout (war)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|--|
| a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush | having one is better than seeing many | When searching for a better job, remember <i>A bird in the hand...</i> |
| a bit at sea | a bit unsure, uncertain | He seems a bit at sea since his brother died. They were close. |
| a bit dense | (See dense) | |
| a bit off/a bit mental | not rational, unbalanced, one brick short | Kate talks to the birds. Do you think she's a bit off? |
| a bitch [B] | a complaining woman, a woman who nags | What a bitch! She complains to us and criticizes her kids. |
| a bite to eat | a lunch, a snack | We can grab a bite to eat at the arena. They sell snacks there. |
| a bitter pill | a negative event, a loss, a painful experience | Divorce is a bitter pill for her. She believed in her marriage. |
| a black mark | a mark beside your name means you are bad | If you cause an accident, you get a black mark beside your name. |
| a blackout (TV) | refusal to broadcast an event during that event | A blackout is intended to encourage fans to attend an event. |
| a blackout (war) | a policy that requires lights to be turned off | Blackouts prevented bombers from seeing their targets at night. |

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Idioms: ball her [B] -- bang for your buck

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|--|
| ball her [B] | have sex with her, lay her | "Hey, Ted. Did you ball her?" "No. All you think about is sex!" |
| ball-park figure | (See a ball-park figure) | |
| ball's in your court | (See the ball's in your court) | |
| ballistic | (See go ballistic) | |
| baloney | false statements, bull , bunk , hogwash | Most of what the speaker said is a lot of baloney - untrue. |
| bam | a word to describe a hit or collision, pow | The car rolled down the hill and into the wall - bam! |
| bananas | very excited, nearly crazy | When we won the cup, the crowd went bananas. |
| bandwidth | mental capacity, mental energy, brain cells | We need a person with bandwidth, someone who understands complex management relationships. |
| bang [B] | have sex with, lay | "Did you bang her, Ted?" "If I did, I wouldn't tell you." |
| bang for your buck | fun for your money, value for your dollar | You get more bang for your buck at garage sales. They're fun! |

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Idioms: ball her [B] -- bang for your buck

Idioms: tangle with -- team up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| tangle with | fight against, have a fight with | I wouldn't want to tangle with Vince. He's strong - and mean! |
| tank | a drunk, an alcoholic, lush , wino | Percy - that tank! He drinks a case of beer every day. |
| tank | (See in the tank) | |
| tanked/tanked up | drunk, polluted , sloshed , wasted | After an evening at the tavern, the sailors were tanked. |
| tar with the same brush | (See paint with the same brush) | |
| taste of his own... | (See give him a taste of his own medicine) | |
| teach an old dog... | (See you can't teach an old dog new tricks) | |
| teach you the tricks of the trade | teach you how to do it, teach you the easy way, learn the ropes | Welcome to the company, Ken. Paul will work with you and teach you the tricks of the trade. |
| team player | an employee who works well with other employees | Team players - that's what we need in our company. |
| team up | play together, form a team | If you team up with Lana, we can play bridge, okay? |

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Idioms: tear a strip off -- tell him a thing or two

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| tear a strip off | scold, lecture, criticize, give you hell [B] | Kasan's father tore a strip off him for missing a day of school. |
| tear around | go fast, run here and there, drive around | When Ty was young, he liked to tear around town in his car. |
| tear me apart | criticize me or my work, find all my faults | If you waste tax dollars, the voters will tear you apart. |
| tearjerker | a sad story, a story or song that causes tears, move you to tears | Have you seen <i>For Whom The Bell Tolls</i> ? It's sad - a real tearjerker! |
| teed off | upset, cross, ticked off | She was teed off about the errors in the balance sheet. |
| teed up | ready to operate, ready to use | "Is your presentation ready?" "Yes. All teed up, ready to go." |
| teeny-weeny | very small, tiny, itsy-bitsy | Look at its teeny-weeny tail! It's so cute! |
| tell a soul | (See won't tell a soul) | |
| tell all | tell everything you know, pour out your soul | In a job interview, I answer their questions, but I don't tell all. |
| tell him a thing or two | tell him he caused a problem, tell him off | If Sid took my keys, I'm going to tell him a thing or two. |

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Idioms: tell him off -- tender age of

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| tell him off | tell him you are angry, tell him he is wrong | If he mentions my toupee once more, I'm going to tell him off. |
| tell him where to get off | tell him what you think of him, tell him off | If he complains about the meals, tell him where to get off. |
| tell him where to go | tell him to go to hell [B], tell him off | If he criticizes the way I drive, I'll tell him where to go! |
| tell me another one | tell me another excuse, tell me another lie | You say the spaceship took you away. Sure. Tell me another one. |
| tell me straight | (See give it to me straight) | |
| tell on | tell a secret, tell about a crime, squeal | Will Robbie tell on us? What if he tells the police we did it? |
| tempest in a teapot | (See a tempest in a teapot) | |
| tempt fate | act without caution, act as though you are immortal, don't push your luck , take chances | To swim with sharks is dangerous; to do it alone is to tempt fate. |
| ten-four (CB radio) | yes, I hear you, okay | "See you in Memphis, big fella." "Ten-four, good buddy." |
| tender age of | (See the tender age of) | |

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Idioms: tell him off -- tender age of

Idioms: test drive -- thanks a million

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| test drive | drive to evaluate, try it out | I test drove the new Harley on Saturday. What a bike! |
| test the water | check people's feelings, take a poll | Wilson always tests the water before he introduces a budget. |
| test your metal | test your strength or will or skill, run the gauntlet | If your team is losing by three runs, the bases are loaded, and you are the final batter - that will test your metal! |
| TGIF | Thank Goodness It's Friday, I am glad it is the last day of work this week | "Remember, we're going to a party tonight." "Yes! TGIF!" |
| thank goodness | I am thankful or relieved, thank heavens | Thank goodness you're here. We were worried about you. |
| Thank Goodness It's Friday | (See TGIF) | |
| thank heavens | thank the gods, thank goodness | When we phoned Mom, she said, "Thank heavens you're safe!" |
| thank your lucky stars | (See you can thank your lucky stars) | |
| thanks a bunch | thanks very much, thanks a lot | When I deliver the groceries, she says, "Thanks a bunch, Teddy." |
| thanks a million | thanks very much, thanks a lot | Thanks a million for all you've done for us. We do appreciate it. |

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Idioms: that a boy/that a girl -- that's his bible

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| that a boy/that a girl | good work, well done, 'at a boy , 'at a girl | Whenever I get a good grade, she says, "That a boy, Reid!" |
| that is that | (See and that's that) | |
| that takes the cake | that is the strangest or loudest or wildest etc. | I've seen big pumpkins, but that takes the cake! It's fifty pounds! |
| that'll be the day | that will never happen, not on your life | Me? Wear a ring in my nose? That'll be the day! |
| that'll be the frosty Friday | that day will never come, don't hold your breath | Canada become part of the US? That'll be the frosty Friday! |
| that's a corker | that is unusual, that is amazing | "The baby weighed 12 pounds." "Wow, that's a corker!" |
| that's a crock (of shit) [B] | that is not true; bullshit ; crap | A Mustang is faster than a Corvette? That's a crock! |
| that's all she wrote | that is the end of the story, there is no more | At the end of the lesson he said, "And that's all she wrote. Any questions?" |
| that's cool | that is good/fine/OK, that is groovy | When we gave Fonzie a leather tie, he said, "That's cool." |
| that's his bible | that is his rule book, code or main reference | The Oxford English Dictionary - that's her bible. |

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Idioms: that a boy/that a girl -- that's his bible

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Idioms: that's life -- the air was blue

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| that's life | that is the way life goes, c'est la vie | Whenever Maurice has bad luck, he says, "Ah, that's life." |
| that's stretching it | that is adding to the story, stretching it | Did he say there were fifty flying saucers? That's stretching it. |
| that's that | (See and that's that) | |
| that's the spirit | good work, good attitude, way to go | "That's the spirit," the Captain shouted as we scrubbed the deck. |
| that's the ticket | that is the answer, that is the solution | I said, "Can we share the job?" Mr. Tse said, "That's the ticket!" |
| that's the way the ball bounces | that is fate, that's life | If Jon got the job, good for him. That's the way the ball bounces. |
| that's the way the cookie crumbles | that is fate, that is the way things happen | You didn't win the prize? That's the way the cookie crumbles. |
| the acid test | the ultimate trial for someone's credibility | Your readiness to support me during the examination was the acid test of our relationship. |
| the age of majority | the age when you can vote, between 16 and 21 years, come of age | Dad said that when I reach the age of majority I can buy my own car! |
| the air was blue | there was much swearing, someone said bad words, swear like a sailor | When Dad discovered the dent in his Cadillac, the air was blue! |

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Idioms: the apple doesn't fall far from the tree -- the best things in life are free

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|--|
| the apple doesn't fall far from the tree | kids are like their parents; a chip off the old block ; like father, like son | I looked at the father, then at the son, and I thought, <i>The apple doesn't fall far from the tree.</i> |
| the apple of his eye | his favorite girl, the girl he desires | Susie was Don's sweetheart, the apple of his eye. |
| the balance of power | the deciding votes; votes that cause the winner, tip the scales | He will try to get the support of the workers because they hold the balance of power. |
| the ball's in your court | you speak or act now, it's your turn | She offered to pay \$1900 for your car, so the ball's in your court. |
| the be-all, end-all | the best, the greatest, his nibs , world beater | Brian believes he's the be-all, end-all in politics, but wait until he loses the next election. |
| the bee's knees | the best, superior, the cat's meow | Kay was voted best citizen. Now she thinks she's the bee's knees. |
| the benefit of the doubt | fair judgement when some of the facts are not known, take your word for it | If money is missing, we give you the benefit of the doubt. We assume you didn't take it. |
| the best-laid plans of mice and men go oft astray | plans are not guaranteed, plans sometimes do not work out | If this boat sinks, we'll say, "The best-laid plans of mice and men go oft astray." |
| the best of both worlds | the best parts of two cultures or styles etc., two heads are better... | If you have Italian design and German engineering, you have the best of both worlds, eh. |
| the best things in life are free | the sun, the stars, the ocean, etc. are free; Mother Nature belongs to all of us | We went on a camping trip and discovered that the best things in life are free. |

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Idioms: The Big Apple -- the bottom line

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|--|
| The Big Apple | New York City, New York, USA | Guess what! My friend and I are going to live in The Big Apple! |
| the big cheese | the boss, chief cook and bottle washer , head honcho | If you've got a complaint, see the big cheese - our manager. |
| The Big O | Olympic Stadium in Montreal | We watched Diane compete in the pentathlon at The Big O. |
| the big 0 | zero, nothing, zip | You won a car. I got the big 0. |
| the big picture | all parts together, the whole plan, can't see the forest... | Look at the big picture. Doing two jobs will have a negative effect on your family. |
| the bigger they are the harder they fall | we can beat the big guys, big players fall harder, mind over matter | "Look at all their big players!" "Don't worry. The bigger they are, the harder they fall!" |
| the bitter end | the end of a long struggle, the end of a difficult time | On a ranch you work till a job is done. You stay till the bitter end. |
| the blind leading the blind | the leader is ignorant or incompetent | With Filbert as President, it's the blind leading the blind. |
| the bottom fell out | the project stopped, the business failed, the wheels fall off | When the price of oil dropped, the bottom fell out of the oil industry in Alberta. |
| the bottom line | the final number, the conclusion | The bottom line is this: we can't afford to buy another store. |

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Idioms: the breaking point -- the can

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| the breaking point | the time you cannot go on, the point where you quit | My job was so stressful I reached the breaking point. I had to quit. |
| the brush-off | refusal, rejection | The first time he asked her for a date, she gave him the brush-off. |
| the buck stops here | I am responsible for what we do - no one else; pass the buck | "The buck stops here," the new manager said to us. "We don't blame others for our problems." |
| the bum's rush | being chased away, run out of town | If you tell us to pay more tax we'll give you the bum's rush. |
| the burbs | the suburbs; outlying residential districts | That's Jan's dream: two children and a home in the burbs. |
| the burning question | the main question, what we all want to know | Who drove the car into the lake? That's the burning question. |
| the butt of the joke | the person who is laughed at, the goat | Frank is so sensitive. He hates to be the butt of a joke. |
| the call of duty | the feeling that you have to work, duty calls | When the group needs a secretary I answer the call of duty. |
| the calm before the storm | the quiet time just before anger or an attack | The enemy is planning an attack. This is the calm before the storm. |
| the can | toilet, washroom, the john , the loo | Who's in the can? Please hurry! I have to go! |

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Idioms: the breaking point -- the can

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Idioms: the cart before the horse -- the day of the family farm

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| the cart before the horse | backwards, back to front | Having dessert before dinner is putting the cart before the horse. |
| the cat's ass [B] | the best, number one , the bee's knees | Since Val won the beauty contest, she thinks she's the cat's ass! |
| the cat's meow | somebody special, a hotshot | When Vi wears diamonds, she thinks she's the cat's meow. |
| the cat's out of the bag | the secret has been told, people know the secret | We know about your affair with Brad. The cat's out of the bag. |
| the crack of dawn | (See at the crack of dawn) | |
| the crunch | the difficult time, the day we have less money | The crunch is coming - when we have one salary instead of two. |
| the crux of the matter | the main point, the real issue | Uncle Bert is too old to drive the car. That's the crux of the matter. |
| the customer is always right | satisfy the customer, agree with the customer | Now let's discuss an old saying: <i>The Customer's Always Right</i> . |
| the cutting edge | the latest technology, state of the art | Compact discs are no longer the cutting edge in recorded music. |
| the day of the family farm | the time when most farms were family owned | The day of the family farm is nearly over. They can't survive. |

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Idioms: bang on -- bare-faced lie

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|--|
| bang on | exactly right, very true, correct, spot on | Your answer to Question 3 was bang on. It was correct. |
| bank on | depend on, count on | We were banking on more sales to pay for our marketing costs. |
| bankroll | provide the money to begin, front me | If you'll bankroll me, I'll open a bistro on Mars. |
| baptism by fire | harsh introduction, rigorous initiation, hit the ground running | On my first day of football camp I had to tackle a 200-pound fullback charging straight at me. It was baptism by fire! |
| bar fly | (See a bar fly) | |
| bar hop | drink at many bars in one evening, pub crawl | Our wives were out late last night. They were bar hopping. |
| bar none | including all products or people, no exceptions | Apex is the best detergent, bar none. |
| bar star | (See a bar star) | |
| bare bones | only the necessary things, no extras, bare bones | ACTION CLEAN is a bare-bones operation - a family business. |
| bare-faced lie | (See a bare-faced lie) | |

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Idioms: bang on -- bare-faced lie

Idioms: the devil makes work for idle hands -- the eye of a needle

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| the devil makes work for idle hands | if a person is not busy he will do evil things, work ethic | Protestants believe children should be busy because the devil makes work for idle hands. |
| the devil you say | that is amazing, how about that, you don't say | "I caught a thirty-pound trout." "The devil you say!" |
| the dickens you say | that is unbelievable, gadzooks, say what | "Ping, you won a car!" "The dickens you say!" |
| the downside | the negative side, the disadvantages, the bad points | The downside of abortion is that some women use it as a method of birth control. |
| the dying seconds | the last few seconds in a game | The score was tied 3 - 3 in the dying seconds of the third period. |
| the early bird gets the worm | the one who arrives first gets the reward etc. | I want to go to the sale at 8 a.m. The early bird gets the worm! |
| the end-all, be-all | (See the be-all, end-all) | |
| the end justifies the means | any method is fine if the result is good | If a person steals food to survive, does the end justify the means? |
| the end of the line | the time to leave, the place to get off | When the group began to gossip, it was the end of the line for me. |
| the eye of a needle | the hole in a needle, the opening for the thread | The hole in the tube was smaller than the eye of a needle. |

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Idioms: the eye of the storm -- the gift of the gab (the gift of gab)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| the eye of the storm | the center of the storm, the middle of the storm | The eye of the storm is directly over Lake Simcoe. |
| the F-word | fuck [B], friggin | Mommy, Mommy! Charles said the F-word! |
| the family jewels | the male genitals (the source of future progeny) | Sure I wear a jockstrap - to protect the family jewels! |
| the fat hit the fire | the trouble got worse, people began fighting | Kate accused Maude of lying - that's when the fat hit the fire. |
| the fickle finger of fate | the chances in life, the way life changes unpredictably, that's life | Our lives were saved because a dog barked. We were saved by the fickle finger of fate. |
| the fifth column | the column in a newspaper that tells about the media | The fifth column often comments on the need for fair reporting. |
| the first leg | the first part (of a journey), a leg up | The first leg will take us to Paris. Then we'll go on to Rome. |
| the first pancake is always spoiled | the first attempt or product is usually a failure | When Mr. Putin heard about the problems in the Olympics under the new president, he said, "The first pancake is always spoiled!" |
| the full Monty | fully nude, completely naked, stark naked , strip | "Should I take off <i>all</i> my clothes?" "Yes, we want the full Monty!" |
| the gift of the gab (the gift of gab) | the ability to talk, a way with words | Bev can speak to the parents. She has the gift of the gab. |

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Idioms: the gloves are off -- The Great White North

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|--|
| the gloves are off | the fight is beginning, play hardball | The candidates have insulted each other. The gloves are off! |
| the goat | the person who is blamed for a problem | Ken is the goat, but all he did was open the door for the students. |
| the going gets rough | the task becomes harder, it is a rocky road | In the second year, you study law. That's when the going gets rough. |
| the going rate | the standard price or fee, the usual price | The going rate for car repairs is about \$60 an hour. |
| The Golden Rule | <i>Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.</i> | If everyone lived by The Golden Rule, you may not like the way you are treated. |
| the gospel truth | the real truth, as true as the gospel | I opened the package to count the cookies - that's the gospel truth! |
| the grass is greener on the other side of the fence | things look better from a distance, it is natural to desire a neighbor's things | When you look at other homes, the grass is often greener on the other side of the fence. |
| The Great One | Wayne Gretzky, "Gretz" | The Great One was the heart of the Edmonton Oilers. |
| The Great White Hope | Caucasian boxer who could win the heavyweight title | In the 1970s, George Chuvallo was The Great White Hope. |
| The Great White North | Canada, <i>the true north...</i> | Millions of Americans enjoy their holidays in The Great White North. |

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Idioms: The Grim Reaper -- the inside story

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| The Grim Reaper | an executioner; a person who decides your fate, position, grades, etc. | Old Mason was The Grim Reaper. He showed no mercy when he failed students. |
| The Group of Five/The Regina Five | artists K. Lockhead, A. McKay, D. Morton, T. Godwin, R. Bloore | The Group of Five are famous for their bold, abstract paintings. |
| The Group of Seven | Canadian painters who formed a group in 1917 | Do you know the names of the artists in The Group of Seven? |
| the handwriting is on the wall | the message is clear, the conclusion is obvious | I tell my students the handwriting is on the wall: <i>learn how to learn.</i> |
| the hard way | the difficult method, the rocky road | If we plan, we can avoid doing our work the hard way. |
| the heat is on | there is pressure to win, we must succeed | When you compete for a career position, the heat is on. |
| the hell you say | I do not believe it, get out, go on | Harper won the election? The hell you say! |
| the in-crowd | a few special people, a clique | Cleo's part of the in-crowd - the girls who play on the basketball team. |
| the in's and out's | knowledge and experience, knowing the ropes | He knows the in's and out's of the car business. He's experienced. |
| the inside story | the personal story, the story that is not published | Greg knows the inside story on the Lawson murders. He's married to Marcia Lawson. |

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Idioms: the inside track -- the last word

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|--|
| the inside track | being close to the person who has power, Bob's your uncle | If your uncle works at Sears, you should have the inside track on the new job in Men's Wear. |
| the jig's up | we know what you do, we know your secret | The jig's up, ladies. We know why you buy those vibrators. |
| the john | the toilet, the biffy , the can | Where's the john? I have to wash my hands. |
| the joke is on you | you are the one we are laughing at, play a joke | You got the book with blank pages. The joke's on you! |
| the key to success | the most important factor, best way to succeed | He said the key to success in business is customer service. |
| the knock against | his worst fault, his main problem | Phil is a great teacher. The only knock against him is his temper. |
| the lap of luxury | a lifestyle that includes the finest house etc. | Flo married a rich realtor and now lives in the lap of luxury. |
| the last of it | the end of it, no more of it | We've had a week of -40 weather. I hope we've seen the last of it. |
| the last straw | one too many problems, the one that ruins it | The break-in was the last straw. We decided to move. |
| the last word | the most informed statement, the most knowledge | The last word in media is Marshall McLuhan (1911-1980). His ideas are still quoted, still respected. |

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Idioms: the last word -- the long and the short of it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| the last word | the last statement in a discussion or argument | "You always want to have the last word, don't you. Well not this time! There!" |
| the laughing stock | the person everybody is laughing at | If you ride a camel to work, we'll be the laughing stock of the town. |
| the lay of the land | (See get the lay of the land) | |
| the life of Riley | a good life, a life with choices, the best things in life are free | David quit his job, bought a small farm, and he's living the life of Riley! |
| the life of the party | a lively, funny person who causes people to laugh | Jerry was the life of the party - singing, joking and laughing. |
| the lights are on but nobody's home | the eyes are open but lifeless, not all there | "Hello! Hello, Pat! His lights are on but nobody's home. Ha ha." |
| the lion's share | the largest part, the biggest piece | Thanks to the mothers for doing the lion's share of the work. |
| the living daylight | the life, the consciousness | When that dog barked, it scared the living daylight out of me. |
| the living end | the very best, the greatest, the most beautiful | Have you heard K.D. Lang sing? She's the livin' end. |
| the long and the short of it | everything I know, the whole story | He ended his report with, "That's the long and the short of it." |

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Idioms: the long arm of the law -- the middleman

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| the long arm of the law | the police, police methods | Thanks to the long arm of the law, a thief's in jail and I have my car. |
| the loo | the toilet, the can , the john | I'll see the kitchen later, thanks. Where's the loo? |
| the Lord helps those who help themselves | if you work to help yourself God will help you | If you pray, remember, the Lord helps those who help themselves. |
| the lowdown | the facts, the real story | Did you get the lowdown on how he died? What really happened? |
| the luck of the draw | the chance that your name or number will be chosen | Plan your future. Don't depend on the luck of the draw. |
| the luck of the Irish | the good luck of Irish people | When Kerry wins a prize, he says, "Aye, it's the luck of the Irish." |
| the makings of | the potential to become, the ability to develop | Look at Debi dance. She has the makings of a ballerina. |
| the man in the middle | the person between two enemies | When hockey players fight, the linesman is the man in the middle. |
| the Man in the Moon | a myth that the moon is the face of a man | "Who will help me find my dog?" "I know. The Man in the Moon!" |
| the middleman | a person who buys from the producer and sells to the merchant | If we can buy from the producer, we can save the money we pay to the middleman. |

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Idioms: the moment of truth -- the once-over

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| the moment of truth | the time when you receive a very important message | The moment of truth has arrived. My grades are in this envelope. |
| the more the merrier | if more people come, we will have a better party | Tell everybody the party's at my place - the more the merrier! |
| the most | the greatest, the best etc., way cool | You are the most, man. You paint great stuff - like it's real! |
| the naked eye | without binoculars or field glasses | We can see Mars with the naked eye. We don't need a telescope. |
| the nitty-gritty | very important matters, the crunch | The nitty-gritty of an election is the vote itself - the numbers! |
| the odd one | one of a few remaining, few and far between | "Do you ever see any buffalo?" "Oh, the odd one." |
| the odds-on favorite | the one who is favored to win, the one to bet on | Orlando was the odds-on favorite but they lost the series. |
| the old college try | a good effort, trying hard like a college student | Let's give it the old college try, boys. We can win this boat race! |
| the old man | father or husband, my old man | Jenny said, "I'll ask the old man if I can use the car." |
| the once-over | (See give it the once-over) | |

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Idioms: the one that got away -- the pope's nose

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|---|
| the one that got away | the fish that got away, the friend you lost | Have I told you about the one that got away? Her name was Lana. |
| the past is slipping by without a trace | in order to have a significant past we need to create a significant present; the present is the past and vice versa | If you are dissatisfied with your life, it is because you are a spectator, not a player, and the past is slipping by without a trace! |
| the Peter Principle | people are promoted to a job they cannot do well | Our store manager is an example of the Peter Principle. He's hopeless! |
| the pick of the litter | the best pup/kitten/cub of the litter, (compare) the runt of the litter | In the Bentley family, Max was the pick of the litter. At least he was the best hockey player. |
| the picture of health | looking very healthy, fit as a fiddle | Rick looks very well these days. He's the picture of health. |
| the pill | a contraceptive pill, a contraceptive drug | Bev has religious reasons for not taking the pill. |
| the pit of my stomach | bottom of my stomach, deep in my belly | From the pit of my stomach came a growling sound. I was hungry. |
| the pits | poor quality, not good value | The music was the pits. The violins played badly. |
| the point of no return | a time when it is too late to stop or turn back, change horses in... | Our offer to purchase the business has been accepted. We've reached the point of no return. |
| the pope's nose | the tail of a roasted chicken | The pope's nose is too greasy. I prefer a piece of breast meat. |

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Idioms: the powers that be -- The Rock

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| the powers that be | the people in power, the power brokers | I applied for a liquor license, but the powers that be said no. |
| the price you have to pay | what you must endure or pay or lose | Loneliness is the price you have to pay for being famous. |
| the proof of the pudding is in the eating | do not judge until you test the finished product, do not jump to conclusions | She drew a cartoon of a boy with a plum on his thumb. Then she wrote <i>The proof of the pudding...</i> |
| the rabbit died | according to myth, a sign that a woman is pregnant | When Pop heard I was pregnant he said, "So the rabbit died, eh." |
| the real McCoy | the real thing, the genuine one | This painting is the real McCoy. It's the original! |
| the rest is gravy | the rest is free, the rest of the money is profit | When we get the grain check, we pay our bills, and the rest is gravy! |
| the rest is history | the rest of the story is well known; you know the rest; that's all she wrote | Fleury took a pass from Suter, went around a defenceman, and the rest is history. |
| the right stuff | effective skills; the right words or actions | Harry is persuasive. He has the right stuff to become a salesman. |
| the road to hell is paved with good intentions | good intentions achieve nothing without action, actions speak louder... | Convert your charitable feelings into action! <i>The road to hell is paved with good intentions!</i> |
| The Rock | Newfoundland, Canada; (on the east coast) | We know a girl from The Rock. Her name is Sherry Sooley. |

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Idioms: bare your soul -- bat an eye

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| bare your soul | tell the public about your private experiences | To write a good novel, you may have to bare your soul. |
| barf | vomit, puke, hork , throw up | If I eat another hotdog, I'll barf. I'll be sick. |
| bark is worse than his bite | he sounds angry but he is not; do not be afraid of him | Baxter sounds mad, but his bark is worse than his bite. |
| bark up the wrong tree | look in the wrong place, do not expect it | If you expect money from him, you're barking up the wrong tree. |
| barnburner | (See a barnburner) | |
| bash | a wild party, a party where people are drunk and noisy | "Did you go to Tina's party?" "Ya. It was a noisy bash." |
| basket case | (See a basket case) | |
| basta la musica | stop the music, do not play the music | "Basta la musica!" Papa shouted. "It's too loud!" |
| bat a thousand | hit every time at bat, win every competition | I've had two interviews and two offers. I'm batting a thousand! |
| bat an eye | flinch or blink, show a sign of guilt or shame | When they asked him about the crime, he didn't bat an eye. His expression didn't change. |

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Idioms: The Rock -- the short end of the stick

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|---|
| The Rock | a Federal prison on Alcatraz, a rocky island in San Francisco Bay | Do you remember <i>Birdman of Alcatraz</i> ? Burt Lancaster plays a "lifer" who escapes from The Rock by swimming across the bay. |
| The Rock | a prison on Riker's Island, New York; in the slammer | After Willie left The Rock he vowed to "go straight". |
| the room is so small you have to go outside turn around | the room is very small; so small you could barely swing a cat | It's not a large apartment. The bathroom is so small I have to go outside to turn around. |
| the root of the problem | the cause of the problem, the reason for the problem | Students don't do enough reading - that's the root of the problem. |
| the runaround | an indirect answer, pass the buck , what a rigmarole | I complained about the dryer, but they gave me the runaround. They blamed the delivery man. |
| the runt of the litter | the smallest and weakest in a group of animal siblings born at the same time | When it comes to mathematics, I am the runt of the litter. My scores on math tests are very low. |
| the salt of the earth | common people; honest, hard-working people | The Swensons are plain, decent people - the salt of the earth. |
| the school of hard knocks | life's hard lessons, learning from mistakes, roll with the punches | Teachers taught me what I <i>should</i> know; the school of hard knocks taught me what I <i>must</i> know. |
| the shit hit the fan | people become angry, somebody starts a fight | It was a good party until Ed started a fight. Then the shit hit the fan! |
| the short end of the stick | the worst job, the least pay, dump on | When I work with Ken, I always get the short end of the stick. He gives me the hard jobs. |

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Idioms: the sin bin (hockey) -- the tail wagging the dog

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| the sin bin (hockey) | the penalty box, cool your heels | For tripping, hooking or holding you get two minutes in the sin bin. |
| the sky isn't blue | something is wrong, there is a problem, clouds on the horizon | One look at Jenner's face told me the sky wasn't blue. "What's wrong?" I asked. |
| the spice of life | things that make life exciting | Romance - for many people, it's the spice of life! |
| the spitting image | one who looks like someone, a dead ringer | Patty is the spitting image of her mother - same face, same hair. |
| the squeaky wheel gets the grease | the person who complains loudest gets service | Our clerks put up this sign: <i>The squeaky wheel gets the grease!</i> |
| the straight dope | the truth, the facts, get to the point | The cop said, "Gimme the straight dope, Shorty. I haven't got time for your stories today." |
| the straight goods | the truth, the facts, straight talk | Gimme the straight goods - the truth, that's all. |
| the strong, silent type | a quiet and rugged-looking man | Doris loves men like Jeff - the strong, silent type. |
| the sweet spot | the best spot to touch, the spot that feels good | Keep rubbing. When you find my sweet spot, I'll purr like a kitten. |
| the tail wagging the dog | minority controlling the majority | If criminals get more rights, the tail will be wagging the dog. |

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Idioms: the sin bin (hockey) -- the tail wagging the dog

Idioms: the take -- the underground

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| the take | the cash, the amount of money received | The take from the New Year's dance was over \$2000. |
| the talk of the town | what everybody is talking about, a hot topic | If a preacher has an affair with a hooker, it's the talk of the town. |
| the tender age of | the young age of, still wet behind the ears | He was the tender age of three when his mother died. |
| the third degree | careful questioning, on the carpet | If I'm late, I get the third degree. Mom asks me a lot of questions. |
| the tide turned | there was a change, the turning point | The tide turned when the baby began to nurse. He grew stronger. |
| the tip of the iceberg | a small part of it, about one-tenth of it | This invoice is only part of the debt - the tip of the iceberg. |
| the tricks of the trade | skills of an occupation, learn the ropes | I know the printing business. I'll show you the tricks of the trade. |
| the turn of the century | the beginning of a new century: the year 2000 | By the turn of the century we will know the aliens who visit earth. |
| the turning point | the second or minute when things go better or worse, tip the scales | When Tanya hit the ball over the fence - that was the turning point in the game. |
| the underground | the hidden actions of those who fight a law or an enemy | Some Canadians fought the GST through the underground. |

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Idioms: the upper hand -- the whole shooting match

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|--|
| the upper hand | the advantage, get the jump on | Because you have graduated from college, you have the upper hand. |
| the way I see it | my view of it, my opinion | The way I see it, men and women aren't equal physically, eh. |
| the way to a man's heart is through his stomach | feeding a man good food will cause him to love you, beauty is only skin deep | "Do you believe the way to your heart is through your stomach?" "No, but you <i>are</i> a great cook!" |
| the way you hold your mouth | it is a mystery; it could be the shape of your mouth; hold your mouth... | "Why does the lock open for you but not for Joan?" "It's the way I hold my mouth." |
| the wheels fall off | it breaks, it fails, fall apart | When the coach is away, our team loses. The wheels fall off! |
| the whole ball of wax | all related things, all that jazz , the whole nine yards | Being in love means commitment, sacrifice, patience, understanding - the whole ball of wax. |
| the whole caboodle | (See kit and caboodle) | |
| the whole nine yards | including all the work, doing the whole job, the whole ball of wax | My goals include a degree, career, marriage, children - the whole nine yards. |
| the whole shebang | everything, every bit/piece/person | When the cable broke, the whole shebang fell in the river. |
| the whole shooting match | everything, every bit/piece/person | Wagon, horses, load - the whole shootin' match disappeared. |

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Idioms: the whole works -- there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|---|
| the whole works | the whole building, all the equipment, everything | The warehouse and stock - the whole works burned in the fire. |
| the wolf is at the door | poverty is coming, keep the wolf... | A month after my husband lost his job, the wolf was at the door. |
| the wolf knocking | (See the wolf is at the door) | |
| the world is your oyster | the world is small beside your talent and skill | With imagination - our greatest gift - the world is our oyster. |
| then and there | immediately, at that time and place, on the spot | She didn't wait for an explanation. She left him, then and there, and never came back to him. |
| there are two sides to every story | two people tell different stories of the same event, compare notes | If you compare Mary's story with Sam's, you'll know there are two sides to every story. |
| there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so | nothing is good or bad in and of itself; humans impose their morality on objects, actions and events William Shakespeare, <i>Hamlet</i> , Act 2, Scene 2 | Hamlet, the Prince of Denmark, says to Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, "There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so." |
| there you go | you are correct, there is your example, how about that | "Everything is green - the grass, the trees. There's a green bird!" "Well, there you go." |
| there's a catch to it | there is a hidden cost or condition | If we buy the bed, we get a TV? There must be a catch to it. |
| there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip | it is easy to spill what you are drinking; it is easy to make mistakes | On the side of the beer mug were these words: <i>There's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip.</i> |

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Idioms: there's more than meets the eye -- there's something fishy

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|--|
| there's more than meets the eye | part of the story has not been told | In a government scandal, there's always more than meets the eye. |
| there's more than one way to skin a cat | there are many ways to do it, I know another method | For math problems, there's more than one way to skin a cat. |
| there's no love lost | they do not like each other, bad blood , hold a grudge | There's no love lost between Jay and Pete. They've been fighting since they were boys. |
| there's no tomorrow | we have to win today; if we lose, we are out; do or die | The Bruins will be eliminated if they lose tonight. There's no tomorrow. |
| there's no two ways about it | there is only one answer; cannot have two meanings | We have to get you on that plane. There's no two ways about it. |
| there's not much to choose between them | they are nearly equal, it's a toss-up | A Ford or a Mercury - there's not much to choose between them. |
| there's nothing to it | it is easy to do, it's a snap | I can solve this math problem. There's nothing to it. |
| there's nothing to it | it is not true, it is a lie | I heard that Pearl had left Carlos, but there's nothing to it. |
| there's one born every minute | there are lots of people who will believe anything, there are lots of suckers | "Only a sucker would buy this car." "Right, and there's one born every minute." |
| there's something fishy | there is something wrong, there is something strange | There's something fishy about a 1970 car with only 5000 km. |

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Idioms: there's something rotten in the state of Denmark -- think over

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|--|
| there's something rotten in the state of Denmark | something is wrong, something is strange, there's something fishy | Father knew I was tricking him. He said, "Something is rotten in the state of Denmark." |
| these parts | these parts of the country; neck of the woods | In these parts, folks don't like federal politicians. |
| thick | (See a little thick) | |
| thick as a brick | slow to understand, slow to learn | We're all thick as a brick in at least one subject, eh? |
| thing-a-ma-bob / thing-a-ma-jig | name for a strange part, what-cha-ma-call-it | If I can get the thing-a-ma-jig in the right hole, this car may start. |
| things are looking up | we are feeling positive, life is better | Now that Vic has a job, things are looking up. We feel positive. |
| think better of it | change my decision, decide not to do it | We were going to buy a trailer, but we thought better of it. |
| think nothing of it | my help was nothing, no problem , not at all | "Thank you for helping us find our lost puppy." "Think nothing of it." |
| think outside the box | think in new ways, imagine, big-sky thinking , think tank | Our methods are not working. We need different, innovative ideas - we need to think outside the box. |
| think over | think more about, consider | I'm going to think over what you said about keeping the baby. |

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Idioms: think straight -- thrash

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| think straight | think clearly, be rational | I'm so tired I can't think straight. Let me rest; then we can talk. |
| think tank | people thinking together, big-sky thinking , brain storm | Our company think tank will solve the problem. |
| think the world of | admire greatly, worship the ground... | Samson thinks the world of you. He would do anything for you. |
| think through | think in steps, think carefully | Before you go to the manager with an idea, think it through. |
| think up | imagine, create | My story is finished. Now I have to think up a title. |
| third degree | (See the third degree) | |
| this mortal coil | the difficulties of life on earth, vale of tears | When your soul departs this mortal coil, will you welcome the transformation, or will you cling to the physical state? |
| this one is on me | I will pay for this one (drink, lunch, etc.) | "This one's on me," Mr. Kirby said as he paid for my lunch. |
| thorn in my side | (See a thorn in my side) | |
| thrash | driven hard and fast, used carelessly | That car has been thrashed. Don't buy it. |

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Idioms: threads -- throw a curve

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| threads | clothes, glad rags , rags | Hey, Lucy. Nice threads! I love your jacket. |
| three-bagger | (See a three-bagger) | |
| three sheets to the wind | very drunk, plastered , pissed to the gills | The Captain was three sheets to the wind - staggering. |
| three slices short (of a full loaf) | mentally disabled, one brick short... | If you order worm soup, they'll think you're three slices short. |
| through the grapevine | through gossip, bush telegraph | "How did you know I moved?" "I heard it through the grapevine." |
| through the mill | used a lot, nearly worn out , put you through the mill | These jeans have been through the mill. They're ragged. |
| through the roof | (See go through the roof) | |
| through the wringer | experienced a lot of personal problems | Hey, I'm tough. I've been through the wringer a few times. |
| through thick and thin | during good and bad times, for better or worse | My dog Pal stays with me through thick and thin. He's a true friend. |
| throw a curve | confuse, deceive, surprise | Dad threw a curve at me when he asked if he could borrow \$1000. |

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Idioms: throw a game -- throw down your arms

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| throw a game | deliberately lose a game, cause your team to lose, take a dive | They said that Red threw his last game of pool, but I think he's too honest to do that. |
| throw a kiss | kiss your hand and wave, blow a kiss | When Madonna threw a kiss to her fans, they cheered. |
| throw a monkey wrench into the works | wreck a project, monkeywrenching , piss in the pickles | The report that coffee causes cancer threw a monkey wrench into our plans to import coffee. |
| throw a party | invite people to a party, have a party | Connie throws the best parties. Everybody has a great time. |
| throw a tantrum | show your bad temper, make a scene | When I refused to buy candy for Reggie, he threw a tantrum. |
| throw away | put in the garbage, throw out | I threw away those old magazines. I hope you didn't want them. |
| throw caution to the wind | live or act carelessly, not be cautious | Let's throw caution to the wind and buy ten dresses! |
| throw chunks | vomit, puke, barf , hurl , woof your cookies | One look at those oysters and she started throwing chunks. Yuk! |
| throw cold water on | discourage, cause you to lose interest | Don't be negative. Don't throw cold water on our travel plans. |
| throw down your arms | stop fighting or arguing, bury the hatchet | It's time to throw down your arms and forgive him. |

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Idioms: bat five hundred -- be off

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| bat five hundred | hit half the times at bat, win half the competitions | If you solve five problems out of ten, you're batting five hundred. |
| bat her eyes | blink the eyes, blink in a sexy way | Verna just stood there batting her eyes, trying to look sexy. |
| bated breath | (See with bated breath) | |
| battleaxe | cranky woman, a bitch [B] | Marlene - that old battleaxe - is spreading lies about me. |
| batty | (See drive me batty) | |
| bawl me out | tell me I have been bad, scold me | If I fail math, Dad will bawl me out. He'll give me a lecture. |
| be-all, end-all | trying to be too great, world beater | The new manager thinks he's the greatest - the be-all, end-all. |
| be my guest | have this chair, have that drink, help yourself | Be my guest. Sit here. I can find another chair. |
| be my undoing | be the cause of my failure; my Achilles heel | Credit cards may be my undoing. My VISA balance is over \$5000! |
| be off | leave, go, off with you | Be off, my dear, or you'll be late for work. |

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Idioms: throw good money after bad -- throw the book at

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|--|
| throw good money after bad | spend more on a failure, repair a poor product | If we fix that TV again, we'll be throwing good money after bad. |
| throw in the towel | quit fighting, give up | Don't throw in the towel. One more year and you'll graduate. |
| throw insults | say rude things, insult someone | When you don't get what you want, you start throwing insults. |
| throw me for a loop | confuse me, it phased me out | The question on parliamentary procedure threw me for a loop. |
| throw on a dog for you | cook a wiener for you, make a a hotdog for you | Hal was cooking wieners on the barbecue. "Can I throw on a dog for you?" he asked. |
| throw out | put in the garbage, discard, throw away | Do you want these old magazines, or should I throw them out? |
| throw some light on | explain, give information, shed a little light on | Martin, can you throw some light on the DNA? Explain it to us? |
| throw that in | mention that, suggest that | Don't forget to add the sales tax - just thought I'd throw that in. |
| throw the baby out with the bath water | throw away something good with the waste, discard everything | Keep the good subjects when you revise the course. Don't throw the baby out with the bath water! |
| throw the book at | punish to the maximum, come down hard | Drunk drivers deserve the full penalty. Throw the book at them! |

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Idioms: throw up -- tickety-boo

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| throw up | vomit, puke, barf , ralph , upchuck | The baby will throw up if you bounce him after he's eaten. |
| throw you | cause you to forget or stumble | Don't let the large crowd throw you. Focus on your music. |
| throw you to the dogs | let you fight alone, let you fight the bad guys | Let us help you. The pimps will throw you to the dogs. |
| throw your weight around | use power to scare you, power trip | Bud throws his weight around - tells everybody what to do. |
| throw yourself at him | try too hard to impress him, push your love on him | Be a little reserved, not so obvious. Don't throw yourself at him. |
| thrown in | added to a list, recipe, etc.; included afterwards | The weather will be cloudy, with a shower or two thrown in. |
| tick over | running well, working well, hit on all cylinders | Sandro tuned the motor, and now it's ticking over beautifully. |
| ticked off | a little upset, annoyed, teed off | Fred gets ticked off at people who throw butts out the window. |
| ticketed | known as, named, labeled | If you do something funny, you'll be ticketed as the team clown. |
| tickety-boo | operating well, A-OK | After they gave him insulin, everything was tickety-boo. |

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Idioms: tickled pink -- tied to your mother's apron strings

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| tickled pink | happy, very pleased | Aunt Sophia was tickled pink to receive a photo of the family. |
| tiddly | neat, tidy, clean and shiny, spiffy | The ship is ready for inspection. Everything is tiddly. |
| tide me over | supply me for a few days, provide money until payday, last me | Jane gave me a few dollars to tide me over until I get paid. |
| tide turned | (See the tide turned) | |
| tie in | connect, relate | Can you tell me how lasers tie in? How do lasers apply to surgery? |
| tie into | scold, lecture, give you hell [B] | When we were alone, he tied into me. He said I caused the problem. |
| tie one on | drink a lot of liquor, become very drunk | At Cayla's wedding, Uncle Ben tied one on. He got really drunk. |
| tie up | tie a string or piece of rope around | If you tie up the parcel I'll take it to the post office. |
| tie up loose ends | finish a project, complete the details of some work, finishing touch | "Have you finished the survey?" "Just about. I have to tie up some loose ends and print the report." |
| tied to your mother's apron strings | still dependent on mom, needing your mom's help | He has to ask his mother. He's still tied to her apron strings. |

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Idioms: tied up -- time and again

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| tied up | busy, unable to help | I'm tied up right now. I'm busy with a client. |
| tight-ass [B] | stingy person; tight fisted | Mason is a tight-ass! He collects rent from his old grandmother. |
| tight race | close race, down to the wire | It was a tight race for the mayor's position. Kutz won by ten votes. |
| tight spot | uncomfortable position, between a rock and a hard place | At the interview Vic was in a tight spot. They asked him, "Why were you dismissed from three jobs?" |
| tight/tight fisted | not generous, unwilling to spend, cheap | People say he's so tight he'd sell a gift and bank the money. |
| tighten our belts | not spend as much, be careful with our money | We'll have to tighten our belts when Stan goes on pension. |
| till hell freezes over | until the end of time, until the end of the world | You can wait till hell freezes over but they won't pay their bill. |
| till the cows come home | for a long time, for days or weeks | A letter from Dave? You'll be waiting till the cows come home! |
| till you're blue in the face | until you are very tired, until you look sick | You can train a flea till you're blue in the face, but he won't learn. |
| time and again | many times, repeatedly | I've told that boy time and again not to fight, but he won't listen. |

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Idioms: tied up -- time and again

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Idioms: time flies when you're having fun -- time to time

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| time flies when you're having fun | time goes quickly when you are playing, how time flies | Ho looked at his watch, yawned and said, "Time flies when you're having fun, eh." |
| time is money | time is valuable, time is equal to money | Employers who pay hourly wages know that time is money. |
| time is of the essence | it is important to work as quickly as possible, make hay while... | When you're paying \$75 an hour for a lawyer's services, time is of the essence. |
| time off | days off work, holidays | I've been working too hard. I think I need some time off. |
| time on your hands | time to relax or do what you wish, time to kill | If you have time on your hands, read the novel <i>Fifth Business</i> . |
| time out | stop for a minute to discuss or plan | We need a time out to look at the map. I think we're lost. |
| time ran out | there was no more time allowed for the game etc. | Time ran out before I could complete the exam. |
| time stands still | everything seems to slow down or stop moving, slo mo | When the towers went down, time stood still. |
| time to kill | time to relax or rest, kill time | We had some time to kill while the car was being repaired. |
| time to time | (See from time to time) | |

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Idioms: time flies when you're having fun -- time to time

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Idioms: time's a wasting -- tip the scales

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|---|
| time's a wasting | we are wasting time, we should be working | Time's a wasting. Let's finish our work and then rest. |
| time's up | there is no more time for the test or game etc. | The coach checked his watch and said, "Time's up. Stop running." |
| times were hard | it was a time of poverty, hard times | It was 1850. Times were hard in Sweden then. |
| tin ear | unmusical ear, unable to appreciate music | With my tin ear, I couldn't say if she was singing flat. |
| tin Lizzie | car, old car | You can park your tin Lizzie over there beside the barn. |
| tip a few | drink a few beer etc., bend your elbow | Chuck used to tip a few when he was younger. He drank with us. |
| tip of my tongue | (See on the tip of my tongue) | |
| tip of the hat | a compliment, a bit of praise, recognition, here's to | A tip of the hat to Junko for his contribution. Thank you, Junko! |
| tip of the iceberg | a small part of it, about one-tenth of it | This invoice is only part of the debt - the tip of the iceberg. |
| tip the scales | change or influence a decision, the upper hand | If you speak two languages, it could tip the scales in your favor when you apply for a job. |

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Idioms: tip the scales at -- tits up [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| tip the scales at | cause the scale to go up, weigh in at | Elmer tips the scales at 135 kilos. He's a heavyweight. |
| tip your hand | reveal your plan, show your strategy | Don't tip your hand in a game of chess. Surprise the opponent. |
| tipsy | a little bit drunk, slightly drunk, buzzed | After her third glass of sherry, Mona was a little tipsy. |
| tired of | bored, not interested | I'm tired of that song. I hear it every morning. |
| tired out | tired, weary, dog tired | When our visitors left, I was tired out. I slept for hours. |
| tit for tat | equal response, an eye for an eye | Gerry hit Ross. Then Ross hit Gerry, and it was tit for tat. |
| titch | (See just a titch) | |
| tits and ass (T & A) [B] | sexual stimuli for men, cheesecake | The men's parties have a lot of T & A - dancing girls. |
| tits in a wringer | (See get your tits in a wringer) | |
| tits up [B] | dead, not operating, kaput | The tractor's tits up again - the clutch is broken. |

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Idioms: to a fault -- to each his own

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|--|---|
| to a fault | doing it too much, go overboard | May gives most of her money to charity. She's generous to a fault. |
| to a man | every man or person, not one person disagreed | We asked the team who should be coach. To a man, they chose you. |
| to a T | perfectly, accurately, down to a T , to perfection | That guy looks exactly like Liam! It's Liam to a T! |
| to be perfectly honest | to tell you the truth, to tell you exactly how I feel, as a matter of fact | "Your cat's up in the tree again." "To be perfectly honest, I don't care. Let him come down alone." |
| to beat the band | with lots of energy, like crazy , like mad | Aunt Jemima was making pancakes to beat the band. |
| to blame | at fault, guilty | Who's to blame for starting the fire? Who did it? |
| to boot | in addition to, plus | We'll trade you the car for the truck and give you \$500 to boot. |
| to coin a phrase | to create a new phrase, to make up a phrase | To coin a phrase, "Life is just book of idioms!" |
| to-do | (See make a big to-do) | |
| to each his own | we like different things, one man's garbage... | She likes the Rolling Stones, but he likes Mozart - to each his own. |

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Idioms: to go -- to top it off

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| to go | remaining, left to do | We've cleaned five rooms. Just one to go. |
| to go | to take with you | One large pizza - to go, please. |
| to heart | (See take it to heart) | |
| to hell and gone | a long distance away, far away, all around Robin Hood's barn | "Where do you live?" "To hell and gone across the lake." |
| to hell with that [B] | that is not a good idea, no way | "You could plead guilty." "To hell with that!" |
| to perfection | perfectly, without a flaw, to a T , to the nth degree | "You can imitate Elvis to perfection!" "Thank you. Thank you very much." |
| to the best of my knowledge | I believe this is true, as far as I know | To the best of my knowledge, Barrie and Bonnie are twins. |
| to the max | to the greatest amount, groaty to the max | You should see this video. It's grungy to the max! |
| to the nth degree | to the very last detail, to the max | If you have an accounting problem, give it to Michael. He analyzes problems to the nth degree. |
| to top it off | to complete it, to finish it | To top it off, they presented us with Olympic pins. |

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Idioms: toast -- tongue-lashing

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| toast | in a lot of trouble, catch hell [B], history | Ferris, if you drive your father's Porsche, you're toast. |
| toe the line | do what you are told to do, follow the rules | The Military expects you to toe the line - to do as you are told. |
| together | happy, successful; get it together , with it | Cathy is really together. She's knows how she wants to live and she's doing it. |
| toke up | smoke marijuana, smoke pot | Does it matter if some of our politicians used to toke up? |
| token gesture | (See a token gesture) | |
| ton of bricks | (See like a ton of bricks) | |
| tone down | make softer or nicer; not so harsh | "What do you think of the letter?" "I'd tone it down. It's too harsh." |
| toney neighborhood | a district that has expensive houses | The Kitigawas bought a large house in a toney neighborhood. |
| tongue in cheek | fooling, joking, kidding | Most of what Bob said was tongue in cheek. He was joking. |
| tongue-lashing | (See a tongue-lashing) | |

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Idioms: be there -- beat around the bush

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| be there | be ready, be alert, up for it | The captain of the hockey team shouted to his mates, "Be there, guys! We have to win this game." |
| be there for me | help me when I need it, be supportive, stand by me | "Will you be there for me?" she asked. "I need your support." |
| be there or be square | if you do not come we will think you are call it square | We're having a party at 7 on Saturday. Be there or be square! |
| be yourself | be natural, behave normally | Don't worry about what to say at the party. Just be yourself. |
| bean pole | tall and thin, string bean | Carl is a bean pole - tall and skinny - just like his father. |
| bear down | try harder, bite the bullet | If you bear down a little, you can graduate this year. |
| bear the brunt | accept the most blame or responsibility | When we got in trouble, Ed bore the brunt of the blame. |
| beat a dead horse | continue to ask or try when there is no hope | They won't refund your money. You're beating a dead horse. |
| beat a hasty retreat | run away from, leave quickly | When the boys heard the siren they beat a hasty retreat. |
| beat around the bush | talk without telling the main point | Politicians often beat around the bush. They talk a lot but say little. |

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Idioms: tons -- too many cooks spoil the broth

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|---|
| tons | lots, very much/many, a holy pile | There were tons of people at the wedding - and tons of food! |
| tonsil hockey | conversation, a chin wag | They were just standing around playing tonsil hockey so Jimmy walks up and says, "Whatcha doin' girls?" |
| too bad | a little bit sad, unfortunate | Too bad Annie won't be home when I visit. I'd like to see her. |
| too big for his britches | too proud, cocky , swelled head | I promise not to get too big for my britches if I win the award. |
| too deep for me | too complicated, too complex | The DNA theory is too deep for me. I can't understand it. |
| too far gone | not able to stop a disease, a goner | Several doctors tried to treat the cancer, but it was too far gone. |
| too hot to handle | | too dangerous, "hot goods", "hot stuff" Trine dropped him because he was too hot to handle. He was sexy but scary! |
| too little too late | not enough effort or work when it was needed, make hay while... | The Roughriders scored two touchdowns in the fourth quarter, but it was too little too late. They lost. |
| too many chiefs and not enough Indians | too many directors and not enough workers, too many cooks... | Everybody tried to be the boss. We had too many chiefs and not enough Indians. |
| too many cooks spoil the broth | too many managers cause problems, too many chiefs... | The structure failed because it was designed by a group of architects. Too many cooks spoil the broth. |

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Idioms: toodles/toodle-oo -- top of the morning

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| toodles/toodle-oo | bye, goodbye, ciao , so long | "Toodle-oo," she said, smiling. "I must go now." |
| tool around | play, fool around , goof off | The students were tooling around because they had no assignment. |
| toot your own horn | brag, talk about your own success | Since Ted won the bowling trophy he's been tooting his own horn. |
| tooth and nail | (See fight tooth and nail) | |
| top dog | boss, leader, head honcho | Kruger is top dog now, but he could lose the next election. |
| top drawer | excellent, first class | Amy's report is top drawer. It deserves a high grade. |
| top it off | finish it, add the last piece or statement | He topped it off by saying we would get a big bonus this year. |
| top it up | fill it to the top, fill it to the mark | Check the oil every week and top it up if necessary. |
| top notch | very good quality, first class | Claret Sol is a top notch wine, but it's very dry. |
| top of the morning | good morning, have a good morning, the best of the morning | Old Tweedsmuir would say, "Top o' the morning to you," as we walked to school. |

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Idioms: toodles/toodle-oo -- top of the morning

Idioms: top secret -- touch base

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|---|---|
| top secret | very private information, not public, it's not a state secret | This computer program is top secret. Don't show it to anyone! |
| top that | do better than that, improve on that | "Top that!" the farmer said, holding up a six-pound potato. |
| toss it around | discuss it, consider it | We like your idea. Can we toss it around for awhile? Discuss it? |
| toss-up | (See it's a toss-up) | |
| total stranger | (See a total stranger) | |
| totally awesome | excellent, fantastic, far out | The Band was totally awesome! They were excellent! |
| totem pole | (See low on the totem pole) | |
| touch a drop | drink a drop of liquor, have a drink of liquor | Steve was a heavy drinker, but he hasn't touched a drop in years. |
| touch and go | between life and death, nip and tuck | I recovered from my heart attack, but it was touch and go for awhile. |
| touch base | contact again, keep in touch | Touch base with me in a month or so. Call me about May 10. |

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Idioms: touch it with a ten-foot pole -- touchy

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| touch it with a ten-foot pole | reply, answer, comment on it, beat around the bush | If anyone in your audience asks a question about religion, don't touch it with a ten-foot pole. |
| touch of | (See a touch of) | |
| touch off | start an argument or a fight, set off | His remark about gun control touched off a heated discussion. |
| touch on | speak briefly about, mention | Ms. Lee spoke on sales, then touched briefly on service. |
| touch up | add details, make small changes | I touched up the painting in a few places. Does it look better? |
| touch wood | hoping that our good luck continues | We've never had a flat tire on this car - touch wood. |
| touch you | cause you to feel love or sorrow or regret | Did Mom's letter touch you? Do you feel sorry for her? |
| touched | (See touched in the head) | |
| touched in the head | a bit crazy, a bit off , funny in the head | People will think you're touched in the head if you wear that Superman suit to work. |
| touchy | sensitive, ready to argue, edgy | Barb is kind of touchy about her weight. Don't comment on it. |

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Idioms: touch it with a ten-foot pole -- touchy

Idioms: tough act to follow -- tough tarts

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| tough act to follow | (See a tough act to follow) | |
| tough bananas | it is a problem for you, too bad , tough luck | "I had to <i>walk</i> to school!" "Well, tough bananas!" |
| tough call | (See a tough call) | |
| tough customer | a determined person, one who fights hard | Remember John Ferguson? He was one tough customer. |
| tough going | (See heavy going) | |
| tough luck | that is bad luck for you, tough bananas | "I lost \$100 betting on Tyson." "Tough luck, guy." |
| tough on me | makes me work hard, hard on me | My supervisor is tough on me - never satisfied with my work. |
| tough row to hoe | (See a hard row to hoe) | |
| tough sledding | hard work, slow progress, heavy going , rough going | We've had tough sledding on our building projects. Rainy weather has caused a lot of problems. |
| tough tarts | (See tough bananas) | |

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Idioms: tough times -- train of thought

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|--|
| tough times | hard times | When Sue gave birth to twins and Dave lost his job, they lived through tough times. |
| tough titty | (See tough luck) | |
| toughen up | become tougher, grow stronger | The army will toughen him up. They'll develop his stamina. |
| tower of strength | (See a tower of strength) | |
| toy with | not be serious about me, not take me seriously | I love her, but she's just toying with me - playing with me. |
| track record | list of achievements, summary of career work | Lou's track record is excellent. She was top seller last year. |
| trade insults | insult each other, say rude things to each other, mudsling | When the two men couldn't agree on the cause of the problem, they began trading insults. |
| trade secret | a business secret, a special recipe or formula | I won't tell how Paula makes her pizza. It's a trade secret. |
| traffic jam | traffic that is not moving, many vehicles on one road | I was late for class because of a traffic jam. Honest! |
| train of thought | (See lose my train of thought) | |

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Idioms: tranny -- tried and true

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| tranny | transmission of a car or truck | When you buy a used car, check the condition of the tranny, eh. |
| trash | wreck, ruin, ratch | That puppy trashed one of my slippers - chewed it to pieces! |
| trash the place | wreck a room or building, a bull in a china shop | If you invite the Casey boys, they'll trash the place. |
| trendy | fashionable, at the beginning of a trend | That's a trendy coat she's wearing. I've seen it in fashion magazines. |
| trial and error | learn by correcting errors, hit and miss | We learned to make pizza by trial and error. We gradually improved. |
| trial balloon | proposed program, planned policy, pilot project | If you want to know public opinion, send up a trial balloon and listen to what they say. |
| trial run | doing the steps to see if your procedure is correct, try it out | Let's do a trial run to see if we know how to make espresso coffee. |
| trickle-down economics | a system that depends on government spending to help the economy | Private enterprise is better than trickle-down economics because profit motivates people. |
| tricks of the trade | (See the tricks of the trade) | |
| tried and true | tested and proven, reliable, true blue | When Sven chops wood, he uses a Sandvik axe. It's tried and true. |

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Idioms: trifle with me -- try that on for size

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| trifle with me | be careless about my feelings, mind games , toy with me | When John forgot that he asked me to go to the dance, I felt he was trifling with me. |
| true blue | loyal, faithful | Moe is true blue. We've been good friends for forty years. |
| true colors | real beliefs, true values, principles | In the debate on abortion we'll see her true colors - her beliefs. |
| try it | try to do it, try your hand at | After I sing the song, you try it. See if you can sing it. |
| try it on | wear a garment to see if it fits | If you like that dress, you can try it on in one of our fitting rooms. |
| try it out | use it for awhile, test it, test drive | This is our new life-time pen. Would you like to try it out? |
| try me | ask me, see what I say; challenge me, find out | "You wouldn't call the police, would you?" "Just try me." |
| try out | try to become a member of a team | Let's try out for soccer this year. Let's play on the team. |
| try that | try to do that, pull that | When I reached for the phone, the thief said, "Don't try that." |
| try that on for size | see if you like that, consider that | This TV has a 48" screen. Try that on for size. |

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Idioms: trifle with me -- try that on for size

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Idioms: try your darndest -- tune in

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|--|
| try your darndest | try very hard, bend over backwards , go the extra mile | I try my darndest to be fair to customers, but some are never satisfied. |
| try your hand at | try to do, try it | Would you like to try your hand at washing dishes? It's fun! |
| try your luck | see if you can win, you take a chance | They won a prize. Do you want to try your luck? |
| tub of guts | fat person, lard butt | Santa? Why, he's just a tub of guts in a red suit! |
| tube head | a person who watches TV a lot, couch potato | In the winter he's a tube head - always watching hockey on TV. |
| tube him | leave him, drop him | He was a bore so I tubed him. |
| tubular | nice, fun, cool | The lounge was totally tubular, a great place to take her friends. |
| tuckered out | short of breath, panting, puffing | Timmy was tuckered out after jogging with his father. |
| tump | tip, roll, flip | Andy! Slow down, man. You gonna tump over! |
| tune in | adjust the tuning knob on a radio or receiver | The announcer said, "Tune in tonight at 8 for our Talk Show." |

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Idioms: tune me out -- turn down

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| tune me out | stop listening to me, not pay attention to me | If you speak in a boring way, students will tune you out. |
| tune up | improve the operation, improve performance | After Fred tunes up the Mercedes the motor will run smoother. |
| tuned in | able to understand, on the same wavelength | If you're tuned in, you know who I've been talking about. |
| tunnel vision | looking straight ahead, not seeing other directions | Our president has tunnel vision. He believes in only one plan. |
| turf it | cut it, delete it, throw out | If students don't enrol in the program, we'll have to turf it. |
| turkey | fool, dumbo , jerk | You turkey! Why did you put Jello on my pizza? |
| turn a blind eye | see a problem but not act, look the other way | The teacher knows that I come in late, but she turns a blind eye. |
| turn a profit | profit from, make money | It will be a year before we turn a profit on this new product. |
| turn about is fair play | you get what you give, what goes around... | If you give pain you'll feel pain. Turn about is fair play. |
| turn down | refuse, not accept | Sal turned me down when I asked her to go to a movie. She refused. |

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Idioms: tune me out -- turn down

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Idioms: beat it -- beauty is only skin deep

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| beat it | go, get lost | Beat it, kid! Get going! Leave! |
| beat the pants off | defeat by a large score, blow you away | Ho plays table tennis very well; she'll beat the pants off you. |
| beat the rap | have the charges removed or dropped, get off | Every time the burglar was caught he was able to beat the rap. |
| beat up | hit and injure, defeat badly | She cared for him when he got beat up, trying to ease his pain. |
| beat up on | hit and injure, defeat in a fight | "Why does he beat up on people?" "Because his dad beat up on him." |
| beat your head against a stone wall | try an impossible task, work on a futile project | Preventing war is like beating your head against a stone wall. |
| beat your time | take away your girlfriend or boyfriend | I can't believe that your <i>friend</i> would beat your time. |
| beater | a car that is in poor condition, clunker | Why does he drive that old beater? He could buy a new car. |
| beauty is in the eye of the beholder | each person has a different idea of what is beautiful, one man's garbage... | To him, the statue is elegant; to me, it's ugly. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder! |
| beauty is only skin deep | do not judge a person by physical features, you can't tell a book... | If you want to date a beauty queen, remember that beauty is only skin deep. |

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Idioms: beat it -- beauty is only skin deep

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Idioms: turn in -- turn over a new leaf

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|--|
| turn in | give to the manager, hand in | When you leave our company, please turn in your uniform. |
| turn in | go to bed, crash , hit the hay | I'm going to turn in now. I'm very tired. |
| turn into | become, change into, convert | If you eat any more hotdogs you'll turn into a wiener! |
| turn of the century | (See the turn of the century) | |
| turn-on | something that excites or arouses you | Her voice was a turn-on for me. She has a sexy voice. |
| turn on a dime | turn sharply, turn quickly, do a 180 | An Alfa Romeo has excellent steering. It can turn on a dime. |
| turn on you | turn against you, change from friend to enemy | If you preach your religion, they may get mad and turn on you. |
| turn out | happen, develop, end up | How did your cake turn out? Is it a good recipe? |
| turn out | attend, show up | Only 40% of the population turned out to vote. |
| turn over a new leaf | begin living by a new set of rules or values | Since Bob stopped drinking he's turned over a new leaf. |

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Idioms: turn the air blue -- turn you around

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| turn the air blue | (See the air was blue) | |
| turn the corner | achieve part of a goal, progress toward a goal | Lan was very ill, but she's turned the corner. She's recovering. |
| turn the other cheek | accept hurt twice, not fight back | He is a passive man. He will turn the other cheek instead of fight. |
| turn the other way | look away or ignore, look the other way | When I come in late, he turns the other way. He tries not to notice. |
| turn the tables on | begin to defeat the person who was defeating you, mount a comeback | When I learned how to return his serve, I turned the tables on him and won the set. |
| turn ugly | become uncivilized, begin fighting | When Buddy insulted Ted's wife, things turned ugly. |
| turn up | attend a meeting, show up | Only fifteen people turned up at the Block Parents' meeting. |
| turn up | be found, be seen | We can't find the ring now, but I'm sure it will turn up soon. |
| turn up your nose at | say it is not good enough, reject it | If you turn up your nose at country music, you may lose some friends. |
| turn you around | help you begin a new life, turn over a new leaf | His new friends helped to turn him around. He's much nicer now. |

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Idioms: turn the air blue -- turn you around

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Idioms: turn you on -- twerp

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|--|
| turn you on | arouse you, cause you to feel excited | "What turns you on?" "Good books and nice girls." |
| turn your back on | turn away from, reject, turncoat | When he became president, he turned his back on his friends. |
| turn your crank | interest you, inspire you | Classical music turns his crank. He likes the great symphonies. |
| turn your stomach | make you feel sick, cause you to feel ill | Watching you eat those oysters turns my stomach. Yuk! |
| turn yourself in | walk into a police station to tell them what you did, own up | If you tell your counselor about the shooting, he'll advise you to turn yourself in. |
| turncoat | one who goes to work/fight/play for the opposing side, traitor | That turncoat! He went to work for the competition - Sears. |
| turning point | (See the turning point) | |
| turnout | the number of people, the size of the group | There was a good turnout at the Writers' Club today: 20 people. |
| tweak | increase the power, hop up , supercharge | If we tweak the engine in this old Cortina, we'll have a sports car. |
| twerp | small child or person, knee high to a grass... | Ricky is just a twerp. He can ride on Grandpa's knee. |

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Idioms: twig to that -- two bits

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| twig to that | think of that, realize that | His uncle Ralph is the Premier! I just twigged to that. |
| twiggy | slim person, as slim as a twig on a branch | Kim is a gymnast. She's slim and agile - a real twiggy. |
| twilight years | senior years, over 70, golden years | Grandma wants to keep her own home during her twilight years. |
| twinkle toes | a dancer, a person who dances with great skill | I saw you dance at the Junior Ballet concert. You're a real twinkle toes! |
| twist my arm | persuade me, convince me | I really don't like pie, but if you twist my arm, I'll have a piece. |
| twist of fate | the way fate works, the way things happen | Then, by a twist of fate, a plane flew over and the pilot saw us. |
| twist your words | change the meaning of what you say, put a different slant... | When she gave her testimony in court, the lawyer tried to twist her words to mean something else. |
| twit | fool, an airhead , dipstick | What a twit! He thinks a busboy is a kid who rides the bus! |
| two abreast | two people standing or walking side by side | The children were walking two abreast on the way home. |
| two bits | 25¢, twenty-five cents, a quarter | Can you lend me two bits? I have to phone home. |

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Idioms: twig to that -- two bits

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Idioms: two cents' worth -- typo

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| two cents' worth | opinion, comment, chime in | Want to hear my two cents' worth? Want my opinion? |
| two-fisted attack | strong verbal attack, much argument, fight tooth and nail | If you protect the wolves, you can expect a two-fisted attack from the ranchers. |
| two for one | two products for the price of one | Want a milk shake? We can buy two for one at Toy's Ice Cream. |
| two heads are better than one | listen to more than one opinion | "Let's ask Alice first. Two heads are better than one." |
| two left feet | awkwardness, poor coordination | When it comes to dancing, I have two left feet. I stumble a lot. |
| two pee holes in the snow | small holes, tiny holes | He looks very tired. His eyes are like two pee holes in the snow. |
| two sides to every story | (See there are two sides to every story) | |
| two's company, three's a crowd | two people are happier than three, the third person is not welcome | Jill asked, "Can I invite Ginger?" Jack replied, "Two's company, three's a crowd." |
| typo | error in typing, nitpick | The interviewer said my letter of application has a few typos. |

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Idioms: U-turn -- under my breath

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|--|
| U-turn | turn and go the opposite direction, do a 180 | The driver of the truck made a U-turn and drove back into town. |
| uh-huh | yes, yep | "Do you want a piece of cake?" "Uh-huh." |
| uh-uh | no, nope | "Have you done your homework?" "Uh-uh." |
| under a spell | controlled by a spirit or magic, cast a spell | She danced when she saw the cat. She seemed to be under a spell. |
| under arrest | stopped and taken away by the police, busted | "Jean, you are under arrest." "What for, sir?" "For stealing a loaf of bread." |
| under control | order restored, control returned | The prisoners caused a riot, but things are now under control. |
| under fire | being asked many difficult questions | After your speech, you will be under fire from reporters. |
| under his own steam | by himself, without help | Although Don was injured, he left the field under his own steam. |
| under my belt | completed, finished | With an accounting course under my belt, I can do the bookkeeping. |
| under my breath | whispered, not spoken loud enough to hear | When the teacher asks questions, I often answer under my breath. |

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Idioms: U-turn -- under my breath

Idioms: under my care -- under the wire

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| under my care | cared for by me, look after | The house is under my care until the owner returns from Europe. |
| under my nose | easy to see, close and visible, in plain view | Isn't that the way! I've been looking for a partner all my life, and then I found Lila - she was right under my nose all the time! |
| under my skin | in my thoughts, in my feelings | I can't stop thinking about Paul. I've got him under my skin. |
| under my wing | having my protection and help and guidance | I am Anna's guardian. She'll be under my wing until she's 18. |
| under oath | after promising to tell the truth in court, cross my heart and... | At the trial you will be asked to tell your story under oath. |
| under pressure | feeling of too much to do, feeling a lot of stress | Gabor is under a lot of pressure now. He's working at two jobs. |
| under the influence of alcohol | partly drunk, buzzed | Is he under the influence now? Is he drunk? |
| under the table | hidden, not recorded, not above board , on the side | "Do you get paid for bringing customers to the store?" "I don't get a check - just a little money under the table." |
| under the weather | not feeling well, ill, sick, not feeling myself | Dan's been under the weather lately - sick with the flu. |
| under the wire | just before the end, before closing, just in time | "Did you receive my application?" "It arrived on the last day of the competition, just under the wire." |

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Idioms: under way -- up against it

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|---|
| under way | started, commenced | The concert is under way. The band is playing <i>O Canada</i> . |
| under wraps | secret, not advertised, on the QT | I know the name of the winner, but I have to keep it under wraps until tonight. |
| under your thumb | under your control, doing your wishes | Willie is under your thumb now. He does what you tell him to do. |
| underdog | the player or team that is not likely to win | The Sharks are underdogs this year. People say they won't win. |
| underhanded | not legal, not according to rules, not above board | Some people say the government was underhanded in dealing with the Indians. |
| unsung hero | great person who has not been honored or praised, behind the scenes | The mothers of the graduates are the unsung heroes. The mothers are Homework Supervisors! |
| until you're blue... | (See till you're blue in the face) | |
| up a storm | (See sing up a storm) | |
| up against | competing against, trying to defeat | "Who were you up against?" "Gaetan Boucher, the Champion." |
| up against it | poor, not able to pay the bills, hard up | We were up against it that year. The crop had failed, we had lots of bills, and none of us had a job. |

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Idioms: up and coming -- up on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|---|---|
| up and coming | starting to develop ability, showing potential | Lisel has won six junior trophies. She's an up-and-coming athlete. |
| up and running | operating, working | Andre is repairing the copier. It will soon be up and running. |
| up for grabs | available, can be bought | The estate will be sold by auction. Even the antiques are up for grabs. |
| up for it | ready, prepared to play, pumped | Tonight's game is important. Every player has to be up for it. |
| up for sale | advertised for sale, on the market | The Wongs must be moving. Their house is up for sale. |
| up front | at the beginning, level with beforehand | He was up front with me. He told me about the interest charges <i>first</i> . |
| up in arms | angry, ready to fight, hot | The smokers are up in arms about the no-smoking bylaw. |
| up in smoke | burned, destroyed by fire | The barn went up in smoke before the fire truck arrived. |
| up in the air | not decided, not settled | They aren't sure who killed the President. It's still up in the air. |
| up on | aware of, informed about, on top of | Are you up on the latest computer games? Have you played UFOX? |

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Idioms: up and coming -- up on

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Idioms: up shit creek [B] -- up to no good

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| up shit creek [B] | in a bad situation, in a fix | If we lose our matches, we're up shit creek. We need a campfire. |
| up the ante | increase the payment, increase the deposit | If they up the ante to \$50, I won't enter the hockey pool this year. |
| up the creek | in a predicament, in difficulty, in a jam | Without insurance, you could be up the creek if there's a fire. |
| up the stump [B] | pregnant, a bun in the oven | She didn't use a contraceptive, so she's up the stump again. |
| up the wahoozey | a lot, more than needed, coming out of our ears | The Burnsidés are so rich they have money up the wahoozey! |
| up to | planning, doing | What are you up to? Are you planning another fishing trip? |
| up to date | recent, current | The radio reports events as they happen. The news is up to date. |
| up to it | have enough energy to do it, up for it | "Would you like to play another game of badminton?" "No, I don't think I'm up to it." |
| up to my ears | have too many, coming out of our ears | You're selling books? I'm up to my ears in books! |
| up to no good | doing bad things, causing problems | Tom's up to no good these days - stealing drugs and selling them. |

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Idioms: up shit creek [B] -- up to no good

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Idioms: beck and call -- before you can say Jack Robinson

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| beck and call | (See at your beck and call) | |
| become of | happen to, end up | What became of Ko after he moved? How's he doing? |
| becomes you | looks good on you, is right for you, suits you | That perfume becomes you. It smells good on you. |
| bed down | lie down and sleep, find a place to sleep | After grazing in the valley, the deer will bed down on the hill. |
| beef it up | add more bulk, increase the size | "Does this doll look like Santa?" "Yes, if you beef it up a little." |
| beehive of activity | (See a beehive of activity) | |
| beeline | (See make a beeline) | |
| been around | experienced, not naive, wasn't born yesterday | Margo's been around; she can work with the convicts. |
| been had | cheated, swindled, taken in | If he paid a hundred dollars for that radio, he's been had. |
| before you can say Jack Robinson | very quickly, in a split second , in no time | Before you could say Jack Robinson, the ghost was gone! |

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Idioms: up to par -- up yours [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|--|--|
| up to par | good enough to pass, up to a standard | This woodwork is not up to par. It's below our standard. |
| up to scratch | good enough, up to par | The cloth in these jeans is poor quality. It's not up to scratch. |
| up to snuff | good quality, measure up | We expect quality photographs - every picture must be up to snuff. |
| up to something | trying to make a deal, planning a joke | David is up to something. He has a look of mischief in his eye. |
| up to speed | at normal speed, feeling healthy again | Tim's recovered from his surgery but he's not up to speed yet. |
| up to you | your choice, your decision | Whether you go or stay is up to you. It's your decision. |
| up with | support it, this is good | Millie was waving a flag and shouting, "Up with fluoride!" |
| up your alley | what you like to do, what interests you | Sewing - that's right up your alley. It's one of your hobbies. |
| up your sleeve | hidden, ready to use if asked | When I write an exam, I like to have a topic up my sleeve. |
| up yours [B] | I hope you have an accident, screw you | When she told him to get out of the house, he said, "Up yours!" |

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Idioms: up to par -- up yours [B]

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Idioms: upchuck -- uptight

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| upchuck | vomit, puke, barf , hork | Please hand me the paper towel. Baby upchucked on my sweater. |
| uphill battle | difficult work, rough going , tough sledding | We've asked the government to protect children's rights, but it's an uphill battle all the way. |
| upon my word | believe me, this is the truth, honestly | Upon my word, I don't know why they hate me so. |
| upon the words offhandedly spoken | upon words spoken casually or carelessly, offhand | Upon the words offhandedly spoken by a lover we often rely, only to feel the sweetness of their promise disappear. |
| upper crust | upper class, high class, aristocracy | Kurt acts like upper crust because his ancestor was a German baron. |
| upper hand | (See the upper hand) | |
| upset the apple cart | cause a major problem, stop progress | You will upset the apple cart if you tell your folks we're moving. |
| upside | positive side, good news | If war has an upside, it would be that it's good for the economy. |
| uptalk | ending statements with your voice rising slightly, inflecting the tone of your voice upwards | Uptalking sounds weak - like the speaker lacks confidence. |
| uptight | tense, nervous, not relaxed, worried sick | "What are you uptight about?" "I'm not sure. It could be fear of losing my job." |

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Idioms: use up -- Uzi

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| use up | use all of it, use all you have | We've used up all the shampoo. Please buy some more. |
| used to | accustomed to, having felt it often | Lynn is used to being alone. Henry is away from home a lot. |
| useless as a fifth wheel | (See as useless as a fifth wheel) | |
| useless as the tits... | (See as useless as tits on a boar) | |
| user friendly | easy to learn or use, easy to operate | Cars with automatic transmission are user friendly - easy to drive. |
| Uzi | (See pack Uzis) | |

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Idioms: vale of tears (valley of tears) -- vote of thanks

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| vale of tears (valley of tears) | a place of trials and troubles, life on earth, this mortal coil | Brothers and sisters, our burden is heavy tonight - heavy with the passing of dear Jesse, who has departed this vale of tears. |
| vamoose | leave quickly, go, get going , hit the road | We better vamoose, my friend, or we'll be late for our appointment. |
| variety is the spice of life | a variety of experiences makes life interesting, to each his own | On the sign above the door were these words: GENERAL STORE <i>Variety is the spice of life!</i> |
| vegetate (veg out) | not do anything, be a couch potato | After work he just vegetates - just sits there and says nothing. |
| VIP | Very Important Person, big boys , big wig | Only the VIP's - the president, and members of the board - are invited to the dinner. |
| virgin territory | untouched or unexplored area | The island was virgin territory. There were no signs of humans. |
| virtual reality | a "real" experience created on a computer | Virtual reality allowed me to experience space travel. |
| visit a spell | visit for awhile, set a spell | Well hello, Charlie. Come in and visit a spell. |
| vote of thanks | an expression of thanks from a group, tip of the hat | When our president spoke, she gave a vote of thanks to the volunteers. |

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Idioms: vale of tears (valley of tears) -- vote of thanks

Idioms: wack -- wait on you hand and foot

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| wack | hip-hop slang word meaning bad | That book is wack. I can't understand it. |
| wacko | crazy, bonkers , spinny | If I eat worms, will people think I'm wacko? |
| wacky | silly, foolish, kooky , nutty as a fruit cake | Lucy sometimes does wacky things - like, one time she sent ice cream in the mail. |
| wait a minute | pause for a short time, think about this, hold it | Wait a minute. Before we visit Doris, let's phone her. |
| wait a sec | wait for a second, wait up | Wait a sec, Mag. I'll be right there. |
| wait around | wait to see what will happen, hang around | Let's wait around and see if the bird returns to its nest. |
| wait for the other shoe to drop | wait for the final step, wait for the conclusion, leave me hanging | He said he'd make two changes. First, he resigned. I'm waiting for the other shoe to drop. |
| wait on customers | serve customers in a restaurant or store | Please wait on the customers in the lounge. Take their orders. |
| wait on tables | (See wait on customers) | |
| wait on you hand and foot | serve you, bring everything you want, suck up to | Anna says she's tired of waiting on you hand and foot. She won't be your slave anymore. |

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Idioms: wack -- wait on you hand and foot

Idioms: wait up -- walk

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| wait up | wait for me, wait until I catch up | Danny, wait up. I want to talk to you. |
| wait up for | not go to bed until the kids come home at night | Mom always waits up for us when we go to a party. |
| wait with bated breath | wait with suspense, want to know what happens | We waited with bated breath for news of the fallen climber. |
| wake up | awaken, rouse from sleep | On Saturday I usually wake up around noon. I "sleep in". |
| wake up | be alert, stop daydreaming | Wake up, Walter. It's your turn to deal the cards. |
| wake up and smell the coffee | be more aware, get with it | You don't know about the Net? Wake up and smell the coffee! |
| wake-up call | (See a wake-up call) | |
| wake up on the wrong side of bed | (See get up on the wrong side of bed) | |
| wake with a start | wake suddenly, jump out of bed | I woke with a start when Santa Claus landed on our roof. |
| walk | not have to pay a fine or go to jail, get off | They couldn't prove that Don was guilty, so he walked. |

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Idioms: walk a straight line -- wall flower

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|--|
| walk a straight line | walk without staggering, show that you are sober | If you can't walk a straight line, don't drive a vehicle. |
| walk down | walk along, walk on | We walked down the road to the lake. It was a nice day for a walk. |
| walk of life | lifestyle, occupation, vocation | People from all walks of life eat at Fabio's Restaurants. |
| walk on eggshells | be very careful, on tenterhooks , watch your step | Your son is so afraid of making a mistake he's walking on eggshells. |
| walk the plank | be forced to jump overboard or be killed, be forced to leave or quit | If you get caught stealing from the company, you'll have to walk the plank. |
| walk the talk | do what you talk about doing, practice what you preach | If we advise people to recycle, we should recycle. We have to walk the talk. |
| walk through | read or perform slowly, practice slowly | At our first rehearsal we walked through the first act of the play. |
| walk-through | inspect the house you are buying just before you become the owner | The day before we moved into our new home, we did a walk-through with the real estate agent. |
| walk up | walk along, walk on, walk in | They walked up and down the hall, waiting for the doctor. |
| wall flower | a girl who is not invited to dance, no shrinking violet | I won't go to the party because I feel like a wall flower when the boys don't ask me to dance. |

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Idioms: want a piece of me -- wash it off

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| want a piece of me | want to hurt me, want revenge, have at me | I wrote a letter to the local paper criticizing the hockey team. Now everybody wants a piece of me. |
| want it so bad I can taste it | want it very much, die for | I want that trophy. I want it so bad I can taste it. |
| want to make something of it | do you want to argue or fight about it? | Yes, I did kiss Millie Watkins. Wanna make something of it? |
| warm up | begin to exercise, exercise slowly | To warm up, she walks about a kilometer; then she jogs. |
| warmed over | warmed on a stove, reheated | For supper we had warmed-over waffles. They tasted okay. |
| warped sense of humor | thinking that weird things are funny | If you laugh at cruelty, you have a warped sense of humor. |
| wash | (See a wash) | |
| wash down | wash by letting water run down, hose it down | If the kids play in the bathroom I'll have to wash down the walls. |
| wash it down | drink to help you swallow, drink after eating | Have a donut - and some coffee to wash it down. |
| wash it off | spray water to clean it, hose it off | If you spill latex paint, you can wash it off with water. |

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Idioms: want a piece of me -- wash it off

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Idioms: wash out -- wasted

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| wash out | become clean, clean up | "Will this stain wash out?" "Yes, if you use bleach." |
| wash-out | (See a wash-out) | |
| wash your hands of it | not be involved anymore, withdraw from a project | If you don't believe in the union, wash your hands of it. |
| washed up | ruined, unable to continue in business | I can't believe Max is washed up. He was a successful businessman. |
| wasn't born yesterday | wise from experience, been around | Pat can survive in the workplace. She wasn't born yesterday. |
| WASP | White Anglo-Saxon Protestant | Don's a WASP and I'm a WASP, but we have different beliefs. |
| waste no time | hurry to do it, do not delay | After the meeting, I left. I wasted no time leaving that dirty city. |
| waste not, want not | if you do not waste, you will not be needy | Melinda's motto is <i>Waste Not, Want Not</i> . She's very efficient. |
| wasted | drugged, natural high , stoned | He acts weird when he's wasted. Drugs do strange things to him. |
| wasted | badly injured, bruised, beat up | Tom was wasted by the C-Train Gang. He's in the hospital. |

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Idioms: watch me like a hawk -- watch your step

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| watch me like a hawk | watch me carefully, on my case , watch your every move | I couldn't do anything. The teacher was watching me like a hawk! |
| watch out | be careful, look out | Watch out! There's a truck! |
| watch out for | watch and care for, keep an eye on | Jamie, you watch out for Cathy. Hold her hand at the crosswalk. |
| watch over | care for, protect, look after | "Who watches over you, Kari?" "My Guardian Angel, that's who." |
| watch over like a mother hawk | watch carefully and protect, keep an eye on | She's a good babysitter. She watches over Katia like a mother hawk! |
| watch your every move | watch to see if you do something wrong, watch me like a hawk | If the police think you are a suspect, they watch your every move. |
| watch your language | do not swear, do not use crude language | Watch your language. There are children in the room. |
| watch your P's and Q's | be polite, mind your manners | At the banquet, remember your manners. Watch your P's and Q's. |
| watch your step | watch where you step, be careful | Watch your step, Grandfather. The sidewalk is icy. |
| watch your step | stay out of trouble, keep your nose clean | The referee told me not to fight. "Watch your step," he said. |

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Idioms: beg off -- behind the scenes

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| beg off | ask to be excused from duty, get out of a task | Some people volunteer to work and then they beg off. |
| beg to differ | have a different opinion, disagree with | When I stated the cause of the loss, he said, "I beg to differ." |
| beg your pardon | excuse me, please do not be offended | I beg your pardon, but I am using this phone booth. |
| beg your pardon | what did you say? will you repeat what you said? | Beg your pardon? Did you say you are Paul Newman? |
| beggars can't be choosers | people who receive free things should not expect the best | When they complained about the shabby coats, he said, "Beggars can't be choosers." |
| begs the question | suggests this question, leaves this question unanswered | "That's a fine idea," said the Head Mouse, "but it begs the question: Which one of us will put the bell on the cat?" |
| behind bars | in jail, in prison, in the slammer | Behind bars, she didn't have much of a social life. |
| behind the curve | having lower than average test scores, having a low performance | I was behind the curve when I wrote that test. I'll probably get a low grade. |
| | the bell curve - a line graph of test scores | |
| behind the eight ball | in a difficult position, in a predicament, between the devil and... | I'm behind the eight ball with the Tax Department. I deducted college tuition fees from my taxable income, but I didn't pay the fees! |
| behind the scenes | out of sight, unnoticed, unsung hero | This organization has many people who work behind the scenes helping us to succeed. |

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Idioms: water-cooler talk -- way out of line (away out of line)

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| water-cooler talk | office news, gossip | I believe water-cooler talk - unless it's about me. |
| water down | add water to make it weaker, dilute | The cherry drink is too strong. It should be watered down. |
| water under the bridge | the past, history | That failure is water under the bridge. Let's not live in the past. |
| watering hole | bar, pub, licensed premises | The St. Louis Hotel is Ralph's favorite watering hole. |
| watershed mark | (See mark a watershed) | |
| wax eloquent | speak beautifully, make a speech using nice words | When we talk about art, Uncle Jonas begins to wax eloquent. |
| wax poetic | become poetic, begin to recite poems Wax is also an intransitive verb. In one sense it means to increase, as in <i>the moon waxes full this evening</i> , and in another sense to pass into a mood or state. In the latter sense we can understand the phrase <i>wax poetic</i> (or <i>eloquent</i> , <i>lyrical</i> , <i>philosophical</i> or <i>sarcastic</i>) and this raises doubt about its status as an idiom, i.e., it can be taken literally. The <i>Canadian Oxford Dictionary</i> suggests that wax has a Germanic origin: <i>wachsen</i> (to grow). The interesting thing about this relationship is that <i>wachsen</i> never has an attribute, i.e. neither <i>wax poetic</i> nor <i>grow old</i> translate. | Whenever you read the Psalms, Andy begins to wax poetic. |
| way cool | very nice, very cool | His voice is way cool, eh. I love listening to him. |
| way out (away out) | not close to the answer, wrong by a large amount | Your guess was way out. My age is 49, not 41. |
| way out of line (away out of line) | very inappropriate, not acceptable | When the teacher hit you, he was way out of line. |

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Idioms: way to go -- weasel word

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| way to go | good work, good for you , good going | When Kelly scores a goal, we yell, "Way to go, man!" |
| way you hold your... | (See the way you hold your mouth) | |
| weak-kneed | not strong in character, lacking will power | Marvin yields to temptation, but I wouldn't say he's weak-kneed. |
| wear down | become dull or weak, use until worn | Confinement in a prison began to wear down his spirit. |
| wear off | not have as much effect, not affect as much | The effects of the drug began to wear off, and the pain returned. |
| wear out | use until thin or full of holes, shabby | If you wear out your gloves, we'll provide a new pair. |
| wear out your welcome | stay or visit too long, not be welcome anymore | If we stay more than three days, we'll wear out our welcome. |
| wear the pants | make the decisions, control everything | Betty wears the pants in the Cheong family. She's the boss. |
| wear your heart on your sleeve | show your emotions, reveal your true feelings | If you wear your heart on your sleeve, he'll know you love him. |
| weasel word | vague or ambiguous word (used intentionally) | Show that contract to your lawyer. She can find the weasel words. |

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Idioms: weather the storm -- well to do

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| weather the storm | survive a crisis, live through tough times | Pat lost his job and I had surgery, but we weathered the storm. |
| weed out | remove, delete, get rid of , turf it | We have to weed out the courses that people don't need, such as <i>Caring For Your Polar Bear</i> . |
| weigh in at | measure the weight of a person, tip the scales | Teddy weighed in at one hundred kilograms. He's a heavy man. |
| weirdo | strange person, pervert, creep | This weirdo started following us around the park. It was scary! |
| wekabi | personal evil spirit, personal devil | His wekabi told him to steal the statue of the Ethiopian ruler. |
| well heeled | wealthy, rich, well off | The Clarks were well heeled, wealthy enough to hire servants. |
| well hung [B] | having a large penis and testicles | That stallion is well hung. He's very well equipped. |
| well off | wealthy, well to do | Ken's family is fairly well off. They can afford a few luxuries. |
| well taken | true, significant | Your statement is well taken. The Canadian family <i>has</i> changed. |
| well to do | wealthy, rich, loaded | Many well-to-do families send their children to private schools. |

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Idioms: went through the roof -- whale of a game

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| went through the roof | (See go through the roof) | |
| went to bat for | (See go to bat for) | |
| went under | (See go under) | |
| went wild | (See go wild) | |
| wet behind the ears | (See still wet behind the ears) | |
| wet the bed | urinate while in bed, urinate during sleep | Some kids wet the bed because they have emotional problems. |
| wet your whistle | have a drink, quench your thirst | If you're thirsty, have some apple cider to wet your whistle. |
| whack | a lot, a bunch, tons | A million quid? That's a whack o' money, my friend. |
| whack off [B] | (See jerk off) | |
| whale of a game | (See a whale of a game) | |

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Idioms: what a brain -- what if

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| what a brain | what an intelligent person, what a bright girl | What a brain! She got 98% on her math test. |
| what a dish | what a beautiful girl, cute chick | Wynona Rider - what a dish! |
| what a rigmarole | what a process, what a hassle | To get a refund, I had to answer 50 questions. What a rigmarole! |
| what a rush | what a thrill, what a great feeling | After riding in Paul's Corvette, Rita said, "What a rush!" |
| what came over me | what happened to me, what caused me to change | I couldn't remember my name. I don't know what came over me. |
| what-cha-ma-call-it | what do you call it, thing-a-ma-jig | To finish the job, I need a what-cha-ma-call-it. A trowel! |
| what did I do to deserve this | why am I being punished? no rest for the wicked | Working in the sewers, I thought, "What did I do to deserve this?" |
| what gives | what is happening, what's going on | Jerry walks in and says, "What gives? Where is everybody?" |
| what goes around comes around | you get what you give; our actions are passed on until they return to us | Wise folks have learned that you eventually get what you give - what goes around comes around. |
| what if | (See what-if) | |

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Idioms: what a brain -- what if

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Idioms: what-if -- what the Sam Hill

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| what-if | plan, theory, hypothesis | We did a what-if on the computer to see when the world will die from pollution. |
| what in tarnation | what is this? what the hell [B] | What in tarnation? Where did you get that dinosaur? |
| what in the name of heaven | what is that? what's going on | You built a gazebo? What in the name of heaven is that? |
| what in the world | what is happening, what is it? | What in the world is that? It looks like a space ship! |
| what it boils down to | what it really means, the bottom line | What it boils down to is this: we don't have enough money. |
| what the dickens | where did it go? how do you explain it? | What the dickens did you do to your hair? Who cut it off? |
| what the hay | who cares? why worry? | The hood blew off my car, but what the hay - who needs a hood? |
| what the heck | why bother? it does not matter | Bing and Ko are getting married. What the heck! I don't care. |
| what the hell [B] | why? how? what the heck | What the hell is he doing with my diary? Where did he get it? |
| what the Sam Hill | what happened, what the hell , what is it? | What the Sam Hill did you do to my bike? The gears won't shift. |
| | <i>Sam Hill</i> is considered to be a soft replacement for <i>hell</i> or <i>damn</i> . | |

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Idioms: what was I thinking of -- what's in it for me

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|--|---|
| what was I thinking of | why did I do that? I wish I had not done that | I got my head shaved! What was I thinking of! |
| what you don't know won't hurt you | if you do not know about a problem, you do not worry | Don't tell Dad I'm gay. What he doesn't know won't hurt him. |
| whatever floats your boat | (See float your boat) | |
| what's cooking | what is happening, what's going down | What's cooking with the kids? They're too quiet. |
| what's eating you | what is bothering you? are you upset? | What's eating you, Darryl? You look kind of mad. |
| what's going down | what is happening, what is going to happen, down the pike | The students want to know what's going down - where the teacher went. |
| what's going on | what is happening, down the pike , what's going down | I want to know what's going on. Who wrote this note? |
| what's good for the goose is good for the gander | rules that apply to the wife also apply to the husband, tit for tat | If you need a holiday, so do I! What's good for the goose is good for the gander. |
| what's-his-face | what is his name, I cannot remember his name | Nobody can park here, not even old what's-his-face - the judge. |
| what's in it for me | what will I receive? how will I benefit? | Before I give you the information, what's in it for me. Do I get paid? |

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Idioms: what was I thinking of -- what's in it for me

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Idioms: what's new -- wheels

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|--|
| what's new | what is new in your life? what is happening | "Hi, Pearl. What's new?" "Lots. I have a baby!" |
| what's the big idea | why are you doing that? who said you could do that? | What's the big idea? Who said you could chop down that tree? |
| what's the poop | what is the news? what did you hear? what's going down | When Holly wants to know what happened, she says, "Well, what's the poop?" |
| what's up | what is happening what is the latest news? | Bugs Bunny says to Elmer Fudd, "A bee 'n a bee! What's up, Doc?" |
| what's what | what is the truth, what are the facts, the straight goods | I want to know what's what before I go to court. I want to know what happened. |
| what's your beef | what is your complaint? why are you upset? | What's your beef, Mark? I can see that you're upset. |
| what's your poison | what do you like to drink? which liquor do you like? | Come over to the bar and I'll buy you a drink. What's your poison? |
| wheatbelt | wheat-producing area, breadbasket | Farmers in the wheatbelt pray for rain for their crops. |
| wheeler-dealer | a person who is good at making sales and deals, a wheeler-dealer | Cliff is a wheeler-dealer in the energy industry. He brings buyers and sellers together. |
| wheels | vehicle (car, truck etc.), set of wheels | Jeff, can I borrow your wheels? My sister needs a ride to the mall. |

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Idioms: wheels fall off -- where angels fear to tread

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| wheels fall off | (See the wheels fall off) | |
| when in Rome, do as the Romans do | when you are a visitor do the same things as your hosts do | When I visit an Asian country, I learn the customs, and do as the "Romans" do. |
| when it comes to | when this is the topic, when we talk about this | When it comes to cars, I like GM. I would buy a Chev or a Pontiac. |
| when it rains it pours | when it comes we get too much, feast or famine | "Tonight we don't have enough chairs for everybody." "When it rains it pours!" |
| when push comes to shove | when people fight, when the fighting begins, when the going gets tough | The workers are demanding a fair wage. When push comes to shove, we may have to call the police. |
| when the chips are down | when the right decision must be made, when you must win | When the chips are down - when we are losing - we play better. We need to be challenged. |
| when the crunch comes | when there is less money, when the economy fails | When the crunch comes, we'll have our mortgage paid off! |
| when the dust settles | when the fight is finished, when it is calm again, when the lights go on | Abortion is a serious issue, but when the dust settles, women will be able to choose. |
| when the going gets tough | when there are problems, when progress is difficult | When the going gets tough, we need people with a good attitude. |
| where angels fear to tread | where even the angels fear to go, where danger is | They were using a ouija board - going where angels fear to tread! |

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Idioms: where do they get off -- white elephant

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| where do they get off | where do they get the right? how come ? | Where do they get off telling me to slow down? Who asked them? |
| where it's at | where important things are happening, where the action is | China - that's where it's at today. Their society is changing; their economy is growing. |
| where the rubber hits the road | where the theory is tested, when the action begins; the nitty-gritty | In the workplace, you apply what you've learned - that's where the rubber hits the road. |
| where there's a will, there's a way | when we are determined we find a way to succeed, when the going gets tough | The manager of the charity held up this sign: WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY! |
| where's the loo | where is the bathroom? where is the can ? | When Bev is looking for a bathroom she says, "Where's the loo?" |
| whet your appetite | improve your appetite, cause you to be hungry | How about an aphrodisiac to whet your appetite? |
| whew | expression of relief after escaping danger, thank goodness | Whew! That was close! I nearly lost my false teeth! |
| whip you | defeat you, beat you in a game, wipe you | Jason says he can whip you in a game of tennis. Can he beat you? |
| whip you into shape | help you become fit, improve your fitness | These aerobic exercises will whip you into shape. |
| white elephant | a purchase that was not used, a useless object | Should we take the statue of Stalin to the White Elephant Sale? |

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Idioms: behind your back -- belt you

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| behind your back | where you cannot see, when you are not here | He says nice things to you, but criticizes you behind your back. |
| being there | being where good things happen, being in the right place at the right time | Caleb seems to succeed by just being there. Good things happen to him wherever he is. |
| believe my ears | (See can't believe my ears) | |
| believe my eyes | (See can't believe my eyes) | |
| bells and whistles | (See all the bells and whistles) | |
| belly up | not operating, bankrupt, tits up | Four car dealers went belly up during the recession. |
| belly up to the bar | sit close to the bar, find a chair at the bar | Belly up to the bar, boys. I'd like to buy you a drink. |
| bellyache | complain, whine | Don't bellyache about the referee. Just play your best. |
| below the poverty line | not earning enough to survive, very poor, as poor as a church mouse | If husband and wife are earning minimum wage, they're living below the poverty line. |
| belt you | hit you, punch you | I should belt you for saying that my sister looks like a dog. |

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Idioms: behind your back -- belt you

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Idioms: white knuckles -- whup you

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| white knuckles | a tense feeling, acute worry | Driving through fog is scary - it's white knuckles all the way. |
| white lie | a small lie, a fib | "You said you were 39, not 40." "Yes. I told a white lie." |
| whiz | urinate, pee, piss,[B] have to go , take a leak [B] | A few minutes after the concert began, my daughter whispered, "Mommy, I have to whiz." |
| who cares | does anyone care, does it matter, so what | "So my car pollutes the air - who cares?" "I do. I care." |
| who do you think you are | do you think you are famous? do you think you are a superstar? | You said <i>Hi Dubbya</i> to President Bush! Who do you think you are! |
| whole hog | every effort, all your energy, gung ho | When I play racquetball, I work hard. I go whole hog. |
| whole shebang | (See the whole shebang) | |
| whole shooting match | (See the whole shooting match) | |
| whore blossom | pimple, cold sore, zit | Every time I eat shortbread, I get whore blossoms on my chin. |
| whup you | defeat you in a fight or game | Ali said, "I can whup you with one arm tied behind my back!" |

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Idioms: white knuckles -- whup you

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Idioms: whup your ass -- willy-nilly

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| whup your ass | defeat you badly, win decisively, wipe you | On the chessboard you can defeat Gilles, but on the racetrack he'll whup your ass! |
| why in the name of... | why, why in the world | I want to know why in the name of heaven she bought that gun. |
| why in the world | why, why is it? for the life of me | Why in the world would anyone want to live in the desert? |
| wicked | exciting, terrific, cool | "Wicked!" Dawn said when she saw my haircut. "It looks great." |
| wide awake | fully awake, alert | After the bear stuck his head in our tent, I was wide awake. |
| wild | exciting, awesome, rad | "Do you like my new shirt?" "Ya, man. It's wild." |
| wild about | like a lot, crazy about , mad about | I'm just wild about Harry, but he doesn't care about me. |
| wild and woolly | uncivilized, like an animal | When cowboys are on the range, they become wild and woolly. |
| wild goose chase | (See a wild goose chase) | |
| willy-nilly | whether you want it or not, without choice | I continue to receive junk mail - willy-nilly - like it or not! |

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Idioms: whup your ass -- willy-nilly

Idioms: wimp -- winded

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|--|--|
| wimp | weak person, chicken | Tiny Tim is not a wimp, but he looks thin and weak. |
| wimpy | weak, lacking courage, like a wimp | Sean acts kind of wimpy, but he's a strong, decisive leader. |
| win big | win a big prize, win a lot of money | You can win big with Lotto 649. You can win millions! |
| win by a nose | barely win, win by one point or part of a second | In the final race, we won by a nose. Our boat was just in front. |
| win going away | win by going ahead near the end of a race or game | Scoring four goals in the third period, the Leafs won going away. |
| win the hearts | win the approval, cause people to like you | Elvis won the hearts of the crowd when he sang <i>Love Me Tender</i> . |
| wind up | conclude, finish, end up | What time will the meeting wind up? When should I pick you up? |
| wind up | see this result, see that ending, end up | If you are a strong leader, you could wind up as our president. |
| windbag | a person who talks a lot, a person who brags | Kerry is bragging about Ireland again. What a windbag! |
| winded | (See out of breath) | |

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Idioms: wimp -- winded

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Idioms: window of opportunity -- wino

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|--|
| window of opportunity | (See a window of opportunity) | |
| window on the world | the place where you can see the world | For some people, TV is their only window on the world. |
| wing it | improvise, change your plans, play it by ear | If I am asked strange questions at an interview, I wing it. I give the best answers I can think of. |
| wingding | wild party, bash | We went to Happy Harry's wingding. It was a great party. |
| wingnut | a person who acts crazy, a nut | Jerry, you wingnut! How did you get that horse in the elevator? |
| wingy | wild, crazy, wacko | Leon drove his car into the lake again. That guy is really wingy! |
| winner take all | the winner of the game gets all the money | Bert said, "Let's play one more game of poker, winner take all." |
| winning isn't everything; it's the only thing | winning is the only thing that matters, get it straight | It was Vince Lombardi, a football coach, who said, "Winning isn't everything - it's the only thing." |
| winning streak | winning game after game, make a clean sweep | The Expos have won nine games - their longest winning streak. |
| wino | an alcoholic, a drunk, in the tank | See that wino over there. He used to be the president of GASCO. |

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Idioms: window of opportunity -- wino

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Idioms: wipe out -- with bated breath

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| wipe out | lose control of a car/bike so that it spins or rolls | Larry wiped out on the last corner. His car is in the ditch. |
| wipe that smile off your face | stop smiling, do not smile, cut it out | Rick, tell Peter you're sorry and give him a big kiss. Gail, wipe that smile off your face. |
| wipe you | defeat you by many points, blow you away | Tran has won every spelling contest. She'll wipe you. |
| wired | very excited, pumped | Jay didn't sleep last night. She's really wired for her exam today. |
| wired for sound | ready to operate, prepared for use | "Is the hall decorated and ready?" "Yep. It's wired for sound." |
| wise to us | know what we are doing, onto us | Your husband knows you're seeing me. He's wise to us. |
| wishful thinking | believing it is true because you wish it was true | Roy says that he is going to marry Dawn, but it's wishful thinking. |
| wishy-washy | not able to decide, saying yes and no | I like you because you're decisive, because you're not wishy-washy. |
| with all my heart | with all my feeling | I love Canada with all my heart. |
| with bated breath | with worry and tension, with suspense, leave me hanging | With bated breath, they waited for news of the men who were trapped in the mine. |

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Idioms: with bells on -- without a stitch of clothes on

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| with bells on | happy to come, ready to have fun | I'd love to come to your wedding. I'll be there with bells on! |
| with his tail between his legs | running away in fear, retreating like a coward, run for the hills | When he saw the bear, he turned around and ran with his tail between his legs. |
| with it | informed, sophisticated, cool , in the know | In the fashion world, Brad's really with it. He knows fashion. |
| with the naked eye | without binoculars or a telescope | The comet cannot be seen with the naked eye. It is too small. |
| with wings | to take out, to take with you, to go | "Can I take your order?" "I'll have a Big Mac, a large fries and a Coke - with wings." |
| within earshot | close enough to hear, under my breath | Lil was within earshot of the radio during the newscast. She heard it. |
| without a doubt | for sure, without question | Without a doubt, Toyota has the best record. It's the most reliable. |
| without a full deck | mentally unbalanced, one brick short... | At times he acts strange - like he's playing without a full deck. |
| without a hitch | without a problem, smooth sailing | Except for one flat tire, the trip went without a hitch. |
| without a stitch of clothes on | nude, naked as a jay bird , stark naked | She stood there, ankle deep in water, without a stitch of clothes on. |

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Idioms: with bells on -- without a stitch of clothes on

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Idioms: without a word of a lie -- won't tell a soul

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| without a word of a lie | without any lies, the gospel truth | Without a word of a lie, that fish was five feet long. |
| without batting an eye | without pausing, looking calm and natural | Without batting an eye, she gave him a false name and address. |
| without question | certain, no doubt | Lee sang best, without question. She has an excellent voice. |
| without turning a hair | without a sign of fear or stress, cool , without batting an eye | Without turning a hair, Adriana told them she was Madonna's manager! |
| wolf down | eat quickly, inhale | The boys wolfed down their lunch and ran out to play soccer. |
| wolf in sheep's clothing | (See a wolf in sheep's clothing) | |
| wonder of wonders | amazingly, surprisingly, lo and behold | Wonder of wonders, you're "on time"! It's a miracle! |
| wonky | dizzy, confused, woozy | After falling off the horse, Pedro was feeling a little wonky. |
| won't see you stuck | will help if necessary, will not refuse firmly, leave the door open | "Will you judge our pie contest?" "I'd rather not do it, but I won't see you stuck." |
| won't tell a soul | will not tell anyone, keep it to yourself | You can tell me your secret. I won't tell a soul. |

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Idioms: woof your cookies -- work

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| woof your cookies | vomit, puke, barf , hork | If you eat bananas, anchovies and cheese, you'll woof your cookies. |
| woozy | feeling a little bit sick in your stomach, wonky | I've had the flu and my stomach is still a bit woozy. |
| word for word | quoted exactly, verbatim | He repeated her message word for word - exactly as she had said it. |
| word is good | you can believe it, you can count on it | Arturo's word is good. You can believe what he says. |
| word is out | I have heard, people are saying, rumor has it | Word is out that you're moving to Denver. Is it true? |
| word of honor | solemn promise, take oath | He gave me his word of honor that he will pay me on Friday. |
| word of mouth | (See by word of mouth) | |
| word to the wise | (See a word to the wise) | |
| wordsmith | (See a wordsmith) | |
| work | is right, is fine, is appropriate | <i>Plaintive</i> - that's the right word! It works! |

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Idioms: work cut out for -- work the room

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| work cut out for | a lot of work to do, difficult tasks to do, a hard row to hoe | If you want to be a chartered accountant, you have your work cut out for you. |
| work ethic | belief that you must work; that work is good for you | Do you believe that Canadians have a strong work ethic? |
| work it out | solve it, try to agree | My teacher and I disagree about my grade, but we can work it out. |
| work my buns off | work hard every day, work your ass off [B] | I work my buns off while he sits around and makes phone calls! |
| work my fingers to the bone | work so hard that I become thin and weak | I worked my fingers to the bone to help my kids get an education. |
| work of art | beautiful painting or carving etc. | Every rug she weaves is a work of art. |
| work off | exercise to reduce stress or emotion or fat | Cycling is a good way to work off stress. |
| work out | succeed, go as planned, pan out | Did the recipe work out? Did the cake taste good? |
| work out | exercise to become fit or to prepare for competition, workout | Come down to my exercise room. I'll show you where I work out. |
| work the room | move around the room trying to meet people who can help you in your career or business, shmooze | We watched Tony work the room - glass in hand, smiling and chatting with anybody who might become a client or an ally. |

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Idioms: work cut out for -- work the room

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Idioms: work things out -- world beater

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| work things out | discuss a problem and find a solution, work it out | Maria and Paulo had a fight, but they worked things out. |
| work to rule | do only as much work as you have to do, draw the line | The teachers are working to rule because they are not satisfied with their salaries. |
| work up a sweat | work or exercise hard, perspire, break a sweat | When I skip, it takes me ten minutes to work up a sweat. |
| work up a thirst | become thirsty, work or play until you are thirsty | Digging trenches at midday, the men soon worked up a thirst. |
| work your ass off [B] | work very hard, work my buns off | Why do you work your ass off for such a small salary? |
| work your buns off | work hard, work steadily | If you work your buns off, you can learn these idioms! |
| workaholic | one who loves to work; who is addicted to work | Gary is a workaholic. He even works on weekends! |
| worked up | excited, upset | Now, Dad. Don't get worked up about the war. Don't get upset. |
| workout | exercising, practicing a sport, weight training, work out | I feel good after a workout - after jogging or swimming. |
| world beater | a person who tries to be the best in the world, set the world on fire | My coach said, "You don't have to be a world beater. Just be the best you can be." |

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Idioms: bend over backwards -- best laid plans

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| bend over backwards | do anything to help, try to please, go the extra mile | They'll bend over backwards to find a room for you. They give excellent service. |
| bend the rules | change the rules to help, look the other way | Ed won't accept late reports. He won't bend the rules. |
| bend your ear | ask you to listen, buttonhole you | Carl, can I bend your ear for a minute? I have some news. |
| bend your elbow | drink beer or liquor, tip a few | Your eyes look red and tired. Bend your elbow last night? |
| benefit of the doubt | (See the benefit of the doubt) | |
| beside myself | very upset, very worried, at loose ends | She was beside herself with grief when her sister died. |
| beside the point | off topic, not related, irrelevant | The brand of cigarette is beside the point. Smoking is the issue. |
| best foot forward | (See put your best foot forward) | |
| best interests at heart | thinking of a person's needs, in mind | When I give low grades, I still have your best interests at heart. |
| best laid plans | (See the best-laid plans) | |

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Idioms: world is your oyster -- worth their weight in gold

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| world is your oyster | (See the world is your oyster) | |
| World Wide Web (www) | a network of computers in all parts of the world, Internet | Some people use the Web to find information; others use it to find friends. |
| worldly wise | knowing how to survive, having street smarts | You've lived on the streets of LA. You're worldly wise. You're "hip". |
| worlds apart | not close to agreement, very different | Israel and Palestine are neighbors but they're worlds apart. |
| worn out | (See wear out) | |
| worn out | very tired, bushed | Whew! I'm worn out from all that walking! How far did we walk? |
| worried sick | very worried, extremely anxious | Velma is worried sick about her son. He's using cocaine. |
| worse for wear | (See none the worse for wear) | |
| worship the ground she walks on | love her very, very much; crawl on my hands... , mad about her | "Does Anthony love Cleopatra?" "He adores her. He worships the ground she walks on!" |
| worth their weight in gold | worth a lot, invaluable, priceless | Our volunteers are worth their weight in gold. They help us in ways that money can't buy! |

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Idioms: wouldn't be caught dead -- wrap your mind around

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|---|
| wouldn't be caught dead | would not like to do it, would rather die than do it | Have you seen Lulu's miniskirt? I wouldn't be caught dead in that. |
| wouldn't miss it for the world | I would rather attend it than see the world | "Are you coming to my wedding?" "I wouldn't miss it for the world!" |
| wouldn't say shit if her mouth was full of it [B] | would not say a bad word, would not swear | Vi is so sweet. She wouldn't say shit if her mouth was full of it. |
| wound up | excited, pumped | Before Nadia sings, she gets all wound up. She can't relax. |
| wow | oh, awesome, gee whiz | Wow! I can see every star in the universe tonight. |
| wrap around his finger | controlled by him, on a string | I do whatever she wants. She's got me wrapped around her finger. |
| wrap it up | finish it, end it, bring to a close | They played some new songs but they wrapped it up with a hit. |
| wrap up | end, conclude | The Olympics wrap up on Sunday. Closing ceremonies are at 1 p.m. |
| wrap-up | closing, conclusion | During the wrap-up, the speaker thanked everyone for coming. |
| wrap your mind around | understand, comprehend, get your mind around | Val's niece is also her half sister. Wrap your mind around that! |

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Idioms: wouldn't be caught dead -- wrap your mind around

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Idioms: wreak havoc -- wysiwyg

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| wreak havoc | damage, destroy, lay waste , trash the place | If the workers get mad, they'll wreak havoc in the warehouse. They'll wreck the place. |
| write it off | say it is a financial loss, call it a business expense, deduct it from income | Don't worry about the cost of my plane ticket. I can write it off as a business expense. |
| write up | record in writing, prepare a written account | I've been asked to write up a list of the winners for the newspaper. |
| writer's block | being unable to think of something to write | I told the teacher I couldn't do the paper because of writer's block. |
| written all over your face | showing on your face, body language , read you | When you heard that Italy lost the World Cup, disappointment was written all over your face. |
| written in blood | like a law, binding, cannot be changed | Now that his name is written in blood, he's a member of our gang. |
| written in stone | written in final form, like a commandment | Our agreement isn't written in stone; it can be changed. |
| wuss | weak person, chicken , wimp | "Who is the most famous wuss?" "Mr. Bean?" "Right!" |
| wysiwyg | what you see <i>is</i> what you get (if you are lucky) | The printer is supposed to print what you see on the computer screen - wysiwyg! |

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Idioms: wreak havoc -- wysiwyg

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Idioms: X Generation -- XL

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| X Generation | (See Generation X) | |
| x marks the spot | look for x, begin at x, x is important | Someone had written on the map "X marks the spot where we were abducted by aliens." |
| x-rated | for adults, for a mature audience | <i>Born Loose</i> is an x-rated video. It contains nudity and sex. |
| XL | extra large or very large, extra luxury or extra power; shirt - size XL, car - 300XL | "This shirt is marked XL. What does that mean?" "It means extra large. On cars, XL means extra luxury or power." |

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Idioms: ya -- yikes

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------|---|--|
| ya | yes, yep , yo , uh-uh | "Did you graduate from high school?" "Ya. I got a diploma." |
| yada | idle talk, chatter, yak | He's always talking - yada, yada! |
| yak | talk a lot, visit, a chin wag | When I went to bed, Kate and Mom were still yakking away about the children. |
| yawner | (See a yawner) | |
| yellow | lacking courage, afraid to defend, chicken | Some fans think he's yellow because he doesn't fight. |
| yellow belly | a coward, a person who is afraid to do something | Smith, you yellow belly! Jump in the water and swim! |
| yeow | oh, wow , yikes | Yeow! That stove is hot! |
| yep | yes, uh-huh , ya , yo | "Do you like country music?" "Yep. I like the hurtin' songs." |
| yeppers | yes, afraid so , uh-huh , ya , yo | "Do I <i>have</i> to come home by 9?" "Yeppers, that's what we agreed." |
| yikes | oh, gee , gosh , yeow | Yikes! There's a spider on me! |

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Idioms: yin yang -- you can run but you can't hide

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|--|
| yin yang | an opening or space, everywhere, all over hell's half acre | Australia has too many rabbits. They have rabbits coming out of their yin yang. |
| yo | yes, hello, I hear you, okay | When they call to you, just answer, "Yo!" |
| yokel | (See local yokel) | |
| yonder over there | the direction I am pointing, that direction, that way | You're looking for wild geese? They're yonder over there, feeding in the corn fields. |
| you and the horse you rode in on | you and your horse go, both you and your horse, screw you and the horse | "Did you say I should leave?" "Ya, you and the horse you rode in on. Git goin!" |
| you bet your boots | believe it, certainly, you can count on it | The cowboy said, "You bet your boots I'm going to the rodeo." |
| you betcha | that is correct, right; you got it | When I asked, "Are you coming?" she said, "You betcha." |
| you can bet your bottom dollar | you can be sure of it, you can bet your last dollar on it | If Terry knows about the dance, you can bet your bottom dollar he'll be there. |
| you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink | you can provide what they need but you cannot force them to use it | We provide information, but I wonder if they read it. You can lead a horse to water... . |
| you can run but you can't hide | you can run away but you cannot hide from your past or your problems | When I told a priest I was going away to forget my past, he said, "You can run, but you can't hide." |

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Idioms: you can thank your lucky stars -- you have to be good to be lucky

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|--|
| you can thank your lucky stars | you were lucky, be thankful you are safe | He can thank his lucky stars that a doctor was there. He nearly died. |
| you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear | you cannot improve the quality of junk; cannot make gold from iron | When Hal put a Mercedes star on his Ford, I said, "You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear." |
| you can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody | you will be more successful if you have love in your heart | "So you're going into sales?" "Yes. Do you have any advice?" "Well, a saying from <i>Beverly Hills Cop</i> may be helpful in sales - or any occupation: <i>You can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody!</i> " |
| you can't teach an old dog new tricks | old dogs and old people do not like to change or learn, die hard | Our senior employees don't like computer training - you can't teach an old dog new tricks. |
| you can't tell a book by its cover | the cover or surface does not reveal its contents, beauty is only skin deep | If you buy a car because it looks nice, remember this: you can't tell a book by its cover. |
| you don't miss the water till the well runs dry | you do not appreciate some things until they go away or become extinct | Now we have only memories of our song birds. You don't miss the water till the well runs dry. |
| you don't say | that is surprising, how about that | "We have ten kids," the man said. "You don't say!" my mom replied. |
| you got it | you have the answer, you are doing it right | "You got it, kid!" the coach said. "That's the way to score!" |
| you had to be there | to understand, you should have been there with me; it was funny then | When I said, "Goo!" everybody laughed and clapped. I guess you had to be there. |
| you have to be good to be lucky | people with ability cause their own good luck, prepare like crazy | Athletes don't wait for good luck. They try to improve, knowing you have to be good to be lucky. |

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Idioms: you need money to make money -- young at heart

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--|---|--|
| you need money to make money | you have to spend money to make a profit, nothing succeeds like... | If I had money, I would invest in real estate. It's true that you need money to make money. |
| you reap whatsoever you sow | you will see the long-term effects of your actions, chickens come home... | Youthful passion can produce a lifetime of consequences. We reap whatsoever we sow. |
| you snooze, you lose | if you are not alert you will lose an opportunity, seize the opportunity | Store clerks sometimes charge too much for a product. If you snooze, you lose. |
| you're full of it [B] | you are a liar, you are full of shit [B] | If you think I'm joining that cult, you're full of it. |
| you're kidding | you are joking, you are not serious | You're kidding. Jen wouldn't take off her clothes and climb a tree. |
| you're not kidding/ you aren't kidding | you are right, you are not joking | "It's really cold today," Jen said. "You aren't kidding!" he replied. |
| you're on | you have a deal, you have a date | When she suggested they go out for dinner, he said, "You're on." |
| you're only as good as your last shift | you are judged by your most recent work, don't rest on your laurels | If you believe that you're only as good as your last shift, you should do your best every day. |
| you've got to be kidding | you must be telling me a joke, get out of town, you're kidding | "The manager wants me to give him a massage every afternoon." "You've got to be kidding!" |
| young at heart | feeling or thinking that you are young, youthful | Sarah is over sixty, but she's young at heart. |

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Idioms: your goose is cooked -- yummy

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|---|
| your goose is cooked | (See goose is cooked) | |
| your lip | your sharp words, your bad replies | I don't want any more of your lip, Son. Don't say <i>no</i> to me. |
| your number is up | the time has come, it is your turn to die | When your number's up, you go. That's how I feel about dying. |
| your own worst enemy | hurt yourself, shoot yourself in the foot | If you use cocaine, you'll be your own worst enemy. |
| your turn | your chance, your try | The clerk said, "Wait your turn. Wait until I can serve you." |
| yours truly | me, myself, the writer or speaker | The announcer said, "This is yours truly, Danny Burrows, saying goodbye for now." |
| yoyo | fool, dipstick , jerk , nerd | I was parking my car when this yoyo on a motorcycle started driving in circles around me. |
| yuk | awful, gross, ugly | When Jenny cooks beef liver, the kids say, "Yuk!" |
| yum | it tastes good, I like it | Yum! This soup is good! |
| yummy | delicious, tasty | I don't like J-Bars, but the kids think they're yummy. |

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Idioms: your goose is cooked -- yummy

Idioms: yuppie -- yuppie

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------|---|---|
| yuppie | young, upwardly-mobile, professional person | The yuppies are buying BMW's, but can they afford them? |

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Idioms: a blank look -- a brick

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| a blank look | eyes show that a person does not understand, the lights are on but... | When I called her name, she gave me a blank look, as though she didn't know me. |
| a blast | a great time, a lot of fun | The students were having a blast until the teacher walked in. |
| a blessing in disguise | a problem that becomes a benefit or advantage | The rainstorm was a blessing in disguise. It stopped the fire. |
| a blow job [B] | giving oral sex to a man, fellatio | If you want a blow job, you'll have to shower first. |
| a blowout | to win by a large score, no contest | "Did the Flames win?" "Ya, 11-2. It was a blowout." |
| a blowout | a flat tire, a tire that breaks suddenly | We were late because our van had a blowout on the freeway. |
| a bone to pick | something to argue about, a matter to discuss | Joe sounded angry when he said, "I have a bone to pick with you." |
| a breath of fresh air | a nice change, a new presence | Having Lan around the house is a breath of fresh air - she's so nice. |
| a breath of wind | a breeze, a light wind | In the evening, the lake was calm. There wasn't a breath of wind. |
| a brick | a dependable person, a friend who always helps | Parveen helped me get through my divorce. She's a real brick! |

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Idioms: best of both worlds -- better the devil you know...

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| best of both worlds | (See the best of both worlds) | |
| bet on | place a bet, gamble | I bet on the bay mare, and she won! I bet \$20 on her. |
| bet on a lame rooster | bet on a loser, fall for that | If you vote for that guy, you're betting on a lame rooster. |
| bet you dollars to donuts | I will bet dollars, you bet donuts; give you odds | Ben is the fastest runner. I'll bet you dollars to donuts he wins. |
| better half | spouse, wife or husband | Bring your better half when you visit us. We'd like to meet her. |
| better late than never | it is better to arrive late than not to arrive | "You're an hour late," he said. "Better late than never," I replied. |
| better off | in better conditions: healthier or wealthier etc. | Are you better off renting an apartment than buying a house? |
| better than a kick in the ass [B] | better than punishment, not as bad as it could be, don't knock it | When I told him we had won \$10 in the Lotto, he said, "It's better than a kick in the ass." |
| better than sex | very good, excellent, fantastic | "Hey, James. How was skydiving?" "Great! Better than sex!" |
| better the devil you know... | a new devil could be worse than the old devil | "Should we fire the coach?" "No - better the devil we know than the one we don't." |

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Idioms: zap -- zonked

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| zap | heat in the microwave oven, nuke | I zapped my hotdog. It was ready in 30 seconds! |
| zig when you should zag | move the wrong way, move left instead of right | I had an accident because I zigged when I should've zagged. |
| zilch | zero, none, nothing, diddly-squat , nada , zip | "How much did you win?" "Zilch. Not a penny." |
| zinger | strong statement, sarcastic words, get off a few good ones | Randi says kind things, except for the occasional zinger. Like today, she called Tom a beast. |
| zip | close, shut tight | Mom told me to zip my lips while the preacher is talking. |
| zip | go quickly, run | After we deliver the flowers we can zip over to the bank. |
| zip/zippo | nothing, zero, nada | The Smiths have paid nothing on their account - zippo. |
| zipperhead | business person, administrator | What musicians hate is to have a zipperhead controlling the arts. |
| zit | pimple, blemish | I'm not going to the party because I have zits on my face. |
| zonked | tired, exhausted, falling asleep | After playing soccer in the park, I needed a rest. I was zonked. |

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Idioms: zoo -- zoom in

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------|---|--|
| zoo | (See it's a zoo in there) | |
| zoom | the sound of fast-moving cars | <i>Zoom</i> go the cars on the autobahn! <i>Zoom, zoom!</i> |
| zoom in | move the camera closer, magnify the subject | Now zoom in for a photo of the baby. Get a close-up of her face. |

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Idioms: better to have loved... -- beyond the call of duty

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---|--|--|
| better to have loved... | (See it is better to have loved and lost...) | |
| between a rock and a hard place | in a difficult position, making a difficult choice, Sophie's choice | If I told the truth, I would lose my friend. I was between a rock and a hard place. |
| between sixes and sevens | (See at sixes and sevens) | |
| between the devil and the deep blue sea | in a difficult position, no place to go, between a rock... , Sophie's choice | If he ran, they would shoot him; if he stayed in the shop, the gas would kill him. He was between the devil and the deep blue sea. |
| betwixt and between | not able to choose one or the other, ambivalent | Which should I choose - PC or Mac? I'm betwixt and between. |
| bevy of beauties | a group of beautiful women, a few lovelies | Mr. Gable returned to Hollywood and his bevy of beauties. |
| beyond help | lost, cannot be saved | Some addicts are beyond help. They don't want to be helped. |
| beyond me | (See it's beyond me) | |
| beyond repair | ruined, cannot be repaired, a lost cause | That copier is wrecked. It's beyond repair. |
| beyond the call of duty | (See above and beyond the call of duty) | |

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Idioms: beyond the pale -- big picture

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------|--|--|
| beyond the pale | beyond the limit, over the boundary | His comment went beyond the pale of respect. It was vulgar. |
| biff/biffy | washroom, bathroom, the can , the john , the loo | "Is there a biffy on the bus?" "Yes. There, at the back." |
| Big Apple | (See The Big Apple) | |
| big boys | powerful men in business, moguls, big shots | If you want to do business with the big boys, you need money. |
| big break | big chance, a lucky break | She got her big break when a talent scout heard her sing. |
| big bucks | a lot of money, a high price | You'll pay big bucks to rent an apartment near the university. |
| big cheese | the boss, chief cook and bottle washer , head honcho | If you've got a complaint, see the big cheese. He's our manager. |
| big deal | important event, major happening | A small fire is a big deal because it can cause a lot of damage. |
| big hairy deal | not an important matter, do not make it an issue, big deal | "The teacher's coming!" "So big hairy deal!" |
| big picture | (See the big picture) | |

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Idioms: big rig -- bigger they are...

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|---|--|
| big rig | (See a big rig) | |
| big shot | rich or important person, VIP , big boys | Randy's a big shot in the movie industry. He owns four studios. |
| big-sky thinking | thinking that includes everything, from horizon to horizon; think outside the box coined by Jeffery Phillips | Yes, we need to make common-sense decisions, but first let's do some big-sky thinking. |
| big time | a lot, very much, heavy duty | You've helped me so much. I owe you big time. |
| big wheel | (See a big wheel) | |
| big wigs | important persons: judges, presidents etc., VIP | We've asked the big wigs to change their decision. |
| Bigfoot | a large ape-man living in the forests of western N. America; Sasquatch | Gary told me he saw Bigfoot's tracks in the sand along the Kootenay River. |
| bigger fish to fry | more important people to meet or do business with | Don't bother fighting with him. You've got bigger fish to fry. |
| bigger than life | heroic: stronger, wiser, uglier; larger than life | The characters in most novels seem to be bigger than life. |
| bigger they are... | (See the bigger they are...) | |

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Idioms: bigmouth -- bit off

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| bigmouth | someone who talks too loud, loud mouth | Every crowd has a bigmouth - some guy who yells at the cops. |
| bilk | cheat, defraud, ripped off , taken | He bilked me. I gave him \$100 for the tickets and he kept the change! |
| bimbo | (See a bimbo) | |
| binner | a person who scavenges in garbage bins, Dumpster diving | Some bidders work in pairs. One guy climbs into the bin and hands the stuff to his partner waiting outside. |
| birdbrain | a person with a tiny brain, dumbo | Hey, birdbrain. Why are you throwing money in the river? |
| birder | a bird watcher, one whose hobby is watching birds | Some birders were looking at an oriole in a poplar tree. |
| birds of a feather flock together | people with similar feelings and attitudes | Art and Don are birds of a feather. They like cars and football. |
| birthday suit | naked, nude, in the buff | "Do you wear pajamas in bed?" "No. Just my birthday suit." |
| bit by bit | doing a small amount each time, little by little | Bit by bit, they rebuilt a church that was destroyed by bombs. |
| bit off | (See a bit off) | |

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Idioms: bitch -- bits and pieces

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| bitch | complain, grouse | He tells me I'm always bitching, but I don't complain very much. |
| bitch [B] | (See a bitch) | |
| bite me [B] | I have no respect for you, kiss off , blow me | "Bite me! Take your list of whores and live with them!" |
| bite off more than you can chew | begin more tasks than you can complete | When I took the night class, I bit off more than I could chew. |
| bite the bullet | try harder, be tougher | Bite the bullet during exam week. Don't party; just study. |
| bite the dust | die, quit, lose, kick the bucket | Pete was 98 when he bit the dust. He lived for nearly a century. |
| bite the hand that feeds you | be unkind to the one who cares for you or pays you | If you criticize your employer, you bite the hand that feeds you. |
| bite your tongue | do not say that, you should not have said that | When I mention Dad's temper Mom says, "Bite your tongue." |
| biter (curling) | a rock that is touching the twelve-foot circle | The Heidt rink is lying four - one is a biter. |
| bits and pieces | small pieces, odds and ends | Jack built our cabin with bits and pieces - leftover materials. |

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Idioms: bitten by the same bug -- black out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| bitten by the same bug | have the same interest or hobby | My cousin and I were bitten by the same bug. We collect coins. |
| bitter end | (See the bitter end) | |
| bitter pill | (See a bitter pill) | |
| blab | tell everybody, tell secrets | I told you I like Kevin, and you blabbed it to everybody. |
| blabbermouth | a person who tells everything, loud mouth | Sharon - that blabbermouth! She told the whole class I love Bill. |
| black eye | an eye injury that causes the skin to turn black | "How'd you get the black eye?" "Fighting - in a hockey game." |
| Black Friday | the day the stock market crashed (failed) in 1929 | In the 1980s, there were days to remind us of Black Friday. |
| black-listed | excluded, not be invited, not allowed to join | Gore was black-listed because he led the demonstration. |
| black mark | (See a black mark) | |
| black out | become unconscious, faint, pass out | If I bend over for a long time, I nearly black out when I stand up. |

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Idioms: black out -- blessing in disguise

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|---|--|
| black out | remove the nameplate and trim from a vehicle | James Dean drove a blacked-out Merc in <i>Rebel Without A Cause</i> . |
| black sheep | the bad one, the one who does bad things | He's the black sheep in that family - always in trouble. |
| blackout | (See a blackout) | |
| blank | defeat by preventing any goals, skunk | In soccer, Italy blanked Ireland 2-nil. |
| blast | (See a blast) | |
| blast you | scold you, yell at you | Ms. Zank blasted me for using her computer. She was angry. |
| blasted | dad-blamed , darn , doggone | Where's the blasted hammer? It's never here when I need it! |
| blasted | drunk, loaded , plastered | On her 40th birthday, she went to the bar and got blasted. |
| bleeding heart | one who begs for sympathy for victims, have a soft spot... | Hector is a bleeding heart for wolves. "Save the wolves," he tells people in his speeches. |
| blessing in disguise | (See a blessing in disguise) | |

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Idioms: blind date -- blow a kiss

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| blind date | going out with a boy or girl you have not met | Kate met Jeff on a blind date. They got married a year later. |
| blind leading the blind | (See the blind leading the blind) | |
| blood from a stone | (See get blood from a stone) | |
| blood is thicker than water | blood relationships are stronger than a marriage ceremony | When my wife supported her dad in a fight with me, I said, "So blood <i>is</i> thicker than water." |
| blood is up | excited, angry, ready to fight | Kerry is friendly, but when his blood is up, he's dangerous. |
| blood money | money paid to the relative of a murdered person, dirty money | The widow refused to take blood money from the men who murdered her husband. |
| bloody well | very truly, damn well | He bloody well knows my name because I bloody well told him. |
| blotto | exhausted, bushed | After studying for twelve hours, she was blotto - very tired. |
| blow a bundle | spend a lot of money, lose a lot of money gambling | When Al went to Vegas, he blew a bundle - he lost a lot of money. |
| blow a kiss | kiss your hand and blow across it, throw a kiss | Taea can blow a kiss, and she's only eighteen months old! |

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Idioms: blind date -- blow a kiss

Idioms: blow chunks -- blow my cover

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| blow chunks | puke, vomit, barf , throw chunks | Juan, my boy, if you go for a ride on that Ferris wheel right after dinner, you'll blow chunks! |
| blow it | cause a big mistake, ruin it, screw up | Karen won't blow it this time. She'll skate a perfect program. |
| blow it out of proportion | exaggerate it, make it bigger than it should be | When Gretzky was traded, the media blew it out of proportion. |
| blow it out your ear | throw it away, it is meaningless or worthless | When I asked Jack about the leader's latest statement, he said, "You can blow it out your ear. He's already changed it." |
| blow it up (photo) | enlarge it, magnify it | If you want to see details in the photo, blow it up. |
| blow job [B] | (See a blow job) | |
| blow me [B] | you are worth nothing, kiss my ass, fuck off | "You want me to support you by stealing? Blow me!" |
| blow me down | I am very surprised, I do not believe it | Well, blow me down, Olive. You can cook spinach, too! |
| blow me over | it is unbelievable; far out | He's over 50? Well, blow me over! |
| blow my cover | reveal my true identity, reveal my hiding place | With a false passport, I can enter Bali, if nobody blows my cover. |

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Idioms: a brick short -- a case of

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| a brick short | (See one brick short of a full load) | |
| a budding genius | a child who appears to be very intelligent | The newspaper described Pam as "a budding genius" on the violin. |
| a bull in a china shop | a big, reckless person in a room full of fragile things; cramp your style | Imagine a 300-pound football player at a tea party, and you have a bull in a china shop. |
| a bum rap | unfair blame, unjust sentence, take the rap | It was a bum rap. Eddie didn't steal those paintings. |
| a bummer | an unfortunate event, bad luck, too bad | "Somebody broke a window in his car and stole his stereo." "That's a bummer." |
| a bun in the oven | pregnant, expecting a baby | Mabel has a bun in the oven. The baby's due in April. |
| a bunch of malarkey | an untrue story, a lot of bunk , bull | "Do you believe what the psychic said about your future?" "No. It's a bunch of malarkey." |
| a bundle of nerves | a very nervous person; uptight person | May has so many problems - she's just a bundle of nerves. |
| a card | (See such a card) | |
| a case of | an example of, it's a case of | Look at Bosnia. That's a case of ethnic civil war. |

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Idioms: a brick short -- a case of

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Idioms: blow sky high -- blow up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| blow sky high | upset a lot of people, cause a scandal or riot | This government will blow sky high if people hear these tapes. |
| blow snakes (music) | play great jazz, improvise creatively | I went to hear jazz at the club, and Guido was blowing snakes. |
| blow the lid off | reveal a story, tell some news, break a story | When the defendant confessed, it blew the lid off the murder trial. |
| blow the whistle | tell the teacher or the police, squeal | Jimmy knows we stole the keys, but he won't blow the whistle. |
| blow them away | defeat them badly, kick butt | The Russians blew them away in the first game of the series. |
| blow this joint | leave this building, quit this place | I'm sick of playing billiards. Let's blow this joint. |
| blow this Popsicle stand | leave this place, quit this place | What a boring town! Let's blow this Popsicle stand! |
| blow to kingdom come | explode and destroy, blow up | There's enough gas in the well to blow us kingdom come! |
| blow up | explode using a bomb or dynamite | They plan to blow up that old building because it's unsafe. |
| blow up | become angry, lose your temper | If you criticize AI, he'll blow up. He's very sensitive. |

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Idioms: blow sky high -- blow up

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Idioms: blow you away -- blue in the face

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| blow you away | defeat you easily, beat the pants off | You're going to play chess with Boris? He'll blow you away. |
| blow you out of the water | defeat you, humiliate you | If you challenge his leadership, he'll blow you out of the water. |
| blow your lid/stack/top | become very angry, shout, lose your cool | Don't blow your stack in front of the kids. It's a bad example. |
| blow your mind | amaze you, astound you, shock you | Watching films of the holocaust will blow your mind. |
| blow your stones [B] | ejaculate, come | There's more to it than blowing your stones. Sex is an art form. |
| blow your wad | spend all your money, blow a bundle | He blew his wad on some handmade boots. They cost \$700! |
| blowout | (See a blowout) | |
| blue | sad, depressed, down , low | "Are you blue, Dear?" "Yes. Jack left me." |
| blue-collar worker | someone who works at a trade, e.g., a plumber | The blue-collar workers will vote for Ed. He's a tradesman. |
| blue in the face | weakened, tired after trying many times | I called that dog until I was blue in the face. He would not come in. |

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Idioms: blow you away -- blue in the face

Idioms: blue moon -- boiling mad

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| blue moon | rare event, unusual happening, that'll be the frosty Friday | If he ever says <i>thank you</i> there'll be a blue moon in the sky! |
| blue sky | great opportunity, easy life, smooth sailing | We made T-shirts, and people loved them and bought them. From then on, it was blue sky! |
| blurt out | say without thinking, reply quickly | "I did it!" the boy blurted out, and he began to cry. |
| boarding (hockey) | checking into the boards, chairman of the boards | Boarding causes serious injuries to hockey players. |
| Bob's your uncle | no problem as "Bob," a powerful friend or relative, will do it or have it done | When I asked her to give your application to the president, she said, "Bob's your uncle!" |
| bodacious | bold, daring, defying the rules, like a daredevil | He's bodacious alright. He rode his skateboard right through traffic! |
| body language | body movements that show feelings | Your body language tells me that you're tense. Please relax. |
| boggle your mind | confuse you, make your head spin | These numbers boggle my mind. I don't understand them. |
| bogof | buy one get one free, marketing method, loss leader | If you shop for bogof items you get two for the price of one! |
| boiling mad | very angry, very upset, hopping mad | By the time the car started, Emil was boiling mad. |

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Idioms: bolt from the blue -- bonzer

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|---|
| bolt from the blue | (See like a bolt from the blue) | |
| bomb around | drive around, drive your car for fun, cruise | "Where have you been?" "Bombin' around in Rod's car." |
| bomb out | fail, not succeed | Most engineers say the electric car is a failure. It bombed out. |
| bombed | drunk, hammered , sloshed to the gills | Fay was bombed before she got to the party. She was drunk. |
| bone dry | very dry, as dry as an old bone | Someone had drained the pool. It was bone dry. |
| bone of contention | point of disagreement, controversial point | Job security is the bone of contention in our discussions. |
| bone to pick | (See a bone to pick with you) | |
| bone up on | study, learn, practise | I have to bone up on my French if we're going to Paris. |
| bonkers | crazy, insane, nuts , wacko | If you watch professional wrestling you must be bonkers! |
| bonzer | good, fine, super, awesome | "Did you enjoy your holiday?" "It was bonzer, mate! We had a great time!" |

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Idioms: booboo -- bootleg

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|--|
| booboo | (See make a booboo) | |
| boobs [B] | breasts, tits | Okay, she has lovely boobs. What about her personality? |
| boogie | go, walk, drive | Let's boogie on down to the store and rent a video. |
| book worm | one who reads a lot, geek | Sarah is quite a book worm. She loves to read history books. |
| booked/booked up | no more space or rooms, no vacancy | The Royal Hotel is booked up. Every room is reserved. |
| boom box | portable radio, ghetto blaster | We can have music at the beach if you bring your boom box. |
| boom or bust | either large profits or large losses, rich or poor, feast or famine | In the oil business, it's boom or bust. Some years it's worth more than gold; other years it isn't worth the cost of production! |
| boot it | drive fast, highball it , pedal to the metal | If you boot it, Betty won't ride with you. She hates going fast. |
| boot up | start or switch on a computer | Wait until I boot up the Mac. Then we can print your letter. |
| bootleg | produced illegally, not authorized, software piracy | If someone offers you bootleg software, don't accept it! You could be sued! |

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Idioms: booboo -- bootleg

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Idioms: booze -- bottom fell out

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| booze | liquor, hooch , moonshine | I think Gus has been drinking. His breath smells of booze. |
| boozing buddies | friends who drink liquor and party together | In those days, Billy and I were boozin' buddies - pals. |
| born tired | tired since birth, always tired | My dad says I was born tired. When the doctor slapped my bum, I just yawned! |
| born with a silver spoon in his mouth | born into a rich family, accustomed to wealth | Jason won't look for a job; he was born with a silver spoon... . |
| bosom buddy | close friends, friends who grew up together | Don't criticize Brad, eh. He's my bosom buddy. |
| botch it | ruin it, do it wrong, blow it | When you bake bread for the first time, it's easy to botch it. |
| bottle drive | going to houses asking for pop and liquor bottles | The bottle drive was a success. The girls earned \$350. |
| bottle man | a man who finds bottles in garbage cans or Dumpsters | The bottle man walked down the alley pushing a cart full of junk. |
| bottle up | not talk about, keep in your mind | Don't keep all those feelings bottled up inside you. Talk! |
| bottom fell out | (See the bottom fell out) | |

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Idioms: bottom line -- bozo

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|--|---|
| bottom line | the final number, the conclusion | The bottom line is this: we can't afford to expand. |
| bottom out | go down to the bottom, arrive at the low point | The recession will bottom out by the end of the year. |
| bottom rung | the first step, the lowest position | Jerry, my boy, in this company you start at the bottom rung. |
| bottoms up | finish your drinks, drink the remainder | "Bottoms up," said his friend. "It's time to go." |
| bounce back | recover from failure or sickness, try again | Lana has the flu, but she bounces back quickly. |
| bow out | resign so someone else can serve, step down | When Dad sees that I can manage the firm, he will bow out. |
| bowl me over | surprise me, blow me down | Well, bowl me over! You've done your homework! |
| boy, oh boy | wow, oh man, holy cow | Boy, oh boy! I'm glad to see you! |
| boys will be boys | all boys are the same; boys are rough and noisy, a chip off the old... | When Steve came home with his shirt torn and nose bleeding, his father said, "Boys will be boys." |
| bozo | a person who does unusual things, a nerd | Lenny is kind of a bozo. He laughs at the wrong time. |

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Idioms: brain -- bread

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| brain | (See what a brain) | |
| brain drain | emigration of intelligent people | If Canada's best professors move away, it's called a brain drain. |
| brain is fried | brain is very tired or ruined by drug abuse | After writing six exams, my brain was fried - too much studying! |
| brain storm | think of ideas together, think tank | Our family decided to brain storm the problem of wasting food. |
| brain traffic | thoughts and information moving through the brain | I wish I could turn off my mind when brain traffic is too heavy. |
| branch office | an office in another location or city | Please contact our branch office in your town or city. |
| branch out | open a second office/store, expand a company | Business is very good. It may be time for us to branch out. |
| brand new/ brand spanking new | not used at all , just off the assembly line | Imagine a brand new Mercedes in an accident. What a shame! |
| bravo | great, wonderful, more, encore | "Bravo! Bravo!" the audience roared. They loved Heppner's singing and were shouting for more. |
| bread | money, cash, dough | Hey, man, we need more bread if we're gonna buy cigarettes. |

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Idioms: brain -- bread

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Idioms: bread and butter -- break and enter

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|--|---|
| bread and butter | the main product, the source of profit | We sell a variety of parts, but the oil filter is our bread and butter. |
| breadbasket | stomach, belly | The ball hit him just below his chest - right in the breadbasket. |
| breadbasket | an area that produces grain, wheatbelt | Saskatchewan is a major wheat producer: Canada's breadbasket. |
| break a habit | stop doing a daily activity: drinking coffee, smoking | Laurie can't seem to break her habit of writing on her hands. |
| break a leg | good luck, have a good performance | "Break a leg!" she whispered as he walked on the stage. |
| break a promise | not do as you promised, go back on your word | Trudy never breaks a promise. She is very dependable. |
| break a spell | cause a spell to stop, not be under a spell | I was captivated by her until she smoked. That broke the spell. |
| break a story | be first to tell a story, be first to tell some news | <i>The London Times</i> broke the story of Charles's confessions. |
| break a sweat | begin to sweat or perspire, work up a sweat | For exercise to be beneficial, the athlete must break a sweat. |
| break and enter | break a lock or window to enter illegally, B&E | They were charged with break and enter. They stole some cash. |

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Idioms: bread and butter -- break and enter

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Idioms: break away -- break out in a rash

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|--|---|
| break away | move away, go away from, stop doing or using | She tried to break away when the cult leader asked for her savings. |
| break curfew | stay out later than the rules allow | If you break curfew, the coach will remind you of the rules. |
| break down | fail, not operate, out of order | If that copier breaks down again I'm going to give it away. |
| break in | operate or drive slowly when it is new | When I bought my first new car, Dad said to break it in carefully. |
| break into | break a door or window to enter, break and enter | I couldn't believe that my son would break into a store. |
| break into song | begin to sing suddenly, sing without warning | One of our teachers used to break into song when he taught poetry. |
| break off | tell a friend that you wish to stop seeing him | She wonders if she should break off her relationship with Liam. |
| break out | escape, get away, bust out | He was shot trying to break out of prison - trying to escape. |
| break out | happen suddenly, erupt | A riot will break out if you don't talk to the strikers. |
| break out in a rash | have a rash appear on your skin | When the temperature goes over 30° the baby breaks out in a rash. |

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Idioms: break away -- break out in a rash

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Idioms: a caution -- a close call

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| a caution | a bold or shocking person, no shrinking violet | She <i>is</i> a caution! She told the judge he was all wrong. |
| a cheap drunk | a person who gets drunk on one or two drinks | Jo admits she's a cheap drunk. Her limit is two drinks. |
| a checkup | a doctor's examination, a medical examination | If you aren't feeling well, go to the doctor for a checkup. |
| a chicken in every pot | enough food for every family | No one will be hungry if there's a chicken in every pot. |
| a chin wag | a conversation, a visit | The grandmothers were talking happily - having a chin wag. |
| a chip off the old block | a boy who is like his dad, the apple doesn't... | Eric is a chip off the old block. He's just like his dad. |
| a chunk of change | a large amount of money, a few grand , big bucks | I bet that condo cost him a chunk o' change - 300 "grand" at least. |
| a clean bill of health | a good report from the doctor, a good checkup | You'll never get a clean bill of health if you eat fat meat! |
| a cliff-hanger | a game that is close until the end, a barnburner | Every election in this town is a real cliff-hanger - a close race. |
| a close call | close to danger or an accident | That was a close call. The train nearly hit the bus! |

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Idioms: a caution -- a close call

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Idioms: break the bank -- breakup

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|---------------------|---|---|
| break the bank | spend all savings, leave no balance | One more expense this month will break the bank. |
| break the ice | relieve the tension, put you at ease | Andy likes to tell a joke to break the ice - to help everybody relax. |
| break the law/rules | not obey the law, commit a crime | If you rob a store, you are breaking the law. |
| break the record | do better than the previous record | The coach believes Bev can break the record in long jump. |
| break the silence | talk about a secret, tell people the truth | When he accused us of the crime, my brother broke the silence. |
| break up | not date anymore, not be lovers anymore, breakup | Lan and Chan broke up last night. They had a bad quarrel. |
| break your fall | prevent serious injury when you fall | He fell from the roof, but a tree helped to break his fall. |
| break your heart | cause you to feel very sad and lonely | Marilyn broke my heart. She left me for a younger man. |
| breakdown | sudden health failure, fall apart | After his breakdown, he found an occupation with less stress. |
| breakup | separation, divorce, not being partners anymore, break up | Since their breakup, I don't know where to send my Christmas cards. |

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Idioms: break the bank -- breakup

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Idioms: breath of fresh air -- bring an end to

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| breath of fresh air | (See a breath of fresh air) | |
| breath of wind | (See a breath of wind) | |
| breathe a sigh of relief | feel relieved after a time of worry | When we saw the children were safe, we breathed a sigh of relief. |
| breathe down my neck | watch everything I do, follow me as I work | It's difficult to work with him breathing down my neck. |
| breathe easy | relax, breathe slower, stop worrying | Mother said, "I won't breathe easy until this plane is on the ground!" |
| brick | (See a brick) | |
| bridge the gap | help people communicate, mediate | When the staff and the manager fight, I try to bridge the gap. |
| bright | intelligent, brainy, sharp | I left the water running. That wasn't a very bright thing to do. |
| bright-eyed and bushy-tailed | frisky, lively, full of life | Perry is bright-eyed and bushy-tailed tonight. He looks rested. |
| bring an end to | (See put an end to) | |

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Idioms: bring home the bacon -- broke

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------|--|--|
| bring home the bacon | bring home a paycheck, support a family | Stan is disabled, so Louise brings home the bacon. |
| bring it off | manage it successfully, carry it off | Don't worry about the project. Mr. Ho can bring it off. |
| bring the house down | cause a lot of cheering or applause or laughter | If Kurt skates well in Calgary he'll bring the house down. |
| bring to a close | conclude, finish, wrap up | Now, to bring my presentation to a close, I'll tell you a story. |
| bring up | introduce, begin to talk about | Please bring up that point at the meeting. We can discuss it then. |
| bring up | vomit, puke | Did the baby bring up his breakfast? Let me wipe it up. |
| bring you up short | cause you to stop and think, rebuke you | When I began to criticize Jan, Mother brought me up short. |
| broad | girl, chick , prostitute | "Where's Mark?" "Over there, with the broads, as usual." |
| broad daylight | (See in broad daylight) | |
| broke | (See flat broke) | |

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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Idioms: bring home the bacon -- broke

Idioms: broken dreams -- brush-off

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------|---|--|
| broken dreams | plans that did not work, hopes that died | Their divorce will mean broken dreams for both of them. |
| broken record | (See like a broken record) | |
| brouhaha | shouting and fighting, melee, Donnybrook | After the dance, there was a brouhaha in the schoolyard. |
| browbeat | force you to work, harass, hound , on my case | He browbeats his employees. He shouts, "You! Get to work!" |
| brown nose [B] | try to please the manager, suck up to | Some guys brown nose their way to success. But is it success? |
| browned off | unhappy, a little bit angry, ticked off | Tran was browned off because we were late. She didn't like that. |
| brownie points | points for doing extra work for the manager | Bruno earns brownie points by offering to help the manager. |
| brush cut | short, level haircut - like a brush on top | Your brush cut looks great - nice and flat on top. |
| brush it off | not let it bother you, not be concerned | When Erik criticizes my family, I just brush it off and walk away. |
| brush-off | (See give him the brush-off) | |

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Idioms: brush up on -- buckle up

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|--------------------|--|--|
| brush up on | review, relearn or practise; bone up on | The teacher said I should brush up on my spelling - try to improve. |
| brush with death | nearly die, at death's door , on my deathbed | After a close brush with death you'll think that life is precious. |
| brush with the law | an illegal act, a minor crime | Judd told me about his brush with the law - a shoplifting charge. |
| buck | dollar, greenback , loonie | When I earn some bucks, I'm going to buy a stereo. |
| buck fever | nervous, unable to perform well, choke | Every time I play in a competition I get buck fever. I get so nervous. |
| buck stops here | (See the buck stops here) | |
| buck up | be strong, be positive | Buck up, my friend. You will soon be finished with exams. |
| buckle down | work harder, try harder, bite the bullet | Next term I'm going to buckle down and get good grades. |
| buckle under | quit, lose, not try, give up | We're losing, but we won't buckle under. We won't quit. |
| buckle up | fasten your seat belt, buckle your seat belt | Buckle up. Dad won't drive away until we fasten our seat belts. |

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Idioms: brush up on -- buckle up

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Idioms: buckstop (military) -- bull/bullshit/BS [B]

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| buckstop (military) | brass marker placed on the wardroom table in a warship | When Ken wants to be served he sits nearest the buckstop. |
| budding genius | (See a budding genius) | |
| buffalo | frighten, bluff, intimidate | The director shouts a lot, but don't let him buffalo you. |
| bug (someone) | bother, irritate, get to me | That scraping noise bugs me. It's quite annoying. |
| bugger all [B] | nothing, diddly-squat , fuck all | "Hey Giulio, what did you win?" "Bugger all - nothing!" |
| build a better mousetrap | improve a common product | If you're not an inventor, you try to build a better mousetrap. |
| build up | increase, raise | Talking with Rudy will build up your confidence. He's positive. |
| built like a brick shithouse [B] | have a strong body, have a sturdy build | Tyronne plays football. He's built like a brick shithouse. |
| bull in a china shop | (See a bull in a china shop) | |
| bull/bullshit/BS [B] | a story that is not all true, balderdash | His explanation is a lot of bull. Don't believe it. |

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Idioms: buckstop (military) -- bull/bullshit/BS [B]

Idioms: bully for you -- bun in the oven

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| bully for you | you were lucky, good for you | When I beat Ed at cribbage, he says, "Bully for you!" |
| bum | buttocks, backside , butt , rear end | "Why did she slap your face?" "Because I pinched her bum." |
| bum rap | (See a bum rap) | |
| bum's rush | (See the bum's rush) | |
| bummer | (See a bummer) | |
| bump and grind (hockey) | bump other players and work to get the puck | To win hockey games we need players who bump and grind. |
| bump and grind | walk or dance in a sexy way | A seminude dancer was bumping and grinding under red lights. |
| bump into | meet by chance, run into | Do you know who I bumped into yesterday? Larry Mason. |
| bumper to bumper | a lane of vehicles with the bumpers nearly touching | Traffic on Memorial Drive was bumper to bumper at 4:30 today. |
| bun in the oven | (See a bun in the oven) | |

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Idioms: bundle -- burn the midnight oil

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| bundle | (See make a bundle) | |
| bundle of nerves | (See a bundle of nerves) | |
| bundle up | dress warmly, put on winter clothes, rug up | Be sure to bundle up if you go skating on the lake. It's cold! |
| bunk | false statements, rumors, baloney , bull | They claim that computers can think, but that's a lot of bunk! |
| buns | buttocks, bum | Tony said Rita has great buns. |
| burbs | (See the burbs) | |
| burn a hole in your pocket | feel that you have to spend your money | If money burns a hole in your pocket, invest it. |
| burn it in | throw the ball hard to the catcher, fastball | My hand hurts when you throw so hard. Don't burn it in, eh. |
| burn out | use too much emotional energy, breakdown | Working too hard can cause a person to burn out. |
| burn the midnight oil | work or study very late at night | To become a doctor, you have to burn the midnight oil. |

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Idioms: burn up -- business as usual

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|-------------------|---|--|
| burn up | become angry, lose your cool | The coach was burned up when I got a penalty for holding. |
| burn your ass [B] | bother you, irritate you, bug you | You know what burns my ass? Doing my income tax. |
| burn your bridges | resign without notice, leave no way to return | He can't return to the company. He's burned his bridges. |
| burned | convicted or punished while involved in crime | Tony got burned when he was a drug dealer. He went to jail. |
| burning question | (See the burning question) | |
| bury the hatchet | stop arguing or fighting, throw down your arms | When will the English and the French bury the hatchet? |
| bush telegraph | street gossip, through the grapevine | Arne gets the news through the bush telegraph. People tell him. |
| bushed | very tired, worn out | After caring for five kids all day, Mom's bushed. She's exhausted. |
| bushwhack | stop you and rob you, jump , mugged | When he stopped to camp by the stream, two guys bushwhacked him - stole his money and horse. |
| business as usual | everything is normal, nothing has changed | The morning after the holdup, it was business as usual at the bank. |

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Idioms: bust my butt -- butter fingers

| Idiom | Meaning | Example |
|------------------|---|---|
| bust my butt | work very hard, work my fingers to the bone | She busts her butt to earn a good wage, and he spends it. |
| bust out | escape, get away, break out | Hey, man. I can bust out of here if you have a rope. |
| busted | charged by the police, arrested | Shane got busted for trafficking. He sold cocaine to some kids. |
| busy as a beaver | (See as busy as a beaver) | |
| but good | completely, thoroughly, and how | If somebody hurts her, she'll get revenge, but good! |
| butt | buttocks, backside , bum | If you tell anybody that I like her, I'll kick your butt. |
| butt in | intrude, interrupt | When a salesman butts in, tell him to butt out. |
| butt of the joke | (See the butt of the joke) | |
| butt out | go away, beat it , get lost | We asked him to butt out so we could have a private talk. |
| butter fingers | unable to catch or hold, cement hands | When Anna dropped the ball, Shelly said, "Butter fingers!" |

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|----------|--|
| anchor | anchor you |
| angels | angels fear to tread where angels fear to tread |
| another | another nail in your coffin one man's garbage is another man's art one man's meat is another man's poison tell me another one |
| answer | a pat answer pat answer |
| ante | ante up up the ante |
| any | any old thing any way you slice it any word by any means by any stretch... don't give me any of your lip go to any trouble go to great lengths/ go to any lengths in any way, shape or form not by any stretch of the imagination |
| anybody | you can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody |
| anything | anything goes game for anything |
| apart | fall apart (at the seams) tear me apart worlds apart |
| ape | go ape |
| appears | it appears to me |
| appetite | lose your appetite whet your appetite |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| apple | American as apple pie an apple a day keeps the doctor away apple a day... apple of his eye as American as apple pie bad apple Big Apple how do you like them apples motherhood and apple pie road apple shit fire and apple butter the apple doesn't fall far from the tree the apple of his eye The Big Apple upset the apple cart |
| apple-pie | apple-pie order |
| approval | on approval |
| apron | tied to your mother's apron strings |
| are | you're not kidding/ you aren't kidding |
| area | grey area |
| argyle | God bless the Duke of Argyle |
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| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
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|--|--------------------------------------|

| | |
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| | |
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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| | |
|----------------|---|
| bullbullshitbs | bull/bullshit/BS [B] |
| bullet | bite the bullet dodge a bullet faster than a speeding bullet sweat bullets take a bullet |
| bully | bully for you |
| bum | a bum rap bum bum rap bum's rush feeling bum make your bum hum the bum's rush |
| bummer | a bummer bummer |
| bump | bump and grind (hockey) bump and grind bump into |
| bumper | bumper to bumper |
| bun | a bun in the oven bun in the oven buns get your buns over here work my buns off work your buns off |
| bunch | a bunch of malarkey thanks a bunch |
| bundle | a bundle of nerves blow a bundle bundle bundle of nerves |

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bushed

[bushed](#)

bushel

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| | |
|--------------|---|
| bushwhack | bushwhack |
| bushy-tailed | bright-eyed and bushy-tailed |
| business | backpack (business) business as usual cascade (business) fifth business get down to business got no business like nobody's business mean business mind your own business monkey business no business power play (business) risky business strictly business take care of business |
| busplane | take the bus/plane |
| bust | boom or bust bust my butt bust out go bust |
| busted | busted |
| busy | as busy as a beaver busy as a beaver get busy |
| but | all over but the shouting but good everything but the kitchen sink it never rains but it pours it's all over but the crying it's all over but the shouting last but not least lights are on but... |

[no offense, but...](#)

[the lights are on but nobody's home](#)

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[kick butt](#)

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[buy into](#)

[buy out](#)

[buy that](#)

[buy the farm](#)

[buy time](#)

[buy up](#)

| | |
|-----------|---|
| buyer | buyer's market |
| buzz | buzz off catch a buzz |
| buzz-kill | buzz-kill |
| buzzed | buzzed |
| buzzword | buzzword |
| by | baptism by fire bit by bit bitten by the same bug by a country mile by a long shot by all means by and large by any means by any stretch... by cracky by dint of by golly by gosh by guess or by gosh by heart by hook or by crook by its very nature by jove by leaps and bounds by no means by the by by the same token by the seat of your pants by the short hairs by the skin of their teeth by the way by word of mouth catch me by surprise cheek by jowl come by |

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byscrape

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| caboodle | kit and caboodle the whole caboodle |
| cackleberries | cackleberries |
| cahoots | in cahoots |
| cain | raise Cain |
| cake | a piece of cake have your cake and eat it, too icing on the cake nutty as a fruit cake piece of cake take the cake that takes the cake |
| call | a close call a tough call a wake-up call above and beyond the call of duty at your beck and call beck and call beyond the call of duty call a spade a spade |

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|------------|---|
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| carpet | haul up on the carpet on the carpet red carpet roll out the red carpet sweep under the carpet |
| carried | get carried away |
| carry | carry a tune carry it off carry on carry out carry the can carry the conversation carry the day carry weight carry your weight cash and carry |
| cart | cart before the horse the cart before the horse upset the apple cart |
| cascade | cascade (business) |
| case | a basket case a case of a nut case basket case case in point case of crack this case get off my case have a case of it's a case of make a federal case of it nut bar, nut case |

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|-----------|---|
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| chase | a wild goose chase cut to the chase wild goose chase |
| chaser | chaser |
| chasing | chasing rainbows |
| chat | chat her up |
| cheap | a cheap drunk cheap cheap drunk cheap like borsch cheap skate dirt cheap talk is cheap |
| cheat | cheat on |
| check | check it out check out check over check that check this out check up on check your bags rain check |
| check-out | check-out |
| checkered | checkered career |
| checkup | a checkup checkup |
| cheek | cheek cheek by jowl tongue in cheek turn the other cheek |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| cheeky | cheeky |
| cheerio | cheerio |
| cheers | cheers |
| cheery-bye | cheery-bye |
| cheese | big cheese cut the cheese [B] the big cheese |
| cheesecake | cheesecake |
| cheesed | cheesed off |
| cheesy | cheesy |
| cherries | life is just a bowl of cherries |
| cherrypicker | cherrypicker (hockey) |
| chest | get it off your chest |
| chestnut | chestnut |
| chew | bite off more than you can chew chew him out chew the fat/ chew the rag |
| chick | chick chick flick some chick |
| chicken | a chicken in every pot chicken chicken feed chicken in every pot chicken on a June bug chickens come home to roost count your chickens before they hatch don't count your chickens before they hatch |

[like a chicken on a June bug](#)

chickenshit

[chickenshit \[B\]](#)

chief

[chief cook and bottle washer](#)

[too many chiefs and not enough Indians](#)

chill

[chill out](#)

[take the chill off](#)

chime

[chime in](#)

chimo

[chimo](#)

chin

[a chin wag](#)

[chin wag](#)

china

[a bull in a china shop](#)

[all the tea in China](#)

[bull in a china shop](#)

[for all the tea in China](#)

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chintzy

[chintzy](#)

chip

[a chip off the old block](#)

[chip in](#)

[chip off the old block](#)

[chip on his shoulder](#)

[chips are down](#)

[let the chips fall where they may](#)

[when the chips are down](#)

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[chock full](#)

chockablock

[chockablock](#)

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[Hobson's choice](#)

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[Christmas graduate](#)

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[chromedome](#)

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[chunk of change](#)

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[throw chunks](#)

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[as poor as a church mouse](#)

[darken a church door](#)

[poor as a church mouse](#)

ciao

[ciao](#)

cinch

[lead pipe cinch](#)

circle

[circles around you](#)

[come full circle](#)

[go in circles](#)

[run circles around you](#)

circular

[circular file](#)

| | |
|-------------|---|
| circulation | out of circulation |
| claim | claim to fame |
| clam | clam clam up |
| clam/lark | happy as a clam/lark |
| claptrap | claptrap |
| class | class act first class |
| classes | skip classes |
| clause | grandfather clause |
| claws | claws are showing |
| clean | a clean bill of health a new broom sweeps clean as clean as a whistle clean bill of health clean cut clean me out clean up clean up on clean up your act clean up your plate come clean keep your nose clean make a clean breast of it make a clean sweep squeaky clean |
| cleaners | take you to the cleaners |
| clear | clear as a bell clear as mud clear out clear sailing |

[clear the air](#)
[clear up](#)
[clear your head/mind](#)
[crystal clear](#)
[make myself clear](#)
[steer clear](#)

cleared

[name is cleared](#)

click

[click in](#)

cliff-hanger

[a cliff-hanger](#)

[cliff-hanger](#)

climb

[climb the walls](#)

clink

[in the clink](#)

clip

[at a good clip](#)

[go at a good clip](#)

clock

['round the clock](#)

[around the clock](#)

[on the clock](#)

[round the clock](#)

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[a close call](#)

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[cold shoulder](#)

[cold turkey](#)

[cold, hard cash](#)

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| | |
|---------|--|
| come-on | |
|---------|--|

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| | come-on |
|--|-------------------------|

| | |
|----------|--|
| comeback | |
|----------|--|

| | |
|--|---|
| | comeback kid make a comeback mount a comeback |
|--|---|

| | |
|-------------|--|
| comeuppance | |
|-------------|--|

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| | comeuppance |
|--|-----------------------------|

| | |
|---------|--|
| comfort | |
|---------|--|

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| | cold comfort |
|--|------------------------------|

| | |
|------------|--|
| coming | coming out of our ears coming out of your yin yang coming up roses don't know whether you're coming or going got it coming have it coming see it coming up and coming |
| command | chain of command |
| commission | out of commission |
| common | a common thread common sense |
| company | fish and company stink after three days misery loves company part company two's company, three's a crowd |
| compare | compare notes |
| comparison | pale by comparison |
| compliment | fish for a compliment pay a compliment |
| comuppins | comuppins |
| concern | a going concern. going concern |
| conclusion | a foregone conclusion foregone conclusion jump to conclusions |
| condition | in mint condition mint condition |
| conk | conk out |
| conniption | |

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[consarned](#)

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[copper](#)

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counted

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country

[by a country mile](#)

| | |
|------------|---|
| couple | had a couple |
| course | a crash course course you can crash course of course you can run its course take its course |
| courseware | courseware |
| court | ball's in your court take you to court the ball's in your court |
| courtesy | courtesy of |
| cover | blow my cover cover for me cover up cover your ass [B] take cover you can't tell a book by its cover |
| cover-up | cover-up |
| covered | got him covered |
| cow | cash cow don't have a cow have a cow holy cow sacred cow till the cows come home |
| cow-pie | cow-pie |
| cowboy | drugstore cowboy |
| cowpoke | cowpoke |
| cowtown | Cowtown |

| | |
|----------|--|
| crack | at the crack of dawn crack a book crack a joke crack down on crack me up crack of dawn crack shot/salesman etc. crack the line-up crack this case crack under the strain fall between the cracks fall through the cracks first crack at the crack of dawn |
| cracked | all it's cracked up to be cracked not all it's cracked up... |
| crackers | crackers |
| crackpot | crackpot |
| crackup | crackup |
| cracky | by cracky |
| cradle | rob the cradle |
| cramp | cramp your style |
| crank | crank issue crank it up crank out turn your crank |
| crap | crap cut the crap [B] don't give a crap [B] |
| crappy | crappy |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| crash | a crash course crash crash a party crash course |
| craw | stick in my craw |
| crawl | crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo pub crawl |
| crawling | crawling with |
| crazy | crazy about crazy like a fox drive me crazy go crazy go like crazy prepare like crazy |
| crazylike | like crazy/like mad |
| cream | cream of the crop cream you |
| credit | deserve credit give her credit major (credit) |
| creek | up shit creek [B] up the creek |
| creep | creep give me the creeps |
| crew | spin crew |
| crickets | jimmy crickets |
| crime | partners in crime |
| criticism | open to criticism |
| crock | |

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| dad | Dear Dad, No mon, no fun, your son! Dear Son, So sad, too bad, your dad! |
| dad-blamed | dad-blamed |
| daggers | look daggers |
| daisies | pushing up daisies |
| damaged | damaged goods |
| damn | damn it [B] damn the luck [B] damn you [B] don't give a damn [B] give a damn / give a shit / give a fuck [B] |
| damned | damned if you do and damned if you don't |
| dampen | dampen your spirits |
| dan | dapper Dan |
| dance | dance with the one who brought you song and dance |
| dander | get your dander up |
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| | |
|------------|--|
| drift | get my drift |
| drink | drink like a fish drink up drink you under the table drive you to drink hold your drinks in the drink spike a drink you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink |
| drive | bottle drive drive a hard bargain drive around drive it home drive me batty drive me crazy drive me to the edge drive me up the wall drive standard drive you drive you nuts drive you to distraction drive you to drink test drive |
| driver | in the driver's seat |
| drivetriip | take a drive/trip |
| drop | a drop in the bucket at the drop of a hat drop drop a bundle drop a hint drop a line drop a log [B] drop a name / drop names drop back drop behind drop charges |

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dumbbell

[dumbbell](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| dumbo | dumbo |
| dump | down in the dumps dump her/him dump on take a dump [B] |
| dumpster | Dumpster diving |
| durn | durn |
| dust | bite the dust collecting dust dust dust bunny dust devil gathering dust see me for dust when the dust settles |
| dust-up | a dust-up dust-up |
| dutch | Dutch treat |
| duty | above and beyond the call of duty beyond the call of duty duty calls heavy duty the call of duty |
| dyed | dyed in the wool |
| dying | dying seconds dying to know the dying seconds |

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| eagle | eagle eyes |
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| empty | on an empty stomach |
| end | all's well that ends well at loose ends at my wits' end at the end of my rope/ at the end of my tether bitter end bring an end to don't know which end is up end justifies the means end of the line end up go off the deep end hair stand on end know which end is up light at the end of the tunnel loose ends make ends meet make your hair stand on end odds and ends off the deep end put an end to rear end short end of the stick the bitter end the end justifies the means the end of the line the living end the short end of the stick tie up loose ends |
| end-all | be-all, end-all the be-all, end-all the end-all, be-all |
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| entrance | |
| | make an entrance |
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| | green with envy |
| equal | |
| | all things being equal |
| errand | |
| | run an errand |
| error | |
| | trial and error |
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| | time is of the essence |
| ethic | |
| | work ethic |
| even | |
| | an even keel dead even don't get mad; get even even even a blind pig can find an acorn even keel even so even up get even keep an even keel on even terms |
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| | even-steven |
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| | a chicken in every pot chicken in every pot every cloud has a silver lining every trick in the book every walk of life hang on every word make every effort |

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| | |
|----------|--|
| faster | faster than a minnow can swim a dipper faster than a speeding bullet |
| fat | a fat lip chew the fat/ chew the rag fat cat fat chance fat lip it ain't over till the fat lady sings the fat hit the fire |
| fate | fate is sealed fickle finger of fate fucked by the fickle finger of fate [B] tempt fate the fickle finger of fate twist of fate |
| father | like father, like son |
| fault | at fault find fault to a fault |
| favor | do a favor lose favor |
| favorite | odds-on favorite the odds-on favorite |
| faze | faze me faze me out |
| fear | angels fear to tread where angels fear to tread |
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| | |
|-------------|---|
| | give you flack take the flack |
| flag | |
| | flag a cab |
| flake | |
| | flake flake out |
| flame | |
| | old flame |
| flap | |
| | flap your gums in a flap |
| flash | |
| | a flash in the pan flash a smile flash in the pan in a flash |
| flat | |
| | fall flat on my face flat flat broke flat out have a flat knock flat |
| flatfoot | |
| | flatfoot |
| flatfooted | |
| | caught flatfooted flatfooted |
| flatliner | |
| | flatliner |
| flattery | |
| | flattery will get you nowhere |
| fleeting | |
| | a fleeting glance fleeting glance |
| flesh | |
| | flesh out in the flesh pound of flesh |
| fletcherize | |
| | Fletcherize your food |
| | |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| flew | flew the coop |
| flick | chick flick |
| flies | as the crow flies drop like flies how time flies time flies when you're having fun |
| flight | in full flight take a flight |
| fling | have a fling |
| flip | flip flip you for it flip your lid |
| flip-flop | flip-flop |
| flipping | flipping |
| float | a pine float float your boat pine float whatever floats your boat |
| floating | back teeth are floating |
| flock | birds of a feather flock together |
| flog | flog a dead horse |
| floor | floor it floor you get in on the ground floor have the floor mop the floor with us on the ground floor |
| florida | Florida green |
| flow | |

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[fly-by-night](#)

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| | |
|----------|--|
| forbid | heaven forbid |
| force | force of habit |
| fordo | do me for/do me until |
| foregone | a foregone conclusion foregone conclusion |
| foremost | first and foremost |
| forest | can't see the forest for the trees |
| forever | forever and a day |
| forget | forget it forget your manners |
| fork | fork over |
| form | in any way, shape or form |
| former | a shadow of his former self |
| fort | hold the fort |
| forth | hold forth |
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[nutty as a fruit cake](#)

fruition

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fry

[bigger fish to fry](#)
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| | |
|---------|--|
| frying | from the frying pan into the fire |
| fuck | fuck all fuck off [B] fuck that noise [B] fuck up [B] give a damn / give a shit / give a fuck [B] |
| fucked | fucked by the fickle finger of fate [B] |
| fucking | no fucking way [B] |
| fuddle | fuddle duddle* |
| fudge | fudge it |
| fuel | add fuel to the fire |
| full | a few bricks short of a full load a full house (cards) a full plate as full as a tick chock full come full circle full as a tick full blast full blown full Monty full of herself full of it [B] full of piss and vinegar [B] full out full plate full steam ahead full strength full throttle full tilt full up got my hands full in full flight not playing with a full deck |

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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goalie

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| | |
|-------|--|
| goat | get your goat old goat the goat |
| god | god awful God bless the Duke of Argyle God rest his soul rest his soul (God rest his soul) talk the leg off the lamb of God |
| goes | all goes well anything goes how goes it how goes the battle it goes with the territory it goes without saying what goes around comes around |
| goeth | pride goeth before a fall |
| gofer | gofer |
| going | a going concern. don't know whether you're coming or going get going going concern going down going gets rough going great guns going rate going strong going to the mountains going to town good going heavy going keep you going rough going the going gets rough the going rate tough going what's going down |

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| grindstone | keep your nose to the grindstone |
| grinning | grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads |
| grip | come to grips with get a grip get a grip on yourself |
| groaty | groaty to the max |
| groovy | groovy |
| ground | don't know your ass from a hole in the ground [B] ear to the ground get in on the ground floor get off the ground ground me hit the ground running keep your ear to the ground lose ground middle ground on moral grounds on shaky ground on the ground floor shaky ground worship the ground she walks on |
| grounded | grounded |
| group | Group of Five Group of Seven The Group of Five/The Regina Five The Group of Seven |
| grouse | grouse |
| grow | a pinch to grow an inch absence makes the heart grow fonder grow a tail grow on you |

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| had | been had had a bellyful had a belt had a couple had a few had better had enough had his bell rung had it had it up to here had the bird so small you had to back out to change your mind you had to be there |
| hahing | hemming and hahing |
| hail | hail a cab |
| hail-fellow-well-met | hail-fellow-well-met |
| hair | a little hair off the dog by the short hairs curl your hair get in your hair get out of your hair got you by the short hairs hair off the dog that bit you |

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| | |
|-------------|---|
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| high | blow sky high come down off your high horse come hell or high water eat high off the hog get high get off your high horse high high and mighty high five high handed high hopes high on the hog high roller high strung high time hit the high notes knee high to a grasshopper look high and low natural high off your high horse riding high say jump...how high |
| high-hat | high-hat |
| highball | highball it |
| higher | higher than a kite |
| highfalutin | highfalutin |
| highly | speak highly of |
| highness | His Royal Highness |
| hightail | hightail it |
| | |

| | |
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honest-to-goodness

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honesty

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honey

[honey](#)

honky

[honky](#)

honor

[do the honors](#)[scout's honor](#)[word of honor](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| hoo-haw | hoo-haw [B] |
| hooch | hooch |
| hood | all around Robin Hood's barn around Robin Hood's barn hood |
| hook | by hook or by crook hook up with hook, line and sinker off the hook ring off the hook |
| hooker | hooker |
| hooky | play hooky |
| hoops | jump through hoops |
| hoosegow | hoosegow in the hoosegow |
| hoot | a hoot give a hoot hoot |
| hop | bar hop hip hop (generation) hop up |
| hope | cross my heart and hope to die get your hopes up Great White Hope haven't got a hope haven't got a hope in hell high hopes hopes dashed pin your hopes on The Great White Hope |
| hopping | hopping mad |

horizon

[clouds on the horizon](#)

[expand your horizons](#)

hork

[hork](#)

horn

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[pull in your horns](#)

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[toot your own horn](#)

horny

[horny \[B\]](#)

horse

[a horse of a different color](#)

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[off your high horse](#)

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[straw horse](#)

[the cart before the horse](#)

[you and the horse you rode in on](#)

[you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| horseplay | horseplay |
| hose | hose it down/ hose it off |
| hoser | hoser |
| hot | a hot hand a hot number a hot ticket a hot topic drop him like a hot potato got the hots for hot hot air hot and bothered hot goods hot hand hot off the press hot on the trail hot on your heels hot potato hot stuff hot tempered hot ticket hot topic hot under the collar in hot water it's cold / it's hot like a hot potato not so hot shit hot [B] strike while the iron is hot too hot to handle |
| hotcakes | sell like hotcakes |
| hotdog | a hotdog hotdog |
| hothead | a hothead hothead |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| hotshot | a hotshot hotshot |
| hound | hound |
| hour | happy hour rush hour |
| house | a full house (cards) bring the house down eat you out of house and home nut house people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones poor house |
| household | a household name household name |
| how | and how don't teach your grandmother how to suck eggs how about that how are you doing how are you fixed for how are you getting along how are you making out how come how do you do how do you like them apples how does that grab you how goes it how goes the battle how it plays out how so how time flies how you hold your... how's that again how's tricks no matter how you slice it |
| howdy | howdy |
| howling | |

[a howling blizzard](#)

hoyle

[according to Hoyle](#)

huh

[huh](#)

hum

[make your bum hum](#)

humble

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humdinger

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humongous

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humor

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hundred

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hangover

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hunk

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hunker

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hurl

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hurrah

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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|---------|---|
| i'll | I'll be a monkey's uncle |
| i'm | I'm afraid so |
| ice | break the ice on thin ice skate on thin ice |
| iceberg | the tip of the iceberg tip of the iceberg |
| icing | icing on the cake |
| idea | what's the big idea |
| idiot | idiot lights |
| idle | the devil makes work for idle hands |
| if | as if damned if you do and damned if you don't if a mussel doesn't open don't eat it if looks could kill if my memory serves me correctly if only if that doesn't beat all if the shoe fits, wear it if you can't cut it, you can't stay if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen if you're born to hang, you won't drown if you're not with us you're against us what if wouldn't say shit if her mouth was full of it [B] you can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| ignorance | |
|-----------|--|

[ignorance is bliss](#)

| | |
|-----|--|
| ill | |
|-----|--|

[fall ill](#)

| | |
|-------|--|
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|-------|--|

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| | |
|-------------|--|
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|-------------|--|

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| | |
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in-crowd

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inch

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[give an inch](#)
[give him an inch and he'll take a mile](#)
[pinch an inch](#)
[pinch to grow an inch](#)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| indians | too many chiefs and not enough Indians |
| influence | under the influence of alcohol |
| information | information leak inside information |
| inhale | inhale |
| injury | add insult to injury |
| inkling | have an inkling |
| inside | inside information inside joke inside out inside story inside track know inside out sometimes life is a bucket of shit and the handle is inside [B] the inside story the inside track |
| instinct | killer instinct |
| insult | add insult to injury throw insults trade insults |
| intentions | the road to hell is paved with good intentions |
| interests | best interests at heart |
| interference | run interference |
| internet | Internet |
| into | a into g ass into gear back yourself into a corner break into break into song |

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[buy into](#)
[call into account](#)
[come into](#)
[come into play](#)
[come into your own](#)
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invention

[necessity is the mother of invention](#)

invite

[invite you over](#)

irish

[luck of the Irish](#)
[the luck of the Irish](#)

iron

[iron out](#)
[irons in the fire](#)
[strike while the iron is hot](#)

| | |
|------------|---|
| is | sky isn't blue the sky isn't blue winning isn't everything; it's the only thing |
| island | King Shit on Turd Island |
| issue | crank issue |
| itchy | itchy feet |
| itdoctor | doctor it/doctor it up |
| itsee | see to it/see to that |
| itsy-bitsy | itsy-bitsy / itty-bitty |
| itty-bitty | itsy-bitsy / itty-bitty |

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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Idiom Index J

| | |
|-------------|--|
| jack | all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy before you can say Jack Robinson jack me around jack of all trades quicker than you can say Jack Robinson |
| jam | in a jam jam jam session jam tart traffic jam |
| jamjam | jam/jam out |
| january | as slow as molasses in January |
| jaws | snatch victory from the jaws of defeat |
| jay | naked as a jay bird |
| jazz | all that jazz jazz up |
| je | je ne sais quoi |
| jeepers | jeepers |
| jehoshaphat | jumping Jehoshaphat |
| jerk | jerk jerk me around jerk off [B] |
| jewels | family jewels |

[jewels](#)
[the family jewels](#)

jiffy

[in a jiffy](#)

jig

[jig is up](#)
[the jig's up](#)

jim

[a jim dandy](#)
[jim dandy](#)

jimmy

[jimmy crickets](#)

jitters

[get the jitters](#)

jive

[jive ass \[B\]](#)

job

[a blow job \[B\]](#)
[a snow job](#)
[blow job \[B\]](#)
[lie down on the job](#)
[snow job](#)
[take this job and shove it \[B\]](#)

jock

[deked out of his jock](#)
[jock](#)

jockey

[disk jockey \(DJ\)](#)

joe

[Joe Who](#)

joe-job

[joe-job](#)

jog

[jog your memory](#)

john

[john](#)
[John Hancock](#)
[John Henry](#)
[long johns](#)
[the john](#)

johnny

[Johnny Canuck](#)
[Johnny on the spot](#)

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| johnny-come-lately | Johnny-come-lately |
| join | join up join you |
| joint | blow this joint nose is out of joint out of joint stink the joint out |
| joke | butt of the joke crack a joke inside joke joke around joke is on you play a joke on take a joke the butt of the joke the joke is on you |
| joker | joker |
| joking | all joking aside joking aside |
| jollies | get your jollies |
| jolly | jolly good fellow |
| joneses | keep up with the Joneses |
| jordan | cross over Jordan |
| josh | josh |
| jove | by jove |
| jowl | cheek by jowl |
| joy | jump for joy |
| joyride | joyride |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| judgement | sit in judgement on |
| jug | in the jug |
| jugular | go for the jugular |
| juice | juice |
| jump | get the jump on go jump in the lake jump jump [B] jump at the chance jump for joy jump in the lake jump in with both feet jump out of your skin jump queue jump ship jump start jump the gun jump through hoops jump to conclusions |
| jumphow | say jump...how high |
| jumping | jumping Jehoshaphat |
| june | chicken on a June bug like a chicken on a June bug |
| jungle | it's a jungle out there jungle mouth |
| junk | junk junk food junk it junk mail |
| junkie | junkie |
| jury-rig | |

[jury-rig](#)[just](#)[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)[don't go away mad; just go away](#)[just a smidgeon](#)[just a titch](#)[just about](#)[just as soon](#)[just ducky](#)[just in time](#)[just like that](#)[just passing through](#)[life is just a bowl of cherries](#)[just-in-time](#)[just-in-time](#)[justifies](#)[end justifies the means](#)[the end justifies the means](#)[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idiom Index K

| | |
|-------|--|
| kaput | kaput |
| keel | an even keel even keel keep an even keel |
| keep | an apple a day keeps the doctor away keep a lid on it keep a low profile keep a promise keep a secret keep a stiff upper lip keep a straight face keep an even keel keep an eye on keep an eye open keep an eye out keep an open mind keep fit keep in good shape keep in line keep in the loop keep in touch keep it down keep it quiet keep it to yourself keep it up keep on keep on trucking keep out keep pace keep quiet keep tabs on keep the ball rolling |

[keep the faith](#)
[keep the wolf from the door](#)
[keep them straight](#)
[keep to yourself](#)
[keep track](#)
[keep under wraps](#)
[keep up](#)
[keep up the good work](#)
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[keep up with the times](#)
[keep you going](#)
[keep you honest](#)
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[keep you on track](#)
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[keep your cool](#)
[keep your distance](#)
[keep your ear to the ground](#)
[keep your eyes peeled](#)
[keep your fingers crossed](#)
[keep your hair on](#)
[keep your head](#)
[keep your head above water](#)
[keep your nose clean](#)
[keep your nose to the grindstone](#)
[keep your shirt on](#)
[keep your word](#)

keeper

[a keeper](#)
[keeper](#)

keeping

[in keeping with](#)

keester

[keester](#)

kept

[a kept woman](#)
[garage kept](#)
[kept woman](#)

kettle

[a different kettle of fish](#)
[kettle of fish](#)
[pot calling the kettle black](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| key | off key (music) the key to success |
| kibosh | put the kibosh on |
| kick | better than a kick in the ass [B] for kicks get a kick out of get my kicks get your kicks kick kick a habit kick ass [B] kick ass kick at the cat kick back kick butt kick myself kick some ass kick start kick the bucket kick the weed kick up a fuss kick up your heels |
| kicking | kicking around |
| kid | comeback kid greasy kid's stuff kid kid you not new kid on the block snotty-nosed kid |
| kidding | no kidding you're kidding you're not kidding/ you aren't kidding you've got to be kidding |
| kill | dressed fit to kill if looks could kill |

[kill a penalty \(hockey\)](#)
[kill an elephant](#)
[kill for](#)
[kill me](#)
[kill off](#)
[kill ourselves laughing](#)
[kill the goose that lays the golden eggs](#)
[kill time](#)
[kill two birds \(with one stone\)](#)
[time to kill](#)

killed

[curiosity killed the cat](#)

killer

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killing

[killing me](#)

[make a killing](#)

kilter

[off kilter](#)

[out of kilter](#)

kin

[next of kin](#)

kind

[pay in kind](#)

[repay in kind](#)

king

[King Shit on Turd Island](#)

kingdom

[blow to kingdom come](#)

kiss

[blow a kiss](#)

[kiss ass \[B\]](#)

[kiss curls \(hair style\)](#)

[kiss it off](#)

[kiss of death](#)

[kiss off](#)

[kiss that one goodbye](#)

[kiss the blarney stone](#)

[throw a kiss](#)

kit

[kit and caboodle](#)

kitchen

[everything but the kitchen sink](#)

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[off the kitchen etc.](#)

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kitty

[kitty bar the door](#)

kitty-corner

[kitty-corner](#)

klutz

[klutz](#)

knee

[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)
[knee high to a grasshopper](#)
[the bee's knees](#)

knock

[don't knock it](#)
[knock](#)
[knock against](#)
[knock around with](#)
[knock flat](#)
[knock it off](#)
[knock me over with a feather](#)
[knock off](#)
[knock out](#)
[knock the wind out of his sails](#)
[knock them down, drag them out](#)
[knock up \[B\]](#)
[knock you down a peg](#)
[knock you out](#)
[knock your socks off](#)
[school of hard knocks](#)
[the knock against](#)
[the school of hard knocks](#)

knocked

[knocked out](#)

knocking

[the wolf knocking](#)

knockout

[knockout](#)

knot

[get your shirt in a knot/ get your shit in a knot \[B\]](#)

knothole

[look like he was dragged through a knothole](#)

know

[as far as I know](#)

[better the devil you know...](#)

[don't know him from Adam](#)

[don't know the first thing about it](#)

[don't know the half of it](#)

[don't know whether you're coming or going](#)

[don't know which end is up](#)

[don't know which side your bread is buttered on](#)

[don't know your ass from a hole in the ground \[B\]](#)

[dying to know](#)

[in the know](#)

[it takes one to know one](#)

[it's not what you know, it's who you know](#)

[know better](#)

[know inside out](#)

[know like the back of your hand](#)

[know the first thing...](#)

[know the ropes](#)

[know the score](#)

[know where we stand](#)

[know which end is up](#)

[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)

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[rap your knuckles](#)

[white knuckles](#)

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[knucklehead](#)

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[kooky](#)

kowtow

[kowtow](#)

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| | |
|-------------|--|
| la | basta la musica c'est la vie |
| lady | bag lady it ain't over till the fat lady sings |
| lady-killer | a lady-killer lady-killer |
| laid | best laid plans get laid [B] laid back laid bare laid off laid up |
| lake | go jump in the lake jump in the lake |
| lam | on the lam |
| lamb | in two shakes (of a lamb's tail) talk the leg off the lamb of God |
| lame | bet on a lame rooster lame duck |
| lamebrain | lamebrain |
| land | get the lay of the land land on your feet land up lay of the land Lotus Land |

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[landlubber](#)

lane

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[in the fast lane](#)

[in the Monford lane](#)

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[last straw](#)

[last word](#)

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[on our last legs](#)

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[late bloomer](#)
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[let yourself go](#)
[live and let live](#)

| | |
|----------------|--|
| let-up | |
| | no let-up |
| letter | |
| | chain letter |
| letter-perfect | |
| | letter-perfect |
| lettuce | |
| | lettuce |
| level | |
| | a level playing field level the playing field level with you |
| lib | |
| | ad lib (ad libitum) |
| liberty | |
| | at liberty |
| libitum | |
| | ad lib (ad libitum) |
| lick | |
| | a lick and a promise lick and a promise lick your wounds |
| lickety-split | |

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[throw some light on](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| lighten | |
|---------|--|

[lighten up](#)

| | |
|--------------|--|
| lighthearted | |
|--------------|--|

[lighthearted](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| lightning | |
|-----------|--|

[greased lightning](#)

[lightning fast](#)

| | |
|------|--|
| like | |
|------|--|

[built like a brick shithouse \[B\]](#)

[cheap like borsch](#)

[come down on like a ton of bricks](#)

[crazy like a fox](#)

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liveware

[liveware](#)

living

[eke out a living](#)
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[loaded](#)
[loaded to the hilt](#)

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loafers

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loan

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local

[local yokel](#)

lock

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loco

[plumb loco](#)

| | |
|-----|--|
| log | |
|-----|--|

| | |
|--|---|
| | drop a log [B] log off log on saw logs sleep like a log |
|--|---|

| | |
|-------------|--|
| loggerheads | |
|-------------|--|

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| | at loggerheads |
|--|--------------------------------|

| | |
|----------|--|
| lollygag | |
|----------|--|

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| | lollygag |
|--|--------------------------|

| | |
|------|--|
| long | |
|------|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| | a long shot by a long shot for long in a long time in the long haul in the long run long and the short of it long arm of the law long for long gone long in the tooth long johns long time no see not by a long shot not long for this world so long the long and the short of it the long arm of the law |
|--|--|

| | |
|-----|--|
| loo | |
|-----|--|

| | |
|--|---|
| | loo the loo where's the loo |
|--|---|

| | |
|------|--|
| look | |
|------|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| | a blank look a faraway look don't look a gift horse in the mouth future looks bright if looks could kill look after look daggers look down on |
|--|--|

[look down your nose at](#)
[look high and low](#)
[look into](#)
[look like death warmed over](#)
[look like he was dragged through a knothole](#)
[look out](#)
[look out for](#)
[look out for number one](#)
[look over](#)
[look over your shoulder](#)
[look sharp](#)
[look the other way](#)
[look up a dead horse's ass \[B\]](#)
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looking

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[caught looking](#)
[looking up](#)
[things are looking up](#)

looksee

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loonie

[loonie](#)

loony

[loony bin](#)

loop

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[throw me for a loop](#)

looped

[looped](#)

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[all hell broke loose](#)
[at loose ends](#)
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[tie up loose ends](#)

lord

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[the Lord helps those who help themselves](#)

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[stand to lose](#)
[you snooze, you lose](#)

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[lost cause](#)
[no love lost](#)
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lot

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[of the lot](#)

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[Lotus Land](#)

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[misery loves company](#)
[no love lost](#)
[puppy love](#)
[there's no love lost](#)
[you can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody](#)

| | |
|----------|---|
| loved | better to have loved... it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all |
| lovelies | lovelies |
| lovelife | lovelife |
| lovers | Lovers' Leap |
| low | fly low keep a low profile lay low look high and low low low on the totem pole |
| low-ball | low-ball him |
| low-down | low-down |
| lowdown | lowdown the lowdown |
| lowered | ears lowered have my ears lowered |
| lowlife | lowlife |
| luck | as luck would have it damn the luck [B] darn my luck don't push your luck down on his luck luck of the draw luck of the Irish luck out out of luck pure luck push your luck shit out of luck [B] string of good luck stroke of good luck |

[the luck of the draw](#)[the luck of the Irish](#)[tough luck](#)[try your luck](#)

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[filthy lucre](#)

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| | mad about |
| | mad as a hatter |
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| | |
|--------|---|
| market | buyer's market corner the market firm market on the market play the stock market seller's market soft market |
| match | match wits no match for rubber match shooting match the whole shooting match whole shooting match |
| mate | soul mate |
| matter | a matter of life and death as a matter of fact crux of the matter grey matter it's a matter of life and death matter of life and death mind over matter no matter how you slice it the crux of the matter |
| max | groaty to the max to the max |
| may | let the chips fall where they may |
| mayday | mayday (m'aidez) |
| mccoy | real McCoy the real McCoy |
| mcgee | Fibber McGee's closet |
| meal | square meal |
| mean | by all means |

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[fair to middling](#)

midnight

[burn the midnight oil](#)

| | |
|-----------|---|
| miffed | miffed |
| mighty | high and mighty |
| mile | by a country mile give him an inch and he'll take a mile go the extra mile talk a mile a minute |
| military | buckstop (military) |
| milk | cry over spilt milk milk it milk run |
| mill | put you through the mill run of the mill through the mill |
| million | thanks a million |
| mince | doesn't mince words mince words |
| mincemeat | make mincemeat of |
| mind | a piece of my mind blow your mind boggle your mind change your mind do you mind frame of mind get your mind around go out of your mind has a mind of his own have a mind to have half a mind to in mind in the back of my mind in your mind's eye keep an open mind |

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minute

[one born every minute](#)

[talk a mile a minute](#)

[there's one born every minute](#)

[wait a minute](#)

| | |
|----------|---|
| mirrors | smoke and mirrors |
| misery | misery loves company put out of its misery |
| miss | hit and miss miss out on miss the boat miss the point miss the water till... miss you miss your chance wouldn't miss it for the world you don't miss the water till the well runs dry |
| mistake | make a mistake |
| mix | mix it up mix up mix you up |
| mixed | mixed feelings |
| mixture | a duke's mixture duke's mixture |
| mo | slo mo |
| molasses | as slow as molasses in January slow as molasses... |
| mole | make a mountain out of a mole hill |
| molehill | don't make a mountain out of a molehill |
| moment | at a moment's notice moment of truth on the spur of the moment the moment of truth |
| mon | Dear Dad, No mon, no fun, your son! Dear Son, So sad, too bad, your dad! |
| money | |

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[a run for your money](#)
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| | |
|---------|--|
| must | a must must |
| mustard | cut the mustard |
| my | a bad taste in my mouth a piece of my mind a thorn in my side at my wits' end at the end of my rope/ at the end of my tether bad taste in my mouth be my guest be my undoing believe my ears believe my eyes blow my cover breathe down my neck bust my butt can't believe my ears can't believe my eyes can't put my finger on it can't put my hands on it collect my thoughts couldn't believe my ears crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo cross my heart and hope to die cut my teeth on darn my luck down my throat draw it to my attention eat my hat/shirt egg on my face fall flat on my face fall into my lap find my tongue from the bottom of my heart get in my face get my drift get my kicks get off my back get off my case |

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| naked | naked as a jay bird naked eye stark naked the naked eye with the naked eye |
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| nerves | a bundle of nerves bundle of nerves get on my nerves nerves of steel |
| nervous | nervous breakdown |
| nest | feather your nest nest egg |
| net | Net surfer surf the Net |
| netwar | Netwar |
| neutral | mind in neutral |
| never | better late than never it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all it never fails it never rains but it pours it's now or never never mind never say die now or never |
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[the eye of the storm](#)
[the fickle finger of fate](#)
[the gift of the gab \(the gift of gab\)](#)
[the grass is greener on the other side of the fence](#)
[The Group of Five/The Regina Five](#)
[The Group of Seven](#)
[the lap of luxury](#)
[the last of it](#)
[the lay of the land](#)
[the life of Riley](#)
[the life of the party](#)
[the long and the short of it](#)
[the long arm of the law](#)
[the luck of the draw](#)
[the luck of the Irish](#)
[the makings of](#)
[the moment of truth](#)
[the pick of the litter](#)
[the picture of health](#)
[the pit of my stomach](#)
[the point of no return](#)
[the proof of the pudding is in the eating](#)
[the root of the problem](#)

[the runt of the litter](#)
[the salt of the earth](#)
[the school of hard knocks](#)
[the short end of the stick](#)
[the spice of life](#)
[the talk of the town](#)
[the tender age of](#)
[the tip of the iceberg](#)
[the tricks of the trade](#)
[the turn of the century](#)
[the whole ball of wax](#)
[there's something rotten in the state of Denmark](#)
[think better of it](#)
[think nothing of it](#)
[think the world of](#)
[three slices short \(of a full loaf\)](#)
[time is of the essence](#)
[tip of my tongue](#)
[tip of the hat](#)
[tip of the iceberg](#)
[tired of](#)
[to the best of my knowledge](#)
[ton of bricks](#)
[top of the morning](#)
[touch of](#)
[tower of strength](#)
[train of thought](#)
[tricks of the trade](#)
[tub of guts](#)
[turn of the century](#)
[twist of fate](#)
[under the influence of alcohol](#)
[vale of tears \(valley of tears\)](#)
[variety is the spice of life](#)
[vote of thanks](#)
[wake up on the wrong side of bed](#)
[walk of life](#)
[want a piece of me](#)
[want to make something of it](#)
[warped sense of humor](#)
[wash your hands of it](#)
[way out of line \(away out of line\)](#)

[whale of a game](#)

[what in the name of heaven](#)

[what was I thinking of](#)

[why in the name of...](#)

[window of opportunity](#)

[without a stitch of clothes on](#)

[without a word of a lie](#)

[wonder of wonders](#)

[word of honor](#)

[word of mouth](#)

[work of art](#)

[wouldn't say shit if her mouth was full of it \[B\]](#)

[you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear](#)

[you're full of it \[B\]](#)

off

[a chip off the old block](#)

[a little hair off the dog](#)

[a little off](#)

[back off](#)

[be off](#)

[beat the pants off](#)

[beg off](#)

[better off](#)

[bit off](#)

[bite off more than you can chew](#)

[blow the lid off](#)

[break off](#)

[bring it off](#)

[browned off](#)

[brush it off](#)

[buzz off](#)

[call off](#)

[call off the dogs](#)

[carry it off](#)

[catch you off guard](#)

[cheesed off](#)

[chip off the old block](#)

[come down off your high horse](#)

[come off](#)

[come off it](#)

[cool off](#)

[cut him off \[B\]](#)

[cut off](#)

[cut off your nose to spite your face](#)

[dash off a note/letter](#)

[die off](#)

[drop off](#)

[eat high off the hog](#)

[fall off the wagon](#)

[finish off](#)

[first off](#)

[fly off the handle](#)

[fuck off \[B\]](#)

[get it off your chest](#)

[get off](#)

[get off a few good ones](#)

[get off my back](#)

[get off my case](#)

[get off on](#)

[get off the ground](#)

[get off to a good start](#)

[get off your high horse](#)

[get off your soap box](#)

[get this monkey off my back](#)

[give off an odor](#)

[give you the shirt off his back](#)

[gloves are off](#)

[go off half-cocked](#)

[go off the deep end](#)

[goof off](#)

[hair off the dog that bit you](#)

[hats off](#)

[hit it off](#)

[hose it down/ hose it off](#)

[hot off the press](#)

[jerk off \[B\]](#)

[kill off](#)

[kiss it off](#)

[kiss off](#)

[knock it off](#)

[knock off](#)

[knock your socks off](#)

[laid off](#)

[laugh it off](#)

[laugh your head off](#)

[lay off](#)

[let off](#)

[let off steam](#)

[lip off](#)

[live off](#)

[log off](#)

[make off with](#)

[monkey off my back](#)

[mouth off](#)

[no skin off my nose](#)

[off](#)

[off color](#)

[off key \(music\)](#)

[off kilter](#)

[off my back](#)

[off the bat](#)

[off the beaten track](#)

[off the cuff](#)

[off the deep end](#)

[off the hook](#)

[off the kitchen etc.](#)

[off the mark](#)

[off the record](#)

[off the shelf](#)

[off the top of my head](#)

[off the wagon](#)

[off the wall](#)

[off to a bad start](#)

[off to a good start](#)

[off to the races](#)

[off topic](#)

[off with](#)

[off with you](#)

[off your high horse](#)

[off your rocker](#)

[pass off](#)

[pay off](#)

[pinch off a loaf \[B\]](#)

[piss off \[B\]](#)

[pissed off \[B\]](#)

[polish off/polish it off](#)

[pull it off](#)
[put off](#)
[put you off your game](#)
[right off the bat](#)
[ring off the hook](#)
[ripped off](#)
[roll off the tongue](#)
[run off](#)
[run off at the mouth](#)
[saw off a chunk \[B\]](#)
[scrape me off the ceiling](#)
[set off](#)
[shit or get off the pot](#)
[shoot your mouth off](#)
[show off](#)
[shrug it off](#)
[sign off](#)
[sleep it off](#)
[sluff off](#)
[sound off](#)
[spell you off](#)
[square off](#)
[suck off \[B\]](#)
[swear off](#)
[sweep you off your feet](#)
[take a load off your feet](#)
[take a strip off](#)
[take my hat off to](#)
[take my head off](#)
[take off](#)
[take off, eh](#)
[take the chill off](#)
[talk the leg off the lamb of God](#)
[talk your ear off](#)
[talk your head off](#)
[tear a strip off](#)
[teed off](#)
[tell him off](#)
[tell him where to get off](#)
[the gloves are off](#)
[the wheels fall off](#)
[ticked off](#)

[time off](#)
[to top it off](#)
[top it off](#)
[touch off](#)
[wash it off](#)
[wear off](#)
[well off](#)
[whack off \[B\]](#)
[wheels fall off](#)
[where do they get off](#)
[wipe that smile off your face](#)
[work my buns off](#)
[work off](#)
[work your ass off \[B\]](#)
[work your buns off](#)
[write it off](#)

off-beat

[off-beat](#)

offa

[a bit off/a bit mental](#)

offense

[no offense, but...](#)[take offense](#)

offer

[an offer I couldn't refuse](#)[make an offer](#)[offer I couldn't refuse](#)

offhand

[offhand](#)

offhandedly

[upon the words offhandedly spoken](#)

office

[branch office](#)[run for office](#)

offing

[in the offing](#)

offpair

[pair off/pair up](#)

offpolish

[polish off/polish it off](#)

offside

[offside \(hockey\)](#)

oft

| | |
|----------|---|
| | the best-laid plans of mice and men go oft astray |
| oh | |
| | boy, oh boy oh my gosh |
| oil | |
| | burn the midnight oil |
| oilpatch | |
| | oilpatch |
| ointment | |
| | fly in the ointment |
| ok | |
| | okay, OK |
| okay | |
| | okay, OK |
| old | |
| | a chip off the old block an old hand at an old warhorse any old thing at the ripe old age chip off the old block everything old is new again my old man Old Boys' Club old coot old flame old goat old hat old man old money old wives' tale teach an old dog... the old college try the old man you can't teach an old dog new tricks |
| on | |
| | a contract out on a crush on a fly on the wall a freeze on a glow on a lot on the ball |

[a new lease on life](#)

[a play on words](#)

[a takeoff on](#)

[as plain as the nose on your face](#)

[as useless as tits on a boar](#)

[ass on the line](#)

[back on your feet](#)

[bang on](#)

[bank on](#)

[beat up on](#)

[bet on](#)

[bet on a lame rooster](#)

[bone up on](#)

[brush up on](#)

[call on](#)

[can't put my finger on it](#)

[can't put my hands on it](#)

[carry on](#)

[cash on the barrelhead](#)

[cash on the line](#)

[catch on](#)

[catch up on](#)

[cheat on](#)

[check up on](#)

[chicken on a June bug](#)

[chip on his shoulder](#)

[clean up on](#)

[clouds on the horizon](#)

[come down on like a ton of bricks](#)

[come on](#)

[come on strong](#)

[contract out on](#)

[count on](#)

[crack down on](#)

[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)

[crush on](#)

[cut my teeth on](#)

[dawn on me](#)

[dead on](#)

[didn't have a stitch of clothes on](#)

[do a number on](#)

[don't know which side your bread is buttered on](#)

[down on his luck](#)
[drag on](#)
[dream on](#)
[dump on](#)
[egg me on](#)
[egg on my face](#)
[fall flat on my face](#)
[fall on deaf ears](#)
[fall on your sword](#)
[feast your eyes on](#)
[fly on the wall](#)
[gang up on](#)
[get a fix on](#)
[get a grip on yourself](#)
[get a handle on](#)
[get a move on](#)
[get good wood on](#)
[get in on it](#)
[get in on the ground floor](#)
[get it on](#)
[get off on](#)
[get on in years](#)
[get on it](#)
[get on my good side](#)
[get on my nerves](#)
[get on with it](#)
[get on your horse](#)
[get the drop on](#)
[get the jump on](#)
[get this show on the road](#)
[get up on the wrong side of bed](#)
[getting on in years](#)
[glow on](#)
[go back on](#)
[go down on \[B\]](#)
[go easy on](#)
[go on](#)
[go on about](#)
[go out on a limb](#)
[good on you](#)
[good wood on it](#)
[got a corner on](#)

[got a crush on](#)
[got my eye on](#)
[got the rags on \[B\]](#)
[grow on you](#)
[hair stand on end](#)
[hands on](#)
[hang on](#)
[hang on every word](#)
[hang on like grim death](#)
[hard on me](#)
[haul up on the carpet](#)
[have a crush on](#)
[have designs on](#)
[have my eye on](#)
[have one on me](#)
[head on](#)
[heat is on](#)
[high on the hog](#)
[hire on](#)
[hit on](#)
[hit on all cylinders](#)
[hit the nail on the head](#)
[hold on](#)
[hot on the trail](#)
[hot on your heels](#)
[icing on the cake](#)
[it has your name on it](#)
[it's as plain as the nose on your face](#)
[Johnny on the spot](#)
[joke is on you](#)
[keep a lid on it](#)
[keep an eye on](#)
[keep on](#)
[keep on trucking](#)
[keep tabs on](#)
[keep you on track](#)
[keep your hair on](#)
[keep your shirt on](#)
[King Shit on Turd Island](#)
[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[land on your feet](#)
[lay eyes on](#)

[lay it on](#)

[lay it on the line](#)

[lay on](#)

[lead you on](#)

[let on](#)

[lie down on the job](#)

[life on the edge](#)

[lights are on but...](#)

[like a chicken on a June bug](#)

[live on](#)

[live on the edge](#)

[log on](#)

[look down on](#)

[low on the totem pole](#)

[make your hair stand on end](#)

[miss out on](#)

[money doesn't grow on trees](#)

[new kid on the block](#)

[new lease on life](#)

[not on your life](#)

[not on your tintype](#)

[on a full stomach](#)

[on a lark](#)

[on a pedestal](#)

[on a roll](#)

[on a silver platter](#)

[on a string](#)

[on about](#)

[on all fours](#)

[on an empty stomach](#)

[on approval](#)

[on behalf of](#)

[on board](#)

[on cloud nine](#)

[on deck](#)

[on drugs](#)

[on edge](#)

[on even terms](#)

[on fire](#)

[on good terms](#)

[on his last legs](#)

[on his tail](#)

[on in years](#)
[on loan](#)
[on moral grounds](#)
[on my back](#)
[on my best behavior](#)
[on my case](#)
[on my deathbed](#)
[on my good side](#)
[on my plate](#)
[on my way](#)
[on my word](#)
[on our last legs](#)
[on parade](#)
[on parole](#)
[on pins and needles](#)
[on probation](#)
[on purpose](#)
[on queer street](#)
[on schedule](#)
[on shaky ground](#)
[on short notice](#)
[on side](#)
[on speaking terms](#)
[on tap](#)
[on target](#)
[on tenterhooks](#)
[on the back burner](#)
[on the ball](#)
[on the bandwagon](#)
[on the beat](#)
[on the books](#)
[on the bright side](#)
[on the brink](#)
[on the bubble](#)
[on the button](#)
[on the carpet](#)
[on the clock](#)
[on the cutting edge](#)
[on the dot](#)
[on the double](#)
[on the edge of your seat](#)
[on the fence](#)

[on the fringe](#)
[on the fritz](#)
[on the go](#)
[on the ground floor](#)
[on the heels](#)
[on the lam](#)
[on the limp](#)
[on the loose](#)
[on the make](#)
[on the mark](#)
[on the market](#)
[on the mend](#)
[on the money](#)
[on the move](#)
[on the outs](#)
[on the QT](#)
[on the rails](#)
[on the rise](#)
[on the road](#)
[on the run](#)
[on the same wavelength](#)
[on the shit list \[B\]](#)
[on the side](#)
[on the sly](#)
[on the spot](#)
[on the spur of the moment](#)
[on the stand](#)
[on the table](#)
[on the take](#)
[on the throne](#)
[on the tip of my tongue](#)
[on the up and up](#)
[on the verge](#)
[on the wagon](#)
[on the wane](#)
[on the whole](#)
[on the wing](#)
[on thin ice](#)
[on time](#)
[on top of](#)
[on track](#)
[on trial](#)

[on vacation](#)
[on your ass \[B\]](#)
[on your deathbed](#)
[on your guard](#)
[on your own](#)
[on your side](#)
[on your toes](#)
[on your way](#)
[one on one](#)
[out on a limb](#)
[out on the town](#)
[pass on](#)
[pat on the back](#)
[pick on](#)
[pin your hopes on](#)
[piss on them \[B\]](#)
[place on a pedestal](#)
[plain as the nose on your face](#)
[play a joke on](#)
[play a prank on](#)
[play a trick on](#)
[play on my heart strings](#)
[play on words](#)
[pour it on](#)
[press on](#)
[put a different slant on it](#)
[put a hex on me](#)
[put a lid on it](#)
[put it on the bill](#)
[put me on](#)
[put my finger on it](#)
[put my neck on the line](#)
[put on a pedestal](#)
[put on airs](#)
[put on the dog](#)
[put the finishing touches on](#)
[put the heat on](#)
[put the kibosh on](#)
[put the right spin on it](#)
[put too fine a point on](#)
[putting me on](#)
[putting on the ritz](#)

[quick on the draw](#)

[rain on their parade](#)

[rat on](#)

[rattle on](#)

[read up on](#)

[rest on your laurels](#)

[right on](#)

[right on the money](#)

[say what's on your mind](#)

[set the world on fire](#)

[set your teeth on edge](#)

[shake on it](#)

[shed a little light on](#)

[shuck on down to the fraidy hole](#)

[shuffle the chairs on the deck](#)

[sit in judgement on](#)

[skate on thin ice](#)

[sold on](#)

[soldier on](#)

[spot on](#)

[spur on](#)

[stand on ceremony](#)

[step on his dick](#)

[step on it](#)

[step on people](#)

[step on their toes](#)

[step on your dick](#)

[stitch of clothes on](#)

[stop on a dime](#)

[strike out on your own](#)

[stuck on](#)

[sweet on](#)

[take it easy on](#)

[take it out on](#)

[take on](#)

[take on a new light](#)

[takeoff on](#)

[tell on](#)

[the grass is greener on the other side of the fence](#)

[the handwriting is on the wall](#)

[the heat is on](#)

[the joke is on you](#)

[the lights are on but nobody's home](#)

[this one is on me](#)

[throw cold water on](#)

[throw on a dog for you](#)

[throw some light on](#)

[tie one on](#)

[time on your hands](#)

[touch on](#)

[tough on me](#)

[try it on](#)

[try that on for size](#)

[turn on a dime](#)

[turn on you](#)

[turn the tables on](#)

[turn you on](#)

[turn your back on](#)

[up on](#)

[wait on customers](#)

[wait on tables](#)

[wait on you hand and foot](#)

[wake up on the wrong side of bed](#)

[walk on eggshells](#)

[wear your heart on your sleeve](#)

[what's going on](#)

[window on the world](#)

[with bells on](#)

[without a stitch of clothes on](#)

[worship the ground she walks on](#)

[you and the horse you rode in on](#)

[you're on](#)

once

[at once](#)

[once in a blue moon](#)

[once upon a time](#)

once-over

[give it the once-over](#)

[once-over](#)

[the once-over](#)

one

[a game one](#)

[a short one](#)

[a tall one](#)

[all your eggs in one basket](#)
[at one fell swoop](#)
[at one time](#)
[back to square one](#)
[chalk one up for you](#)
[dance with the one who brought you
day one](#)
[don't put all your eggs in one basket](#)
[from day one](#)
[from square one](#)
[game one](#)
[get off a few good ones](#)
[go one better](#)
[Great One](#)
[have one on me](#)
[hole in one \(golf\)](#)
[in one ear and out the other](#)
[in one fell swoop](#)
[it takes one to know one](#)
[kill two birds \(with one stone\)](#)
[kiss that one goodbye](#)
[let one](#)
[look out for number one](#)
[number one](#)
[odd one](#)
[one and the same](#)
[one at a time](#)
[one born every minute](#)
[one brick short of a full load](#)
[one by one](#)
[one false move](#)
[one fell swoop](#)
[one for the money, two for the show...](#)
[one for the road](#)
[one hell of a time](#)
[one man's garbage is another man's art](#)
[one man's meat is another man's poison](#)
[one of the boys](#)
[one on one](#)
[short one](#)
[six of one, half a dozen of the other](#)
[square one](#)

[takes one to know one](#)
[tall one](#)
[tell me another one](#)
[The Great One](#)
[the odd one](#)
[the one that got away](#)
[there's more than one way to skin a cat](#)
[there's one born every minute](#)
[this one is on me](#)
[tie one on](#)
[two for one](#)
[two heads are better than one](#)

one-track

[one-track mind](#)

only

[beauty is only skin deep](#)
[if only](#)
[winning isn't everything; it's the only thing](#)
[you're only as good as your last shift](#)

onside

[come onside](#)

onto

[come onto](#)
[glom onto](#)
[onto something](#)
[onto us](#)

oodles

[oodles](#)

op

[photo op](#)

open

[if a mussel doesn't open don't eat it](#)
[keep an eye open](#)
[keep an open mind](#)
[leave the door open](#)
[leave yourself open](#)
[open a can of worms](#)
[open a window](#)
[open and shut](#)
[open mind](#)
[open season](#)
[open some doors](#)

[open to criticism](#)
[open to question](#)
[open up](#)
[open up a big can of whoop-ass](#)

openers

[for openers](#)

opportunity

[a golden opportunity](#)
[a window of opportunity](#)
[golden opportunity](#)
[seize the opportunity](#)
[window of opportunity](#)

order

[apple-pie order](#)
[ducks in a row \(ducks in order\)](#)
[in order](#)
[out of order](#)
[pecking order](#)

other

[cross over to the other side](#)
[do unto others as you would have them do unto you](#)
[drop the other shoe](#)
[in one ear and out the other](#)
[it's a whole other world out there](#)
[look the other way](#)
[made for each other](#)
[other fish to fry](#)
[six of one, half a dozen of the other](#)
[the grass is greener on the other side of the fence](#)
[turn the other cheek](#)
[turn the other way](#)
[wait for the other shoe to drop](#)

ounce

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)
[ounce of prevention](#)

our

[coming out of our ears](#)
[on our last legs](#)
[out of our hands](#)
[tighten our belts](#)

ourselves

[kill ourselves laughing](#)

out

[a bawling out](#)
[a contract out on](#)
[a falling out](#)
[act out](#)
[all decked out](#)
[away out](#)
[away out of line](#)
[back out](#)
[bail me out](#)
[bail out](#)
[bawl me out](#)
[black out](#)
[blow it out of proportion](#)
[blow it out your ear](#)
[blow you out of the water](#)
[blurt out](#)
[bomb out](#)
[bottom fell out](#)
[bottom out](#)
[bow out](#)
[branch out](#)
[break out](#)
[break out in a rash](#)
[burn out](#)
[bust out](#)
[butt out](#)
[buy out](#)
[carry out](#)
[cash up/cash out](#)
[cat's out of the bag](#)
[check it out](#)
[check out](#)
[check this out](#)
[chew him out](#)
[chill out](#)
[clean me out](#)
[clear out](#)
[come out in the wash](#)
[come out with](#)
[coming out of our ears](#)
[coming out of your yin yang](#)

[conk out](#)
[contract out on](#)
[cop out](#)
[crank out](#)
[cry her heart out](#)
[cry your eyes out](#)
[cut it out](#)
[cut out for](#)
[day in, day out](#)
[deck out](#)
[deked out of his jock](#)
[dish it out](#)
[don't make a mountain out of a molehill](#)
[down and out](#)
[drag it out](#)
[drop out](#)
[drop out of sight](#)
[dry out](#)
[duck out](#)
[duke it out](#)
[eat out](#)
[eat out of the palm of your hand](#)
[eat you out of house and home](#)
[eat your heart out](#)
[eke out a living](#)
[falling out](#)
[far out](#)
[faze me out](#)
[figure out](#)
[fill out](#)
[find out](#)
[flake out](#)
[flat out](#)
[flesh out](#)
[flunk out](#)
[for crying out loud](#)
[found out](#)
[freak/freak out](#)
[fresh out](#)
[full out](#)
[get a bang out of](#)
[get a charge out of](#)

[get a kick out of](#)
[get out](#)
[get out of](#)
[get out of my face](#)
[get out of the road](#)
[get out of town](#)
[get out of your hair](#)
[get reamed out](#)
[get something out of](#)
[get the lead out](#)
[get the word out](#)
[get the wrinkles out](#)
[get your head out of the clouds](#)
[give out](#)
[give you an out](#)
[go out of your mind](#)
[go out of your way](#)
[go out on a limb](#)
[go out with](#)
[hand out](#)
[hang out](#)
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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| | |
|--------|---|
| p | mind your P's and Q's P's and Q's watch your P's and Q's |
| pace | keep pace pick up the pace |
| pack | a pack of lies pack a punch pack a rod pack it in pack Uzis |
| pad | pad pad an expense account |
| paddle | paddle your own canoe |
| pain | a pain in the ass [B] a pain in the butt a royal pain feeling no pain no pain, no gain pain in the ass [B] pain in the butt royal pain take pains |
| paint | paint a picture paint the town red paint with the same brush |
| pair | a fresh pair of eyes fresh pair of eyes |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| | pair off/pair up |
| pale | |
| | beyond the pale pale by comparison |
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| | eat out of the palm of your hand grease my palm |
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| | a flash in the pan flash in the pan from the frying pan into the fire pan out |
| pancake | |
| | first pancake is always spoiled the first pancake is always spoiled |
| panic | |
| | press the panic button |
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| | beat the pants off by the seat of your pants caught with his pants down get into her pants [B] piss your pants [B] wear the pants |
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| | |
|------------|--|
| pee | take a pee [B] two pee holes in the snow |
| peed | peed she peed |
| peek-a-boo | peek-a-boo |
| peeled | eyes peeled keep your eyes peeled |
| peep | peep this |
| peer | peer sneer |
| peg | down a peg knock you down a peg take him down a peg take you down a peg |
| pell-mell | pell-mell |
| pen | pen those words/lines |
| penalty | kill a penalty (hockey) pay the penalty |
| pencils | sharpen your pencils |
| penny | a penny for your thoughts a pretty penny cost a pretty penny penny for your thoughts penny pincher penny wise, dollar dumb penny wise, pound foolish pretty penny |
| people | all things to all people people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones step on people |
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| | |
|------------|---|
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| phrase | catch phrase coin a phrase to coin a phrase |
| piano | piano tied to your ass [B] |
| pick | a bone to pick bone to pick pick a fight pick holes in pick of the litter pick on pick up pick up the pace pick up the pieces pick up the tab pick you up pick your brains pick yourself up take your pick the pick of the litter |
| pick-me-up | a pick-me-up pick-me-up |
| pickings | easy pickings |
| pickle | in a pickle piss in the pickles [B] |
| picky | picky |
| picture | a picture is worth a thousand words big picture get the picture in the picture out of the picture |

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| | |
|------------|--|
| poop | poop what's the poop |
| poor | as poor as a church mouse piss poor [B] poor as a church mouse poor house |
| poorhouse | in the poorhouse |
| pop | a pop pop a cap [B] pop in pop over pop the question pop up pop your buttons |
| popcorn | popcorn brain |
| pope | pope's nose the pope's nose |
| popsicle | blow this Popsicle stand |
| positive | positive |
| possession | take possession |
| possum | grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads |
| post | from pillar to post |
| posted | keep you posted |
| pot | a chicken in every pot chicken in every pot go to pot gone to pot piss pot full [B] pot pot calling the kettle black |

[pot of gold](#)
[shit or get off the pot](#)
[sweeten the pot](#)

potato

[couch potato](#)
[drop him like a hot potato](#)
[hot potato](#)
[like a hot potato](#)
[potato sack](#)

potatoes

[small potatoes](#)

potential

[realize your potential](#)

potlicker

[potlicker](#)

pound

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)
[go pound salt](#)
[penny wise, pound foolish](#)
[pound of flesh](#)
[pound salt](#)
[pound the pavement](#)

pour

[it never rains but it pours](#)
[pour it on](#)
[pour out your soul](#)
[when it rains it pours](#)

poverty

[below the poverty line](#)

pow

[pow](#)

powder

[powder my nose](#)
[take a powder](#)

power

[balance of power](#)
[grey power](#)
[more power to you](#)
[power play \(business\)](#)
[power play \(hockey\)](#)
[power to burn](#)
[power trip](#)

[power user](#)
[powers that be](#)
[the balance of power](#)
[the powers that be](#)

practice

[practice what you preach](#)

prairie

[prairie oyster](#)

praise

[praise him to the skies](#)
[sing his praises](#)

prank

[play a prank on](#)

pre-menstrual

[pre-menstrual syndrome](#)

preach

[practice what you preach](#)
[preach to the choir/preach to the converted](#)

prepare

[prepare like crazy](#)

preppy

[preppy](#)

presence

[presence of mind](#)

press

[hot off the press](#)
[press charges](#)
[press into service](#)
[press on](#)
[press the panic button](#)

pressed

[hard pressed](#)

pressure

[cool under pressure](#)
[under pressure](#)

pretty

[a pretty penny](#)
[cost a pretty penny](#)
[pretty as a picture](#)
[pretty penny](#)
[sitting pretty](#)

prevailed

[cooler heads prevailed](#)

prevention

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)
[ounce of prevention](#)

price

[asking price](#)
[pay the price](#)
[price out](#)
[price you have to pay](#)
[set your price](#)
[the price you have to pay](#)

prick

[prick \[B\]](#)

pride

[pride goeth before a fall](#)
[swallow your pride](#)

prima

[prima donna](#)

prime

[in your prime](#)

prince

[Prince Charming](#)

principle

[the Peter Principle](#)

print

[put to bed \(print media\)](#)

prob

[no problem \(no prob\)](#)

probation

[on probation](#)

problem

[get to the root of the problem](#)
[no problem \(no prob\)](#)
[root of the problem](#)
[the root of the problem](#)

proby

[proby](#)

product

[plug the product](#)

profile

[keep a low profile](#)

profit

[turn a profit](#)

project

[pilot project](#)

promise

[a lick and a promise](#)

[break a promise](#)

[keep a promise](#)

[lick and a promise](#)

[promise the moon](#)

[show promise](#)

pronto

[pronto](#)

proof

[proof of the pudding...](#)

[the proof of the pudding is in the eating](#)

property

[public property](#)

proportion

[blow it out of proportion](#)

props

[props](#)

proud

[did yourself proud](#)

[do yourself proud](#)

psych

[psych out](#)

psychedpsyched

[psyched/psyched up](#)

pub

[pub crawl](#)

public

[go public](#)

[public property](#)

pudding

[proof of the pudding...](#)

[the proof of the pudding is in the eating](#)

puddlejumper

[puddlejumper](#)

puff

[have a puff](#)

pull

[pull a face](#)

[pull a few strings](#)

[pull a muscle](#)

[pull for](#)

[pull in your horns](#)
[pull it off](#)
[pull it out](#)
[pull out all the stops](#)
[pull punches](#)
[pull that](#)
[pull the goalie \(hockey\)](#)
[pull the pin](#)
[pull the plug](#)
[pull the rug out](#)
[pull the wool over your eyes](#)
[pull through](#)
[pull together](#)
[pull up stakes](#)
[pull up your socks](#)
[pull your chain](#)
[pull your leg](#)
[pull your weight](#)
[pull your wire \[B\]](#)
[pull yourself together](#)

pulse

[take the pulse](#)
[take your pulse](#)

pumped/pumped

[pumped/pumped up](#)

punch

[pack a punch](#)
[pleased as punch](#)
[punch your lights out](#)

punches

[pull punches](#)
[roll with the punches](#)

punishment

[a sucker for punishment](#)

puppy

[puppy](#)
[puppy love](#)

pure

[pure luck](#)

purpose

[on purpose](#)
[serve the purpose](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| purse | hold the purse strings make a silk purse... you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear |
| push | don't push your luck push me (to the limit) push the boat out push the envelope push the right buttons push your luck when push comes to shove |
| pusher | pusher |
| pushing | pushing fifty pushing up daisies |
| puss | sour puss |
| pussy | pussy whipped |
| pussyfoot | pussyfoot around |
| put | can't put my finger on it can't put my hands on it don't put all your eggs in one basket hard put put 'em up put 'er there put a bug in my ear put a different slant on it put a hex on me put a lid on it put all your eggs in... put an end to put away put down put down roots put her there put him in his place put in a good word for |

[put in a hard day](#)
[put in a plug for](#)
[put in time](#)
[put it](#)
[put it on the bill](#)
[put me on](#)
[put my finger on it](#)
[put my foot down](#)
[put my neck on the line](#)
[put off](#)
[put on a pedestal](#)
[put on airs](#)
[put on the dog](#)
[put out](#)
[put out about](#)
[put out feelers](#)
[put out of its misery](#)
[put stock in](#)
[put the finishing touches on](#)
[put the hammer down](#)
[put the heat on](#)
[put the kibosh on](#)
[put the right spin on it](#)
[put them up](#)
[put things in perspective](#)
[put to bed \(print media\)](#)
[put to death](#)
[put to rest](#)
[put to shame](#)
[put to the test](#)
[put too fine a point on](#)
[put up or shut up](#)
[put up the money](#)
[put up with](#)
[put you at ease](#)
[put you away](#)
[put you in a bad mood](#)
[put you off your game](#)
[put you through the mill](#)
[put your best foot forward](#)
[put your foot in it](#)
[put your foot in your mouth](#)

[put your heart into it](#)
[put your mind to it](#)
[put your money where your mouth is](#)
[put your shoulder to the wheel](#)
[put yourself out](#)
[put yourself through college](#)
[stay put](#)

put-down

[put-down](#)

putting

[putting me on](#)

[putting on the ritz](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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[Idiom Home](#)

Legend:

[B] bad language

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Idiom Index Q

| | |
|----------|---|
| q | mind your P's and Q's P's and Q's watch your P's and Q's |
| qt | on the QT |
| quake | quake in his boots |
| qualms | no qualms |
| quarter | give no quarter |
| queen | drag queen |
| queer | on queer street |
| question | a question of begs the question burning question it's not a question of no question no questions asked not a question of open to question out of the question pointed questions pop the question question of the burning question without question |
| queue | jump queue |
| quick | a quick study |

[cut me to the quick](#)[quick and dirty](#)[quick like a bunny](#)[quick on the draw](#)[quick study](#)

quicker

[quicker than you can say Jack Robinson](#)

quickie

[a quickie](#)[quickie](#)

quiet

[keep it quiet](#)[keep quiet](#)[so quiet you can hear a pin drop](#)

quit

[call it quits](#)[quit this place](#)[quit while you're ahead](#)

quoi

[je ne sais quoi](#)[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idiom Index R

| | |
|---------------|---|
| rabbit | rabbit rabbit died rabbit food the rabbit died |
| rabble-rouser | rabble-rouser |
| race | away to the races drag race off to the races piss like a race horse [B] rat race tight race |
| rack | rack my brain rack up |
| rad | rad |
| radio | read me (CB radio) ten-four (CB radio) |
| rag | chew the fat/ chew the rag from rags to riches glad rags got the rags on [B] rags rags to riches |
| rage | air rage |
| ragged | run you ragged |
| ragtop | ragtop |
| | |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| railroad | railroad |
| rails | on the rails |
| rain | as right as rain it never rains but it pours rain check rain on their parade right as rain when it rains it pours |
| rainbow | chasing rainbows over the rainbow |
| raining | raining cats and dogs |
| raining/snowing | it's raining/snowing |
| rainy | save for a rainy day |
| raise | raise a stink raise an eyebrow raise Cain raise hell [B] raise money raise the bar raise your hand against raise your spirits |
| raised | raised eyebrows |
| raisins | raisins |
| rake | rake in the dough rake you over the coals |
| raking | raking it in |
| ralph | ralph |
| ram | ram down your throat |
| rampant | |

[run rampant](#)

ran

[time ran out](#)

range

[out of range](#)

[point-blank range](#)

rant

[rant and rave](#)

rap

[a bum rap](#)

[beat the rap](#)

[bum rap](#)

[rap your knuckles](#)

[take the rap](#)

rapped

[get your knuckles rapped](#)

rash

[break out in a rash](#)

rat

[dirty dog/dirty rat](#)

[rat fink](#)

[rat on](#)

[rat race](#)

[rats](#)

ratch

[ratch](#)

rate

[cut rate](#)

[going rate](#)

[the going rate](#)

rattle

[rattle my chain](#)

[rattle on](#)

[rattle sabres](#)

rattling

[sabre rattling](#)

rave

[rant and rave](#)

raving

[stark raving mad](#)

raw

[a raw deal](#)

[raw deal](#)

| | |
|---------------|---|
| rays | bag some rays catch some rays |
| razzle-dazzle | razzle-dazzle |
| reach | reach for the sky reach me reach out |
| reaction | chain reaction |
| read | read along read between the lines read into read it over read me (CB radio) read my lips read them and weep read up on read you |
| ready | rough and ready |
| real | get real real McCoy the real McCoy |
| reality | virtual reality |
| realize | realize your potential |
| really | really deaf |
| ream | ream out |
| reamed | get reamed out |
| reap | reap what you sow you reap whatsoever you sow |
| reaper | grim reaper The Grim Reaper |

| | |
|------------|--|
| rear | |
| | rear end |
| rearend | |
| | rearend |
| reason | |
| | no rhyme or reason rhyme or reason |
| record | |
| | break the record broken record like a broken record off the record track record |
| red | |
| | in the red paint the town red red carpet red herring red tape roll out the red carpet run a red light see red |
| red-faced | |
| | red-faced |
| red-handed | |
| | caught red-handed |
| red-letter | |
| | a red-letter day red-letter day |
| redneck | |
| | a redneck redneck |
| reduce | |
| | reduce to tears |
| reefer | |
| | reefer |
| refuse | |
| | an offer I couldn't refuse offer I couldn't refuse |
| regina | |
| | The Group of Five/The Regina Five |
| regular | |

a regular guy
[regular guy](#)

rehearsal

[dress rehearsal](#)

reject

[reject out of hand](#)

relate

[relate to that](#)

relief

[breathe a sigh of relief](#)

rented

[rented lips](#)

repair

[beyond repair](#)

repay

[repay in kind](#)

resistance

[a pocket of resistance](#)
[pocket of resistance](#)

resort

[last resort](#)

respects

[pay my respects](#)

responsible

[hold me responsible](#)

rest

[at rest](#)
[give it a rest](#)
[God rest his soul](#)
[no rest for the wicked](#)
[put to rest](#)
[rest assured](#)
[rest his soul \(God rest his soul\)](#)
[rest my case](#)
[rest on your laurels](#)
[the rest is gravy](#)
[the rest is history](#)

restaurant

[take-out restaurant](#)

retentive

[anal retentive](#)

retreat

[beat a hasty retreat](#)

| | |
|----------|---|
| return | point of no return the point of no return |
| revenge | get revenge seek revenge take revenge |
| rhyme | no rhyme or reason rhyme or reason |
| ribbing | give you a ribbing |
| ribbons | cut you to ribbons |
| rich | filthy rich strike it rich |
| riches | from rags to riches rags to riches |
| rid | get rid of |
| riddance | good riddance |
| ride | along for the ride catch a ride go along for the ride ride herd ride his coattails ride me ride the clutch ride the wave taken for a ride |
| riding | riding high |
| rig | a big rig big rig |
| right | as right as rain darn right give my right arm |

[heart is in the right place](#)
[hold your mouth the right way](#)
[left, right and center](#)
[play my cards right](#)
[push the right buttons](#)
[put the right spin on it](#)
[right as rain](#)
[right away](#)
[right before my eyes](#)
[right off the bat](#)
[right on](#)
[right on the money](#)
[right, left and center](#)
[serve them right](#)
[the customer is always right](#)
[the right stuff](#)

rigmarole

[rigmarole](#)
[what a rigmarole](#)

rile

[rile up](#)

riley

[life of Riley](#)
[the life of Riley](#)

ring

[give me a ring](#)
[ring a bell](#)
[ring leader](#)
[ring me](#)
[ring off the hook](#)

ringer

[a dead ringer](#)
[dead ringer](#)

riot

[a riot](#)

rip

[let her rip](#)

rip-off

[a rip-off](#)
[rip-off](#)

rip-snorting

[rip-snorting mad](#)

| | |
|-----------|---|
| ripe | at the ripe old age |
| ripped | ripped off |
| rise | get a rise on the rise rise and shine rise to the occasion |
| risk | run the risk take a risk take risks |
| risky | risky business |
| ritz | putting on the ritz |
| ritzy | ritzy |
| river | cry me a river |
| road | down the road get out of the road get this show on the road in the road middle of the road on the road one for the road road apple road to hell is paved... rocky road the road to hell is paved with good intentions where the rubber hits the road |
| roadtrail | hit the road/trail |
| roaring | Roaring Twenties |
| rob | rob Peter to pay Paul rob the cradle |
| robin | all around Robin Hood's barn |

[around Robin Hood's barn](#)

robinson

[before you can say Jack Robinson](#)
[quicker than you can say Jack Robinson](#)

rock

[as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar](#)
[between a rock and a hard place](#)
[don't rock the boat](#)
[got rocks in your head](#)
[hit rock bottom](#)
[Rock](#)
[rock](#)
[rock bottom](#)
[rock the boat](#)
[rocks in your head](#)
[rocks socks](#)
[solid as the Rock of Gibraltar](#)
[The Rock](#)

rocker

[off your rocker](#)

rocky

[rocky road](#)

rod

[pack a rod](#)

rodchester

[rodchester](#)

rode

[you and the horse you rode in on](#)

roll

[a roll in the hay \[B\]](#)
[heads will roll](#)
[let the good times roll](#)
[on a roll](#)
[roll around](#)
[roll in the hay](#)
[roll off the tongue](#)
[roll out the red carpet](#)
[roll over and play dead](#)
[roll their eyes](#)
[roll with the punches](#)

roller

[high roller](#)

| | |
|---------|---|
| rolling | a rolling stone gathers no moss get rolling keep the ball rolling rolling in it rolling in the aisles rolling stone |
| romans | when in Rome, do as the Romans do |
| rome | when in Rome, do as the Romans do |
| roof | go through the roof through the roof went through the roof |
| room | elbow room make room the room is so small you have to go outside turn around work the room |
| roost | chickens come home to roost come home to roost |
| rooster | bet on a lame rooster |
| root | get to the root of the problem money is the root of all evil put down roots root for root of the problem the root of the problem |
| rope | at the end of my rope/ at the end of my tether give him enough rope and he'll hang himself know the ropes learn the ropes rope into show you the ropes |
| roses | a bed of roses coming up roses |

[life is not all guns and roses](#)
[take time to smell the roses](#)

rot

[rot gut](#)

rotten

[rotten to the core](#)
[something is rotten...](#)
[there's something rotten in the state of Denmark](#)

rotter

[rotter](#)

rough

[a rough time](#)
[a rough time of it](#)
[give you a rough time](#)
[going gets rough](#)
[rough and ready](#)
[rough going](#)
[rough up](#)
[the going gets rough](#)

roughshod

[run roughshod](#)

round

[buy a round](#)
[round the clock](#)
[round up](#)
[take a round out of](#)

row

[a hard row to hoe](#)
[a tough row to hoe](#)
[death row](#)
[ducks in a row \(ducks in order\)](#)
[hard row to hoe](#)
[row of beans](#)
[tough row to hoe](#)

royal

[a royal pain](#)
[His Royal Highness](#)
[royal pain](#)
[royal treatment](#)

rub

[rub elbows](#)
[rub salt in the wound](#)

[rub shoulders with](#)
[rub the wrong way](#)

rubber

[lay rubber](#)
[rubber match](#)
[where the rubber hits the road](#)

rubberneck

[rubberneck](#)

rube

[rube](#)

ruddy

[ruddy](#)

ruffle

[ruffle your feathers](#)

rug

[pull the rug out](#)
[rug up](#)
[snug as a bug in a rug](#)

rule

[bend the rules](#)
[follow the rules](#)
[golden rule](#)
[rule of thumb](#)
[rule out](#)
[The Golden Rule](#)
[work to rule](#)

rumor

[rumor has it](#)

run

[a run for your money](#)
[dry run](#)
[give you a run for your money](#)
[hit and run \(baseball\)](#)
[hit and run \(traffic\)](#)
[home run \(baseball\)](#)
[in the long run](#)
[milk run](#)
[on the run](#)
[run a red light](#)
[run a tab](#)
[run a tub](#)
[run across](#)

[run amuck](#)
[run an errand](#)
[run circles around you](#)
[run down](#)
[run for office](#)
[run for the hills](#)
[run for your money](#)
[run interference](#)
[run into](#)
[run it by me again](#)
[run its course](#)
[run of the mill](#)
[run off](#)
[run off at the mouth](#)
[run out](#)
[run out of patience](#)
[run out of town](#)
[run rampant](#)
[run roughshod](#)
[run short](#)
[run the gamut](#)
[run the gauntlet](#)
[run the risk](#)
[run the show](#)
[run through](#)
[run up](#)
[run you out](#)
[run you ragged](#)
[take it and run](#)
[trial run](#)
[you can run but you can't hide](#)
[you don't miss the water till the well runs dry](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| run-in | |
| | run-in |
| runaround | |
| | give you the runaround runaround the runaround |
| rung | |
| | bottom rung had his bell rung |
| runner | |

[front runner](#)

runneth

[cup runneth over](#)

running

[hit the ground running](#)[in the running](#)[running water](#)[up and running](#)

runt

[runt of the litter](#)[the runt of the litter](#)

rush

[bum's rush](#)[no rush](#)[rush](#)[rush hour](#)[the bum's rush](#)[what a rush](#)

rust

[rust out](#)

rustbucket

[rustbucket](#)

rut

[in a rut](#)

rye

[rye](#)[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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[Idiom Home](#)

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Idiom Index S

| | |
|---------|--|
| sabre | rattle sabres sabre rattling |
| sack | a sack of hammers a sad sack as dumb as a sack of hammers dumb as a sack of hammers potato sack sack of hammers sack out sad sack |
| sacred | sacred cow sacred moose |
| sad | a sad sack Dear Dad, No mon, no fun, your son! Dear Son, So sad, too bad, your dad! sad sack |
| saddle | saddle up |
| saddled | saddled with |
| sadness | a downer (sadness) downer (sadness) |
| safe | play it safe |
| sailing | clear sailing smooth sailing |
| sailor | swear like a sailor |
| sails | knock the wind out of his sails |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| sais | je ne sais quoi |
| sake | for goodness sake for gosh sake for heaven's sake for Pete's sake |
| sale | up for sale |
| salt | a grain of salt a pinch of salt go pound salt grain of salt pinch of salt pound salt rub salt in the wound salt away salt of the earth take it with a grain of salt take with a grain of salt the salt of the earth |
| salty | salty |
| sam | what the Sam Hill |
| same | bitten by the same bug by the same token cut from the same cloth on the same wavelength one and the same paint with the same brush same here same to you tar with the same brush |
| sand | head in the sand |
| saskatchewan | Saskatchewan pheasant |
| sasquatch | Sasquatch |
| sassy | |

[sassy](#)

sauce

[into the sauce](#)

save

[a stitch in time saves nine](#)

[save a bundle](#)

[save face](#)

[save for a rainy day](#)

[save your bacon](#)

[save your skin/neck](#)

saw

[saw logs](#)

[saw off a chunk \[B\]](#)

[saw sawdust](#)

saw-off

[saw-off](#)

sawdust

[saw sawdust](#)

say

[before you can say Jack Robinson](#)

[devil you say](#)

[dickens you say](#)

[have a say](#)

[have the final say](#)

[needless to say](#)

[never say die](#)

[quicker than you can say Jack Robinson](#)

[say jump...how high](#)

[say my piece](#)

[say the word](#)

[say what](#)

[say what's on your mind](#)

[say your piece](#)

[the devil you say](#)

[the dickens you say](#)

[the hell you say](#)

[wouldn't say shit if her mouth was full of it \[B\]](#)

[you don't say](#)

saying

[it goes without saying](#)

scads

[scads](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| scales | tip the scales tip the scales at |
| scandal | a scandal is brewing scandal is brewing |
| scarce | as scarce as hen's teeth make yourself scarce scarce as hen's teeth |
| scare | scare the life out of me |
| scared | scared out of my wits scared shitless [B] scared spitless scared stiff scared to death |
| scaredy | scaredy cat |
| scene | behind the scenes make a scene |
| schedule | on schedule |
| schmooze | schmooze |
| school | school of hard knocks school's out the school of hard knocks |
| scoff | scoff |
| scoop | scoop scoop them |
| score | a score to settle know the score score to settle |
| scot | great Scot |
| scot-free | |

[scot-free](#)

scout

[scout's honor](#)

scrape

[scrape by](#)

[scrape me off the ceiling](#)

[scrape the bottom of the barrel](#)

scratch

[from scratch](#)

[scratch](#)

[scratch the surface](#)

[scratch your head](#)

[start from scratch](#)

[up to scratch](#)

screech

[screech](#)

screw

[a screw loose](#)

[screw](#)

[screw \[B\]](#)

[screw loose](#)

[screw up](#)

[screw you \[B\]](#)

screw-up

[screw-up](#)

screwed

[get screwed](#)

scrut

[scrut](#)

scumscumbag

[scum/scumbag](#)

sea

[a bit at sea](#)

[between the devil and the deep blue sea](#)

sealed

[fate is sealed](#)

[lips are sealed](#)

seams

[fall apart \(at the seams\)](#)

search

[search me](#)

season

[open season](#)

seat

[by the seat of your pants](#)
[fly by the seat of your...](#)
[have a seat](#)
[in the driver's seat](#)
[on the edge of your seat](#)
[take a back seat](#)
[take your seat](#)

sec

[in a sec](#)
[wait a sec](#)

second

[dying seconds](#)
[in a split second](#)
[play second fiddle](#)
[second fiddle](#)
[second guess](#)
[second nature](#)
[second wind](#)
[seconds](#)
[split second](#)
[the dying seconds](#)

secret

[a state secret](#)
[deep, dark secret](#)
[it's not a state secret](#)
[keep a secret](#)
[state secret](#)
[top secret](#)
[trade secret](#)

see

[can't see for looking](#)
[can't see the forest for the trees](#)
[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)
[long time no see](#)
[see](#)
[see a man about a dog](#)
[see eye to eye](#)
[see fit](#)
[see hide nor hair](#)
[see it coming](#)
[see it through](#)

[see me for dust](#)
[see red](#)
[see the light](#)
[see the light of day](#)
[see through](#)
[see to it/see to that](#)
[see you stuck](#)
[see you through](#)
[see you/see your](#)
[see your way](#)
[the way I see it](#)
[won't see you stuck](#)

seeing

[seeing things](#)

seek

[seek revenge](#)

seems

[it seems to me](#)

seen

[haven't seen hide nor hair](#)

[seen better days](#)

[seen dead in](#)

seize

[seize the opportunity](#)

self

[a shadow of his former self](#)

self-made

[self-made man](#)

self-starter

[self-starter](#)

sell

[hard sell](#)

[sell like hotcakes](#)

[sell out](#)

[sell the farm](#)

[sell yourself short](#)

[soft sell](#)

[you can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody](#)

seller

[seller's market](#)

selling

[selling point](#)

send

[send a bouquet](#)[send him flying](#)[send him up](#)

send-up

[a send-up](#)[send-up](#)

sense

[common sense](#)[horse sense](#)[make sense](#)[make sense of it](#)[sense of humor](#)[take leave of your senses](#)[warped sense of humor](#)

sentence

[sentence to death](#)

serious

[get serious](#)[serious coin](#)

seriously

[take me seriously](#)

serve

[if my memory serves me correctly](#)[serve notice](#)[serve the purpose](#)[serve them right](#)

served

[first come, first served](#)

service

[press into service](#)

session

[jam session](#)

set

[all set](#)[dead set against](#)[glued to the set](#)[set a spell](#)[set about](#)[set fire](#)[set foot](#)[set for life](#)[set in](#)

[set in her ways](#)
[set of wheels](#)
[set off](#)
[set out](#)
[set out for](#)
[set out to](#)
[set the table](#)
[set the world on fire](#)
[set up shop](#)
[set you back](#)
[set you straight](#)
[set you up](#)
[set your mind at ease](#)
[set your price](#)
[set your sights](#)
[set your teeth on edge](#)

| | |
|--------|--|
| set-to | |
|--------|--|

[set-to](#)

| | |
|--------|--|
| set-up | |
|--------|--|

[set-up](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| setback | |
|---------|--|

[suffer a setback](#)

| | |
|--------|--|
| settle | |
|--------|--|

[a score to settle](#)
[score to settle](#)
[settle down](#)
[settle in](#)
[settle it](#)
[when the dust settles](#)

| | |
|-------|--|
| seven | |
|-------|--|

[at sixes and sevens](#)
[between sixes and sevens](#)
[Group of Seven](#)
[seven come eleven](#)
[sixes and sevens](#)
[The Group of Seven](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| seventh | |
|---------|--|

[in seventh heaven](#)

| | |
|-----|--|
| sex | |
|-----|--|

[better than sex](#)
[go all the way \(sex\)](#)
[have sex](#)

shabby

[not too shabby](#)
[shabby](#)

shack

[shack up \[B\]](#)

shades

[shades](#)
[shades of](#)

shadow

[a shadow of his former self](#)
[five o'clock shadow](#)

shady

[shady deal](#)

shaft

[shaft](#)

shagging

[shagging wagon](#)

shake

[a fair shake](#)
[fair shake](#)
[great shakes](#)
[in two shakes \(of a lamb's tail\)](#)
[more than you can shake a stick at](#)
[no great shakes](#)
[shake a habit](#)
[shake a leg](#)
[shake a stick at](#)
[shake hands](#)
[shake him](#)
[shake on it](#)

shakers

[movers and shakers](#)

shaky

[on shaky ground](#)
[shaky ground](#)

shame

[a crying shame](#)
[crying shame](#)
[put to shame](#)

shape

[get in shape](#)
[in any way, shape or form](#)
[in bad shape](#)

[keep in good shape](#)
[shape up](#)
[shape up or ship out](#)
[whip you into shape](#)

share

[lion's share](#)
[the lion's share](#)

shareware

[shareware](#)

sharp

[a sharp tongue](#)
[a sharp wit](#)
[look sharp](#)
[sharp](#)
[sharp as a tack](#)

sharpen

[sharpen up](#)
[sharpen your pencils](#)

shave

[a close shave](#)
[close shave](#)

shebang

[the whole shebang](#)
[whole shebang](#)

shed

[shed a little light on](#)
[shed a tear](#)

sheep

[a wolf in sheep's clothing](#)
[black sheep](#)
[wolf in sheep's clothing](#)

sheesh

[sheesh](#)

sheets

[three sheets to the wind](#)

shekel

[shekel](#)

shelf

[off the shelf](#)

shell

[shell out](#)

shellack

shellack

shift

[you're only as good as your last shift](#)

shine

[make hay while the sun shines](#)

[rise and shine](#)

[take a shine to](#)

ship

[jump ship](#)

[shape up or ship out](#)

shipshape

[shipshape](#)

shirt

[get your shirt in a knot/ get your shit in a knot \[B\]](#)

[give you the shirt off his back](#)

[keep your shirt on](#)

[like a dirty shirt](#)

[lose your shirt](#)

shirty

[shirty](#)

shit

[a pinch of coon shit \[B\]](#)

[as sure as shit](#)

[get shit \[B\]](#)

[get your shirt in a knot/ get your shit in a knot \[B\]](#)

[get your shit together \[B\]](#)

[give a damn / give a shit / give a fuck \[B\]](#)

[give a shit \[B\]](#)

[give her shit \[B\]](#)

[give you shit \[B\]](#)

[happy as a pig in shit \[B\]](#)

[in deep shit \[B\]](#)

[King Shit on Turd Island](#)

[like shit through a goose](#)

[no shit \[B\]](#)

[on the shit list \[B\]](#)

[pinch of coon shit \[B\]](#)

[shit disturber \[B\]](#)

[shit fire and apple butter](#)

[shit hit the fan \[B\]](#)

[shit hot \[B\]](#)

[shit list \[B\]](#)

[shit myself \[B\]](#)
[shit or get off the pot](#)
[shit or wind my watch](#)
[shit out of luck \[B\]](#)
[shit through a goose](#)
[shoot the shit \[B\]](#)
[sometimes life is a bucket of shit and the handle is inside \[B\]](#)
[sure as shit](#)
[take a shit \[B\]](#)
[that's a crock \(of shit\) \[B\]](#)
[the shit hit the fan](#)
[up shit creek \[B\]](#)
[wouldn't say shit if her mouth was full of it \[B\]](#)

shit-faced

[shit-faced \[B\]](#)

shitface

[shitface \[B\]](#)

shithead

[shithead \[B\]](#)

shithouse

[built like a brick shithouse \[B\]](#)

shitless

[scared shitless \[B\]](#)

shitload

[a shitload](#)[shitload](#)

shitting

[shitting bricks \[B\]](#)

shitty

[shitty \[B\]](#)

shmooze

[shmooze](#)

shoe

[drop the other shoe](#)[fill his shoes](#)[horse shoes up his ass \[B\]](#)[if the shoe fits, wear it](#)[shoes like boats](#)[wait for the other shoe to drop](#)

shoe-in

[shoe-in](#)

shogun

[a shogun](#)

[shogun](#)

shoo-in

[a shoo-in](#)[shoo-in](#)

shook

[all shook up](#)

shoot

[shoot](#)[shoot from the hip](#)[shoot it out](#)[shoot the breeze](#)[shoot the shit \[B\]](#)[shoot up](#)[shoot your mouth off](#)[shoot your wad](#)[shoot yourself in the foot](#)

shoot-out

[shoot-out \(sports\)](#)[shoot-out](#)

shoot-up

[shoot-up](#)

shooter

[square shooter](#)

shooting

[shooting fish in a barrel](#)[shooting match](#)[the whole shooting match](#)[whole shooting match](#)

shop

[a bull in a china shop](#)[bull in a china shop](#)[set up shop](#)[shop talk](#)[talk shop](#)

shop-floor

[shop-floor struggle](#)

shoplifting

[shoplifting](#)

short

[a brick short](#)[a few bricks short of a full load](#)[a short one](#)

[bring you up short](#)
[by the short hairs](#)
[down to the short strokes](#)
[fall short](#)
[got you by the short hairs](#)
[long and the short of it](#)
[on short notice](#)
[one brick short of a full load](#)
[run short](#)
[sell yourself short](#)
[short cut](#)
[short end of the stick](#)
[short one](#)
[short strokes](#)
[short temper](#)
[short with me](#)
[the long and the short of it](#)
[the short end of the stick](#)
[three slices short \(of a full loaf\)](#)

shortchange

[shortchange](#)

shortfall

[shortfall](#)

shot

[a big shot](#)
[a long shot](#)
[a shot in the arm](#)
[a shot in the dark](#)
[big shot](#)
[by a long shot](#)
[call the shots](#)
[get a shot](#)
[get a shot at](#)
[give it your best shot](#)
[have a shot at](#)
[hit me with your best shot](#)
[not by a long shot](#)
[pay the shot](#)
[shot](#)
[shot in the arm](#)
[shot in the dark](#)
[take a shot](#)

[take a snap shot](#)

shotsalesman

[crack shot/salesman etc.](#)

should

[should be so lucky](#)

[zig when you should zag](#)

shoulder

[chip on his shoulder](#)

[cold shoulder](#)

[give you the cold shoulder](#)

[head and shoulders](#)

[look over your shoulder](#)

[put your shoulder to the wheel](#)

[rub shoulders with](#)

[shoulder the blame](#)

[shoulder to shoulder](#)

[shoulder to the wheel](#)

[straight from the shoulder](#)

shouldn't

[people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones](#)

shouting

[all over but the shouting](#)

[it's all over but the shouting](#)

shove

[shove down my throat](#)

[shove it \[B\]](#)

[take this job and shove it \[B\]](#)

[when push comes to shove](#)

show

[all show](#)

[get this show on the road](#)

[good show](#)

[one for the money, two for the show...](#)

[run the show](#)

[show off](#)

[show promise](#)

[show up](#)

[show you around](#)

[show you the ropes](#)

[show you up](#)

[show your stuff](#)

[steal the show](#)

| | |
|------------|--|
| show-off | show-off |
| showboat | showboat |
| showdown | showdown |
| showing | claws are showing |
| shrink | shrink/head shrink |
| shrinkhead | shrink/head shrink |
| shrinking | no shrinking violet shrinking violet |
| shrug | shrug it off |
| shuck | shuck on down to the fraidy hole shucks |
| shuffle | shuffle the chairs on the deck |
| shut | open and shut put up or shut up shut down shut my mouth shut up shut your face |
| shut-down | shut-down |
| shut-in | shut-in |
| shutout | shutout (sports) |
| sick | a sick building as sick as a dog as sick as a parrot in sick bay laugh yourself sick sick as a dog sick at heart |

[sick building](#)
[sick of](#)
[sick to death](#)
[sick to my stomach](#)
[worried sick](#)

sicker

[sicker than a dog](#)

sickmad

[make me sick/mad etc.](#)

sicko

[sicko](#)

side

[a thorn in my side](#)
[choose sides](#)
[choose up sides](#)
[cross over to the other side](#)
[dark side](#)
[don't know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[get on my good side](#)
[get up on the wrong side of bed](#)
[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[on my good side](#)
[on side](#)
[on the bright side](#)
[on the side](#)
[on your side](#)
[side by side](#)
[take sides](#)
[the grass is greener on the other side of the fence](#)
[there are two sides to every story](#)
[thorn in my side](#)
[two sides to every story](#)
[wake up on the wrong side of bed](#)

sigh

[breathe a sigh of relief](#)

sight

[a sight for sore eyes](#)
[drop out of sight](#)
[lose sight of](#)
[love at first sight](#)
[out of sight \(outa sight\)](#)
[out of sight](#)

[out of sight, out of mind](#)

[set your sights](#)

[sight for sore eyes](#)

sign

[sign in](#)

[sign off](#)

[sign out](#)

[sign up](#)

silence

[break the silence](#)

[silence is golden](#)

silent

[the strong, silent type](#)

silk

[make a silk purse...](#)

[you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear](#)

silkhead

[silkhead](#)

silly

[laugh yourself silly](#)

silver

[a silver spoon...](#)

[born with a silver spoon in his mouth](#)

[every cloud has a silver lining](#)

[on a silver platter](#)

[silver spoon](#)

silver-tongued

[silver-tongued](#)

simmer

[simmer down](#)

sin

[sin bin \(hockey\)](#)

[the sin bin \(hockey\)](#)

sing

[it ain't over till the fat lady sings](#)

[sing his praises](#)

[sing up a storm](#)

single

[single file](#)

[single out](#)

sink

[everything but the kitchen sink](#)

sinker

[hook, line and sinker](#)

sinking

[sinking feeling](#)

sip

[have a sip](#)

sit

[sit in judgement on](#)

[sit the fence](#)

[sit tight](#)

[sit with you](#)

sitter

[fence sitter](#)

sitting

[a sitting duck](#)

[sitting duck](#)

[sitting pretty](#)

six

[at sixes and sevens](#)

[between sixes and sevens](#)

[deep six](#)

[six bits](#)

[six of one, half a dozen of the other](#)

[sixes and sevens](#)

size

[cut you down to size](#)

[fingers the size of bananas](#)

[size up](#)

[try that on for size](#)

skate

[cheap skate](#)

[skate on thin ice](#)

skaters

[skaters](#)

skeleton

[skeleton in the closet](#)

skidaddle

[skidaddle](#)

skids

[hit the skids](#)

[skids](#)

skies

[praise him to the skies](#)

skill

| | |
|----------|--|
| | hard skill |
| skin | beauty is only skin deep by the skin of their teeth get under my skin jump out of your skin no skin off my nose skin virgin skins game there's more than one way to skin a cat under my skin |
| skinhead | skinhead |
| skinneck | save your skin/neck |
| skinny | skinny dip |
| skip | skip classes skip out |
| skoal | skoal |
| skunk | as drunk as a skunk skunk |
| sky | blow sky high blue sky pie in the sky reach for the sky sky isn't blue the sky isn't blue |
| slack | cut me some slack take up the slack |
| slackass | slackass [B] |
| slam | grand slam slam |
| slammer | in the slammer |

[slammer](#)

slant

[put a different slant on it](#)

slap

[slap my afro / slap my fro](#)

slash

[slash and burn](#)

sledding

[tough sledding](#)

sleep

[deep sleep](#)

[sleep around \[B\]](#)

[sleep in](#)

[sleep it off](#)

[sleep like a log](#)

sleeper

[sleeper](#)

sleeping

[let sleeping dogs lie](#)

sleepy

[sleepy head](#)

sleeve

[an ace up your sleeve](#)

[laugh up your sleeve](#)

[up your sleeve](#)

[wear your heart on your sleeve](#)

slice

[any way you slice it](#)

[it's been a slice \(of life\)](#)

[no matter how you slice it](#)

[three slices short \(of a full loaf\)](#)

slick

[slick](#)

slim

[a slim chance](#)

[slim chance](#)

slimebucket

[slimebucket \[B\]](#)

slip

[a slip of the tongue](#)

[give him the slip](#)

[slip](#)

[slip a notch](#)

[slip away](#)
[slip of the tongue](#)
[slip out](#)
[slip up](#)
[slip your mind](#)
[there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip](#)

slippery

[a slippery slope](#)
[slippery slope](#)

slipping

[past is slipping by without a trace](#)
[the past is slipping by without a trace](#)

slo

[slo mo](#)

slope

[a slippery slope](#)
[slippery slope](#)

sloshed

[sloshed to the gills](#)

slouch

[no slouch](#)

slow

[a slow day](#)
[as slow as a dead snail](#)
[as slow as molasses in January](#)
[slow as a dead snail](#)
[slow as molasses...](#)
[slow day](#)
[slow down](#)

slowpoke

[slowpoke](#)

sluff

[sluff off](#)

slug

[a slug](#)
[slug away](#)
[slug of](#)

slump

[in a slump](#)

sly

[on the sly](#)

smack

[smack dab in the middle](#)

[smack of](#)

small

[small potatoes](#)[small talk](#)[so small you could barely swing a cat](#)[so small you had to back out to change your mind](#)[the room is so small you have to go outside turn around](#)

smart

[don't get smart with me](#)[smarts](#)[street smarts](#)

smartass

[smartass \[B\]](#)

smarten

[smarten up](#)

smash

[have a smash](#)

smashed

[smashed](#)

smashing

[smashing](#)

smell

[I smell where you're stepping](#)[smell blood](#)[smell where you're stepping](#)[smells](#)[something smells](#)[take time to smell the roses](#)[wake up and smell the coffee](#)

smelling

[smelling yourself](#)

smidgeon

[just a smidgeon](#)

smidgesmidgeon

[smidge/smidgeon](#)

smile

[flash a smile](#)[wipe that smile off your face](#)

smithwright

[smithwright it](#)

smoke

[go up in smoke](#)

[holy smoke](#)
[smoke and mirrors](#)
[smoke like a furnace](#)
[up in smoke](#)

smoker

[chain smoker](#)

smoking

[smoking gun](#)

smooth

[smooth out](#)
[smooth sailing](#)
[smooth talker](#)

snag

[snag](#)

snail

[as slow as a dead snail](#)
[slow as a dead snail](#)

snakes

[blow snakes \(music\)](#)

snap

[a snap](#)
[it's a snap](#)
[snap](#)
[snap a picture](#)
[snap at](#)
[take a snap shot](#)

snapped

[snapped](#)
[something snapped](#)

snappy

[make it snappy](#)

snatch

[snatch victory from the jaws of defeat](#)

snazzy

[snazzy](#)

sneer

[peer sneer](#)

sneeze

[nothing to sneeze at](#)

snit

[in a snit](#)

snitch

[snitch](#)

snootful

[a snootful](#)

[snootful](#)

snooze

[you snooze, you lose](#)

snotty-nosed

[snotty-nosed kid](#)

snow

[a snow job](#)

[snow job](#)

[snow them](#)

[two pee holes in the snow](#)

snowball

[a snowball's chance in hell](#)

[snowball](#)

snowbirds

[snowbirds](#)

snuff

[up to snuff](#)

snug

[snug as a bug in a rug](#)

so

['fraid so](#)

[afraid so](#)

[Dear Dad, No mon, no fun, your son! Dear Son, So sad, too bad, your dad!](#)

[don't think so](#)

[even so](#)

[how so](#)

[I'm afraid so](#)

[is that so](#)

[not so hot](#)

[should be so lucky](#)

[so and so](#)

[so far, so good](#)

[so help me](#)

[so long](#)

[so much as](#)

[so quiet you can hear a pin drop](#)

[so small you could barely swing a cat](#)

[so small you had to back out to change your mind](#)

[so to speak](#)

[so what](#)

SOS

[the room is so small you have to go outside turn around](#)
[there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so](#)
[want it so bad I can taste it](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| so-so | |
| | so-so |
| soap | |
| | get off your soap box soap box |
| sob | |
| | sob story |
| sober | |
| | draw a sober breath sober up |
| sock | |
| | knock your socks off pull up your socks rocks socks sock it to me |
| soft | |
| | a soft touch go soft have a soft spot for soft in the head soft market soft pedal soft sell soft spot |
| soft-top | |
| | soft-top |
| soften | |
| | soften up soften your stance |
| software | |
| | software software piracy |
| solace | |
| | take solace |
| sold | |
| | sold on |
| soldier | |
| | soldier on |
| solid | |

[as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar](#)

[solid as the Rock of Gibraltar](#)

some

[and then some](#)

[bag some rays](#)

[catch some rays](#)

[catch some z's](#)

[cut me some slack](#)

[have to go some](#)

[kick some ass](#)

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| | |
|-------------|---|
| | stack up |
| stacked | |
| | stacked |
| stag | |
| | stag |
| stage | |
| | all the world's a stage |
| | exit stage left |
| | take the stage |
| stake | |
| | at stake |
| | pull up stakes |
| stance | |
| | soften your stance |
| stand | |
| | blow this Popsicle stand |
| | can't stand |
| | hair stand on end |
| | if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen |
| | know where we stand |
| | make your hair stand on end |
| | on the stand |
| | stand away |
| | stand behind |
| | stand by me |
| | stand corrected |
| | stand for |
| | stand in |
| | stand it |
| | stand on ceremony |
| | stand out |
| | stand to lose |
| | stand up |
| | stand up and be counted |
| | stand up for |
| | stand up to |
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| | |
|----------|---|
| stop | buck stops here pit stop pull out all the stops stop at nothing stop on a dime stop you cold stop you in your tracks the buck stops here |
| store | in store for mind the store |
| storm | brain storm calm before the storm eye of the storm sing up a storm take by storm the calm before the storm the eye of the storm up a storm weather the storm |
| story | break a story inside story sob story the inside story there are two sides to every story two sides to every story |
| straight | get it straight get this straight give it to me straight go straight keep a straight face keep them straight set you straight straight straight away straight cash straight dope straight face |

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[sure thing](#)

surf

[surf the Net](#)

surface

[scratch the surface](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| surfer | Net surfer |
| surfing | hang ten (surfing) |
| surprise | catch me by surprise |
| swallow | hard to swallow swallow that swallow your pride |
| swamp | drain the swamp |
| swath | cut a wide swath |
| swear | swear by swear like a sailor swear off |
| sweat | break a sweat don't sweat it in a cold sweat no sweat sweat bullets sweat it sweat it out work up a sweat |
| sweater | sweater girl |
| sweep | a new broom sweeps clean make a clean sweep sweep under the carpet sweep you off your feet |
| sweet | a sweet tooth sweet on sweet spot sweet tooth take your sweet time the sweet spot |
| sweeten | |

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| | |
|--------------|--|
| talker | smooth talker |
| talking | a talking to |
| tall | a tall one tall one tall tale |
| tangle | tangle with |
| tango | it takes two to tango takes two to tango |
| tank | in the tank into the tank tank think tank |
| tankedtanked | tanked/tanked up |
| tantrum | throw a tantrum |
| tap | a love tap love tap on tap |
| tape | red tape |
| tar | tar with the same brush |
| target | on target |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| tarnation | what in tarnation |
| tart | jam tart tough tarts |
| task | take you to task |
| taste | a bad taste in my mouth bad taste in my mouth give him a taste of his own medicine taste of his own... want it so bad I can taste it |
| tat | tit for tat |
| tea | a spot of tea all the tea in China cup of tea for all the tea in China not for all the tea in China spot of tea |
| teach | don't teach your grandmother how to suck eggs teach an old dog... teach you the tricks of the trade you can't teach an old dog new tricks |
| teakettle | ass over teakettle |
| team | make the team plug the team team player team up |
| teapot | a tempest in a teapot tempest in a teapot |
| tear | crocodile tears move you to tears reduce to tears shed a tear |

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[tearjerker](#)

teed

[all teed up](#)
[teed off](#)
[teed up](#)

teeny-weeny

[teeny-weeny](#)

teeth

[armed to the teeth](#)
[as scarce as hen's teeth](#)
[back teeth are floating](#)
[by the skin of their teeth](#)
[cut my teeth on](#)
[give my eye teeth](#)
[gnashing of teeth](#)
[scarce as hen's teeth](#)
[set your teeth on edge](#)

telegraph

[bush telegraph](#)

tell

[go tell your mother she wants you](#)
[tell a soul](#)
[tell all](#)
[tell him a thing or two](#)
[tell him off](#)
[tell him where to get off](#)
[tell him where to go](#)
[tell me another one](#)
[tell me straight](#)
[tell on](#)
[won't tell a soul](#)
[you can't tell a book by its cover](#)

temper

[hold your temper](#)
[lose your temper](#)
[short temper](#)

tempered

| | |
|-------------|--|
| | hot tempered |
| tempest | |
| | a tempest in a teapot tempest in a teapot |
| tempt | |
| | tempt fate |
| ten | |
| | first down/first and ten hang ten (surfing) nine times out of ten |
| ten-foot | |
| | touch it with a ten-foot pole |
| ten-four | |
| | ten-four (CB radio) |
| tender | |
| | tender age of the tender age of |
| tenterhooks | |
| | on tenterhooks |
| terms | |
| | come to terms come to terms with glowing terms in glowing terms in no uncertain terms on even terms on good terms on speaking terms |
| territory | |
| | it goes with the territory virgin territory |
| test | |
| | acid test put to the test test drive test the water test your metal the acid test |
| tether | |
| | at the end of my rope/ at the end of my tether |
| tgif | |
| | TGIF |
| than | |

[actions speak louder than words](#)
[bark is worse than his bite](#)
[better late than never](#)
[better than a kick in the ass \[B\]](#)
[better than sex](#)
[bigger than life](#)
[bite off more than you can chew](#)
[blood is thicker than water](#)
[faster than a minnow can swim a dipper](#)
[faster than a speeding bullet](#)
[higher than a kite](#)
[it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all](#)
[larger than life](#)
[more money than brains](#)
[more than meets the eye](#)
[more than welcome](#)
[more than you can shake a stick at](#)
[quicker than you can say Jack Robinson](#)
[sicker than a dog](#)
[there's more than meets the eye](#)
[there's more than one way to skin a cat](#)
[two heads are better than one](#)

thank

[thank goodness](#)
[Thank Goodness It's Friday](#)
[thank heavens](#)
[thank your lucky stars](#)
[thanks a bunch](#)
[thanks a million](#)
[vote of thanks](#)
[you can thank your lucky stars](#)

that

['at a boy \(that a boy\)](#)
['at a girl \(that a girl\)](#)
[a party to that](#)
[all that jazz](#)
[all's well that ends well](#)
[and that's that](#)
[attaboy \(that a boy\)](#)
[attagirl \(that a girl\)](#)
[bite the hand that feeds you](#)
[buy that](#)

[catch me doing that](#)
[check that](#)
[cotton to that](#)
[cross that bridge when I come to it](#)
[don't eat that](#)
[don't give me that line/story etc.](#)
[don't hand me that](#)
[eat that](#)
[fall for that](#)
[fuck that noise \[B\]](#)
[get a load of that](#)
[hair off the dog that bit you](#)
[hold that over my head](#)
[how about that](#)
[how does that grab you](#)
[how's that again](#)
[if that doesn't beat all](#)
[in that vein](#)
[is that so](#)
[just like that](#)
[kill the goose that lays the golden eggs](#)
[kiss that one goodbye](#)
[party to that](#)
[powers that be](#)
[pull that](#)
[relate to that](#)
[see to it/see to that](#)
[straw that broke the camel's back](#)
[swallow that](#)
[take that](#)
[that a boy/that a girl](#)
[that is that](#)
[that takes the cake](#)
[that's a corker](#)
[that's a crock \(of shit\) \[B\]](#)
[that's all she wrote](#)
[that's cool](#)
[that's his bible](#)
[that's life](#)
[that's stretching it](#)
[that's that](#)
[that's the spirit](#)

[that's the ticket](#)
[that's the way the ball bounces](#)
[that's the way the cookie crumbles](#)
[the one that got away](#)
[the powers that be](#)
[throw that in](#)
[to hell with that \[B\]](#)
[top that](#)
[try that](#)
[try that on for size](#)
[twig to that](#)
[wipe that smile off your face](#)

that'll

[that'll be the day](#)
[that'll be the frosty Friday](#)

their

[by the skin of their teeth](#)
[dig in their heels](#)
[draw their fire](#)
[rain on their parade](#)
[roll their eyes](#)
[step on their toes](#)
[worth their weight in gold](#)

themselves

[the Lord helps those who help themselves](#)

then

[and then some](#)
[then and there](#)

there

[be there](#)
[be there for me](#)
[be there or be square](#)
[being there](#)
[don't go there](#)
[don't want to go there](#)
[hang in there](#)
[head down there](#)
[head up there](#)
[hi there](#)
[it's a jungle out there](#)
[it's a whole nother world out there](#)
[it's a whole other world out there](#)

[it's a zoo in there](#)
[not all there](#)
[put 'er there](#)
[put her there](#)
[then and there](#)
[there are two sides to every story](#)
[there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so](#)
[there you go](#)
[there's a catch to it](#)
[there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip](#)
[there's more than meets the eye](#)
[there's more than one way to skin a cat](#)
[there's no love lost](#)
[there's no tomorrow](#)
[there's no two ways about it](#)
[there's not much to choose between them](#)
[there's nothing to it](#)
[there's one born every minute](#)
[there's something fishy](#)
[there's something rotten in the state of Denmark](#)
[where there's a will, there's a way](#)
[yonder over there](#)
[you had to be there](#)

these

[in these parts](#)
[these parts](#)

thick

[a little thick](#)
[thick](#)
[thick as a brick](#)
[through thick and thin](#)

thicker

[blood is thicker than water](#)

thin

[into thin air](#)
[on thin ice](#)
[skate on thin ice](#)
[through thick and thin](#)

thing

[a sure thing](#)
[all things being equal](#)
[all things to all people](#)

[any old thing](#)
[do your own thing](#)
[don't know the first thing about it](#)
[have things in hand](#)
[know the first thing...](#)
[patch things up](#)
[put things in perspective](#)
[seeing things](#)
[sure thing](#)
[tell him a thing or two](#)
[the best things in life are free](#)
[things are looking up](#)
[winning isn't everything; it's the only thing](#)
[work things out](#)

thing-a-ma-bob

[thing-a-ma-bob / thing-a-ma-jig](#)

thing-a-ma-jig

[thing-a-ma-bob / thing-a-ma-jig](#)

think

[come to think of it](#)
[don't think so](#)
[think better of it](#)
[think nothing of it](#)
[think outside the box](#)
[think over](#)
[think straight](#)
[think tank](#)
[think the world of](#)
[think through](#)
[think up](#)
[who do you think you are](#)

thinking

[big-sky thinking](#)
[there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so](#)
[what was I thinking of](#)
[wishful thinking](#)

third

[give me the third degree](#)
[go down for the third time](#)
[the third degree](#)
[third degree](#)

thirst

[work up a thirst](#)

thirties

[dirty thirties](#)

[hungry thirties](#)

this

[at this point in time](#)

[blow this joint](#)

[blow this Popsicle stand](#)

[check this out](#)

[crack this case](#)

[eyeball this](#)

[get this monkey off my back](#)

[get this show on the road](#)

[get this straight](#)

[let this chance go by](#)

[not long for this world](#)

[out of this world](#)

[peep this](#)

[quit this place](#)

[take this job and shove it \[B\]](#)

[this mortal coil](#)

[this one is on me](#)

[what did I do to deserve this](#)

thorn

[a thorn in my side](#)

[thorn in my side](#)

those

[along those lines](#)

[pen those words/lines](#)

[the Lord helps those who help themselves](#)

thought

[a penny for your thoughts](#)

[collect my thoughts](#)

[food for thought](#)

[lose my train of thought](#)

[penny for your thoughts](#)

[train of thought](#)

thousand

[a picture is worth a thousand words](#)

[bat a thousand](#)

[picture is worth a thousand words](#)

trash

[thrash](#)

thread

[a common thread](#)

[threads](#)

three

[fish and company stink after three days](#)

[three sheets to the wind](#)

[three slices short \(of a full loaf\)](#)

[two's company, three's a crowd](#)

three-bagger

[a three-bagger \(baseball\)](#)

[a three-bagger](#)

[three-bagger](#)

throat

[cut your own throat](#)

[down my throat](#)

[ram down your throat](#)

[shove down my throat](#)

throes

[in the throes](#)

throne

[on the throne](#)

throttle

[full throttle](#)

through

[come through](#)

[dragged through a...](#)

[fall through](#)

[fall through the cracks](#)

[follow through](#)

[go through](#)

[go through the roof](#)

[jump through hoops](#)

[just passing through](#)

[like shit through a goose](#)

[look like he was dragged through a knothole](#)

[pass through](#)

[pay through the nose](#)

[pull through](#)

[put you through the mill](#)

[put yourself through college](#)

[run through](#)

[see it through](#)
[see through](#)
[see you through](#)
[shit through a goose](#)
[talk through your hat](#)
[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)
[think through](#)
[through the grapevine](#)
[through the mill](#)
[through the roof](#)
[through the wringer](#)
[through thick and thin](#)
[walk through](#)
[went through the roof](#)

throw

[a stone's throw](#)
[people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones](#)
[stone's throw](#)
[throw a curve](#)
[throw a game](#)
[throw a kiss](#)
[throw a monkey wrench into the works](#)
[throw a party](#)
[throw a tantrum](#)
[throw away](#)
[throw caution to the wind](#)
[throw chunks](#)
[throw cold water on](#)
[throw down your arms](#)
[throw good money after bad](#)
[throw in the towel](#)
[throw insults](#)
[throw me for a loop](#)
[throw on a dog for you](#)
[throw out](#)
[throw some light on](#)
[throw that in](#)
[throw the baby out with the bath water](#)
[throw the book at](#)
[throw up](#)
[throw you](#)
[throw you to the dogs](#)

[throw your weight around](#)

[throw yourself at him](#)

thrown

[thrown in](#)

thumb

[all thumbs](#)

[green thumb](#)

[rule of thumb](#)

[stick out like a sore thumb](#)

[under your thumb](#)

thunder

[steal your thunder](#)

tick

[as full as a tick](#)

[full as a tick](#)

[tick over](#)

ticked

[ticked off](#)

ticket

[a hot ticket](#)

[get a ticket](#)

[hot ticket](#)

[that's the ticket](#)

ticketed

[ticketed](#)

tickety-boo

[tickety-boo](#)

tickled

[tickled pink](#)

tiddly

[tiddly](#)

tide

[the tide turned](#)

[tide me over](#)

[tide turned](#)

tie

[tie in](#)

[tie into](#)

[tie one on](#)

[tie up](#)

[tie up loose ends](#)

tied

[fit to be tied](#)

[hands are tied](#)
[piano tied to your ass \[B\]](#)
[tied to your mother's apron strings](#)
[tied up](#)

tight

[in a tight spot](#)
[sit tight](#)
[tight race](#)
[tight spot](#)

tight-ass

[tight-ass \[B\]](#)

tighten

[tighten our belts](#)

tighttight

[tight/tight fisted](#)

till

[it ain't over till it's over](#)
[it ain't over till the fat lady sings](#)
[miss the water till...](#)
[till hell freezes over](#)
[till the cows come home](#)
[till you're blue in the face](#)
[you don't miss the water till the well runs dry](#)

tilt

[full tilt](#)

time

[a bad time](#)
[a dickens of a time](#)
[a hard time](#)
[a hell of a time](#)
[a rough time](#)
[a rough time of it](#)
[a stitch in time saves nine](#)
[a tough time of it](#)
[about time](#)
[at one time](#)
[at this point in time](#)
[beat your time](#)
[big time](#)
[buy time](#)
[catch you at a bad time](#)
[dickens of a time](#)

[do time](#)
[easy time of it](#)
[from time to time](#)
[give me a bad time](#)
[give you a hard time](#)
[give you a rough time](#)
[go down for the third time](#)
[good time](#)
[hard times](#)
[have a good time](#)
[hell of a time](#)
[high time](#)
[how time flies](#)
[in a long time](#)
[in no time](#)
[in the nick of time](#)
[in time](#)
[just in time](#)
[keep up with the times](#)
[kill time](#)
[lean times](#)
[let the good times roll](#)
[long time no see](#)
[lose time](#)
[make good time](#)
[nine times out of ten](#)
[on time](#)
[once upon a time](#)
[one at a time](#)
[one hell of a time](#)
[put in time](#)
[spend time](#)
[stitch in time](#)
[take time to smell the roses](#)
[take your time](#)
[take your sweet time](#)
[time and again](#)
[time flies when you're having fun](#)
[time is money](#)
[time is of the essence](#)
[time off](#)
[time on your hands](#)

[time out](#)
[time ran out](#)
[time stands still](#)
[time to kill](#)
[time to time](#)
[time's a wasting](#)
[time's up](#)
[times were hard](#)
[tough times](#)
[waste no time](#)

tin

[tin ear](#)
[tin Lizzie](#)

tintype

[not on your tintype](#)

tip

[on the tip of my tongue](#)
[the tip of the iceberg](#)
[tip a few](#)
[tip of my tongue](#)
[tip of the hat](#)
[tip of the iceberg](#)
[tip the scales](#)
[tip the scales at](#)
[tip your hand](#)

tipsy

[tipsy](#)

tired

[born tired](#)
[dead tired](#)
[dog tired](#)
[tired of](#)
[tired out](#)

tit

[as useless as tits on a boar](#)
[get your tits in a wringer](#)
[suck the hind tit \[B\]](#)
[tit for tat](#)
[tits and ass \(T & A\) \[B\]](#)
[tits in a wringer](#)
[tits up \[B\]](#)
[useless as the tits...](#)

| | |
|-------|--|
| titch | |
|-------|--|

[a titch](#)[just a titch](#)[titch](#)

| | |
|-------|--|
| titty | |
|-------|--|

[tough titty](#)

| | |
|-------|--|
| tizzy | |
|-------|--|

[in a tizzy](#)

| | |
|----|--|
| to | |
|----|--|

[a bite to eat](#)[a bone to pick](#)[a hard row to hoe](#)[a party to that](#)[a pinch to grow an inch](#)[a score to settle](#)[a talking to](#)[a tough act to follow](#)[a tough row to hoe](#)[a word to the wise is sufficient](#)[according to Hoyle](#)[add fuel to the fire](#)[add insult to injury](#)[all it's cracked up to be](#)[all the way to Egery and back](#)[all things to all people](#)[an axe to grind](#)[angels fear to tread](#)[armed to the teeth](#)[away to the races](#)[axe to grind](#)[back to square one](#)[back to the drawing board](#)[back to the grind](#)[beg to differ](#)[belly up to the bar](#)[bet you dollars to donuts](#)[better to have loved...](#)[bigger fish to fry](#)[blow to kingdom come](#)[bone to pick](#)[bring an end to](#)[bring to a close](#)

[bumper to bumper](#)
[call attention to](#)
[chalk it up to](#)
[chickens come home to roost](#)
[claim to fame](#)
[close to the vest](#)
[come back to haunt you](#)
[come down to earth](#)
[come home to roost](#)
[come to](#)
[come to a head](#)
[come to fruition](#)
[come to grips with](#)
[come to terms](#)
[come to terms with](#)
[come to the point](#)
[come to think of it](#)
[cotton to that](#)
[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)
[cross my heart and hope to die](#)
[cross over to the other side](#)
[cross that bridge when I come to it](#)
[cut me to the quick](#)
[cut off your nose to spite your face](#)
[cut to the chase](#)
[cut you down to size](#)
[cut you to ribbons](#)
[dead to the world](#)
[dollars to donuts](#)
[don't teach your grandmother how to suck eggs](#)
[don't want to go there](#)
[done to a turn](#)
[door to door](#)
[down to a T](#)
[down to brass tacks](#)
[down to earth](#)
[down to the short strokes](#)
[down to the wire](#)
[draw attention to](#)
[draw it to my attention](#)
[dressed fit to kill](#)
[dressed to the nines](#)

[drive me to the edge](#)
[drive you to distraction](#)
[drive you to drink](#)
[dying to know](#)
[each to his own](#)
[ear to the ground](#)
[everything from soup to nuts](#)
[eye to eye](#)
[fair to middling](#)
[fall to pieces](#)
[fit to be tied](#)
[fixing to](#)
[frightened to death](#)
[from hand to mouth](#)
[from pillar to post](#)
[from rags to riches](#)
[from soup to nuts](#)
[from stem to stern](#)
[from time to time](#)
[get around to](#)
[get down to brass tacks](#)
[get down to business](#)
[get off to a good start](#)
[get to first base](#)
[get to it](#)
[get to me](#)
[get to the bottom of](#)
[get to the point](#)
[get to the root of the problem](#)
[give it to him](#)
[give it to me straight](#)
[glued to the set](#)
[go to any trouble](#)
[go to bat for](#)
[go to great lengths/ go to any lengths](#)
[go to hell \[B\]](#)
[go to hell in a handbasket](#)
[go to pieces](#)
[go to pot](#)
[go to town](#)
[go to trouble](#)
[go to your head](#)

[going to the mountains](#)

[going to town](#)

[gone to pot](#)

[gone to the dogs](#)

[good to go](#)

[grab a bite to eat](#)

[Greek to me](#)

[grind to a halt](#)

[groaty to the max](#)

[had it up to here](#)

[hand to mouth](#)

[hang you out to dry](#)

[hard row to hoe](#)

[hard to believe](#)

[hard to get](#)

[hard to swallow](#)

[hard to take](#)

[have a mind to](#)

[have half a mind to](#)

[have to](#)

[have to go](#)

[have to go some](#)

[have to hand it to you](#)

[heavens to Betsy](#)

[hell to pay \[B\]](#)

[here's to](#)

[if you're born to hang, you won't drown](#)

[it appears to me](#)

[it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all](#)

[it occurs to me](#)

[it seems to me](#)

[it takes one to know one](#)

[it takes two to tango](#)

[it was Greek to me](#)

[it's up to you](#)

[jump to conclusions](#)

[keep it to yourself](#)

[keep to yourself](#)

[keep your ear to the ground](#)

[keep your nose to the grindstone](#)

[knee high to a grasshopper](#)

[led to believe](#)

[let it go to your head](#)
[live up to](#)
[loaded to the hilt](#)
[look up to](#)
[make yourself to home](#)
[money to burn](#)
[more power to you](#)
[move you to tears](#)
[music to my ears](#)
[need money to make...](#)
[needless to say](#)
[no truth to it](#)
[not to worry](#)
[nothing to it](#)
[nothing to sneeze at](#)
[nothing to write home about](#)
[off to a bad start](#)
[off to a good start](#)
[off to the races](#)
[open to criticism](#)
[open to question](#)
[other fish to fry](#)
[out to get you](#)
[out to lunch](#)
[out to win](#)
[party to that](#)
[pedal to the metal](#)
[piano tied to your ass \[B\]](#)
[pinch to grow an inch](#)
[pissed to the gills \[B\]](#)
[play hard to get](#)
[play to the crowd](#)
[power to burn](#)
[praise him to the skies](#)
[preach to the choir/preach to the converted](#)
[price you have to pay](#)
[push me \(to the limit\)](#)
[put an end to](#)
[put to bed \(print media\)](#)
[put to death](#)
[put to rest](#)
[put to shame](#)

[put to the test](#)
[put your mind to it](#)
[put your shoulder to the wheel](#)
[rags to riches](#)
[reduce to tears](#)
[relate to that](#)
[rise to the occasion](#)
[road to hell is paved...](#)
[rob Peter to pay Paul](#)
[rotten to the core](#)
[same to you](#)
[scared to death](#)
[score to settle](#)
[see eye to eye](#)
[see to it/see to that](#)
[sentence to death](#)
[set out to](#)
[shoulder to shoulder](#)
[shoulder to the wheel](#)
[shuck on down to the fraidy hole](#)
[sick to death](#)
[sick to my stomach](#)
[sloshed to the gills](#)
[so small you had to back out to change your mind](#)
[so to speak](#)
[sock it to me](#)
[stand to lose](#)
[stand up to](#)
[stem to stern](#)
[step up to the plate](#)
[stick to it](#)
[stick to your guns](#)
[suck up to](#)
[take a shine to](#)
[take exception to](#)
[take it to heart](#)
[take my hat off to](#)
[take time to smell the roses](#)
[take you to court](#)
[take you to task](#)
[take you to the cleaners](#)
[takes one to know one](#)

[takes two to tango](#)
[talk to the hand](#)
[tell him where to get off](#)
[tell him where to go](#)
[the key to success](#)
[the price you have to pay](#)
[the road to hell is paved with good intentions](#)
[the room is so small you have to go outside turn around](#)
[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)
[there are two sides to every story](#)
[there's a catch to it](#)
[there's more than one way to skin a cat](#)
[there's not much to choose between them](#)
[there's nothing to it](#)
[three sheets to the wind](#)
[throw caution to the wind](#)
[throw you to the dogs](#)
[tied to your mother's apron strings](#)
[time to kill](#)
[time to time](#)
[to a fault](#)
[to a man](#)
[to a T](#)
[to be perfectly honest](#)
[to beat the band](#)
[to blame](#)
[to boot](#)
[to coin a phrase](#)
[to each his own](#)
[to go](#)
[to heart](#)
[to hell and gone](#)
[to hell with that \[B\]](#)
[to perfection](#)
[to the best of my knowledge](#)
[to the max](#)
[to the nth degree](#)
[to top it off](#)
[too hot to handle](#)
[tough act to follow](#)
[tough row to hoe](#)
[twig to that](#)

[two sides to every story](#)[up to](#)[up to date](#)[up to it](#)[up to my ears](#)[up to no good](#)[up to par](#)[up to scratch](#)[up to snuff](#)[up to something](#)[up to speed](#)[up to you](#)[used to](#)[wait for the other shoe to drop](#)[want to make something of it](#)[way to go](#)[well to do](#)[went to bat for](#)[what did I do to deserve this](#)[what it boils down to](#)[when it comes to](#)[when push comes to shove](#)[where angels fear to tread](#)[wise to us](#)[word to the wise](#)[work my fingers to the bone](#)[work to rule](#)[you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink](#)[you had to be there](#)[you have to be good to be lucky](#)[you need money to make money](#)[you've got to be kidding](#)

to-do

[make a big to-do](#)[to-do](#)

toast

[toast](#)

toe

[camel toes \[B\]](#)[on your toes](#)[step on their toes](#)[toe the line](#)

[twinkle toes](#)

together

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| | |
|--------------|---|
| trickle-down | trickle-down economics |
| tried | tried and true |
| trifle | trifle with me |
| trip | ego trip lay a trip power trip |
| trouble | don't borrow trouble get into trouble go to any trouble go to trouble in deep trouble in trouble make trouble take the trouble |
| trucking | keep on trucking |
| true | come true tried and true true blue true colors |
| truly | yours truly |
| truth | a grain of truth gospel truth moment of truth no truth to it stretch the truth the gospel truth the moment of truth |
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| under | buckle under cool under pressure crack under the strain down under drink you under the table get under my skin go under hot under the collar keep under wraps start a fire under him sweep under the carpet under a spell under arrest under control under fire under his own steam under my belt under my breath |

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|----------|--|
| vacation | on vacation |
| vale | vale of tears (valley of tears) |
| valley | vale of tears (valley of tears) |
| valor | discretion is the better part of valor |
| value | at face value |
| vamoose | vamoose |
| variety | variety is the spice of life |
| veg | vegetate (veg out) |
| vegetate | vegetate (veg out) |
| vein | in that vein |
| ventured | nothing ventured, nothing gained |
| verge | on the verge |
| very | by its very nature |
| vest | close to the vest |
| victory | snatch victory from the jaws of defeat |
| vie | c'est la vie |
| view | in plain view point of view |

| | |
|---------|--|
| vinegar | full of piss and vinegar [B] |
| violet | no shrinking violet shrinking violet |
| vip | VIP |
| virgin | skin virgin virgin territory |
| virtual | virtual reality |
| vision | tunnel vision |
| visit | pay a visit visit a spell |
| voice | at the top of his voice find your voice |
| volumes | speak volumes |
| vote | cast your vote vote of thanks |

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| wack | |
| | wack |
| wacko | |
| | wacko |
| wacky | |
| | wacky |
| wad | |
| | blow your wad shoot your wad |
| wag | |
| | a chin wag chin wag |
| wages | |
| | freeze wages |
| wagging | |
| | tail wagging the dog the tail wagging the dog |
| wagon | |
| | fall off the wagon fix your wagon off the wagon on the wagon shagging wagon |
| wahoozey | |
| | up the wahoozey |
| wait | |
| | wait a minute wait a sec wait around wait for the other shoe to drop wait on customers wait on tables wait on you hand and foot wait up wait up for |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| | wait with bated breath |
| wake | |
| | wake up |
| | wake up and smell the coffee |
| | wake up on the wrong side of bed |
| | wake with a start |
| wake-up | |
| | a wake-up call |
| | wake-up call |
| walk | |
| | all walks of life |
| | every walk of life |
| | walk |
| | walk a straight line |
| | walk down |
| | walk of life |
| | walk on eggshells |
| | walk the plank |
| | walk the talk |
| | walk through |
| | walk up |
| | worship the ground she walks on |
| walk-through | |
| | walk-through |
| wall | |
| | a fly on the wall |
| | beat your head against a stone wall |
| | climb the walls |
| | drive me up the wall |
| | fly on the wall |
| | off the wall |
| | the handwriting is on the wall |
| | wall flower |
| wane | |
| | on the wane |
| want | |
| | don't want to go there |
| | go tell your mother she wants you |
| | want a piece of me |
| | want it so bad I can taste it |
| | want to make something of it |
| | waste not, want not |
| | |

| | |
|----------|---|
| war | a blackout (war) all's fair in love and war make war |
| warhorse | an old warhorse |
| warm | warm up |
| warmed | death warmed over look like death warmed over warmed over |
| warped | warped sense of humor |
| was | air was blue it was a lark it was Greek to me look like he was dragged through a knothole the air was blue what was I thinking of wouldn't say shit if her mouth was full of it [B] |
| wash | a wash come out in the wash doesn't wash wash wash down wash it down wash it off wash out wash your hands of it |
| wash-out | a wash-out wash-out |
| washed | all washed up washed up |
| washer | chief cook and bottle washer |
| wasn't | wasn't born yesterday |
| wasp | |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| | WASP |
| waste | |
| | lay waste waste no time waste not, want not |
| wasted | |
| | wasted |
| wasting | |
| | time's a wasting |
| watch | |
| | shit or wind my watch watch me like a hawk watch out watch out for watch over watch over like a mother hawk watch your every move watch your language watch your P's and Q's watch your step |
| water | |
| | blood is thicker than water blow you out of the water come hell or high water dead in the water hold water in hot water keep your head above water make your mouth water miss the water till... pass water running water test the water throw cold water on throw the baby out with the bath water water down water under the bridge you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink you don't miss the water till the well runs dry |
| water-cooler | |
| | water-cooler talk |
| watering | |

| | |
|------------|--|
| | watering hole |
| watershed | |
| | mark a watershed watershed mark |
| wave | |
| | catch the wave don't make waves make waves new wave ride the wave |
| wavelength | |
| | on the same wavelength |
| wax | |
| | the whole ball of wax wax eloquent wax poetic |
| way | |
| | a way with words all the way to Egery and back any way you slice it by the way can't have it both ways do it the hard way find a way around find your way get her way get your way go all the way (sex) go all the way (sports) go out of your way go the way of the dodo have it both ways have it your way hold your mouth the right way in a bad way in a big way in a family way in any way, shape or form in the worst way know your way around look the other way make way |

[make your way](#)
[meet you half way](#)
[no bloody way](#)
[no fucking way \[B\]](#)
[no way](#)
[on my way](#)
[on your way](#)
[out of harm's way](#)
[out of the way](#)
[pave the way](#)
[pay your way](#)
[rub the wrong way](#)
[see your way](#)
[set in her ways](#)
[take it the wrong way](#)
[that's the way the ball bounces](#)
[that's the way the cookie crumbles](#)
[the hard way](#)
[the way I see it](#)
[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)
[the way you hold your mouth](#)
[there's more than one way to skin a cat](#)
[there's no two ways about it](#)
[turn the other way](#)
[under way](#)
[way cool](#)
[way out \(away out\)](#)
[way out of line \(away out of line\)](#)
[way to go](#)
[way you hold your...](#)
[where there's a will, there's a way](#)

we

[know where we stand](#)

weak-kneed

[weak-kneed](#)

wear

[if the shoe fits, wear it](#)
[none the worse for wear](#)
[wear down](#)
[wear off](#)
[wear out](#)
[wear out your welcome](#)

| | |
|---------|---|
| | wear the pants |
| | wear your heart on your sleeve |
| | worse for wear |
| weasel | |
| | weasel word |
| weather | |
| | under the weather |
| | weather the storm |
| web | |
| | World Wide Web (www) |
| weed | |
| | kick the weed |
| | weed out |
| weep | |
| | read them and weep |
| weigh | |
| | weigh in at |
| weight | |
| | carry weight |
| | carry your weight |
| | pull your weight |
| | throw your weight around |
| | worth their weight in gold |
| weirdo | |
| | weirdo |
| wekabi | |
| | wekabi |
| welcome | |
| | more than welcome |
| | wear out your welcome |
| well | |
| | all goes well |
| | all's well that ends well |
| | bloody well |
| | leave well enough alone |
| | mean well |
| | point is well taken |
| | well heeled |
| | well hung [B] |
| | well off |
| | well taken |
| | well to do |
| | you don't miss the water till the well runs dry |

went

[went through the roof](#)[went to bat for](#)[went under](#)[went wild](#)

were

[times were hard](#)

wet

[all wet](#)[get your feet wet](#)[still wet behind the ears](#)[wet behind the ears](#)[wet the bed](#)[wet your whistle](#)

whack

[out of whack](#)[whack](#)[whack off \[B\]](#)

whale

[a whale of a game](#)[whale of a game](#)

whammy

[double whammy](#)

what

[give them what for](#)[give you what for](#)[got what it takes](#)[have what it takes](#)[it's not what you know, it's who you know](#)[practice what you preach](#)[reap what you sow](#)[say what](#)[say what's on your mind](#)[so what](#)[what a brain](#)[what a dish](#)[what a rigmarole](#)[what a rush](#)[what came over me](#)[what did I do to deserve this](#)[what gives](#)[what goes around comes around](#)

[what if](#)
[what in tarnation](#)
[what in the name of heaven](#)
[what in the world](#)
[what it boils down to](#)
[what the dickens](#)
[what the hay](#)
[what the heck](#)
[what the hell \[B\]](#)
[what the Sam Hill](#)
[what was I thinking of](#)
[what you don't know won't hurt you](#)
[what's cooking](#)
[what's eating you](#)
[what's going down](#)
[what's going on](#)
[what's good for the goose is good for the gander](#)
[what's in it for me](#)
[what's new](#)
[what's the big idea](#)
[what's the poop](#)
[what's up](#)
[what's what](#)
[what's your beef](#)
[what's your poison](#)

what's-his-face

[what's-his-face](#)

what-cha-ma-call-it

[what-cha-ma-call-it](#)

what-if

[what-if](#)

whatever

[whatever floats your boat](#)

whatsoever

[you reap whatsoever you sow](#)

wheatbelt

[wheatbelt](#)

wheel

[a big wheel](#)

[a fifth wheel](#)

[as useless as a fifth wheel](#)

[at the wheel](#)

[big wheel](#)
[fifth wheel](#)
[put your shoulder to the wheel](#)
[set of wheels](#)
[shoulder to the wheel](#)
[spin your wheels](#)
[the squeaky wheel gets the grease](#)
[the wheels fall off](#)
[useless as a fifth wheel](#)
[wheels](#)
[wheels fall off](#)

wheeler-dealer

[wheeler-dealer](#)

when

[cross that bridge when I come to it](#)
[time flies when you're having fun](#)
[when in Rome, do as the Romans do](#)
[when it comes to](#)
[when it rains it pours](#)
[when push comes to shove](#)
[when the chips are down](#)
[when the crunch comes](#)
[when the dust settles](#)
[when the going gets tough](#)
[zig when you should zag](#)

where

[I smell where you're stepping](#)
[know where we stand](#)
[let the chips fall where they may](#)
[love is where you find it](#)
[put your money where your mouth is](#)
[smell where you're stepping](#)
[tell him where to get off](#)
[tell him where to go](#)
[where angels fear to tread](#)
[where do they get off](#)
[where it's at](#)
[where the rubber hits the road](#)
[where there's a will, there's a way](#)
[where's the loo](#)

whet

[whet your appetite](#)

| | |
|---------|---|
| whether | don't know whether you're coming or going |
| whew | whew |
| which | don't know which end is up don't know which side your bread is buttered on know which end is up know which side your bread is buttered on |
| while | make hay while the sun shines quit while you're ahead strike while the iron is hot |
| whip | whip you whip you into shape |
| whipped | pussy whipped |
| whirl | give it a whirl |
| whistle | all the bells and whistles as clean as a whistle bells and whistles blow the whistle wet your whistle |
| white | Great White Hope Great White North in black and white little white lie The Great White Hope The Great White North white elephant white knuckles white lie |
| whiz | gee whiz have a whiz take a whiz whiz |
| who | dance with the one who brought you |

[he who hesitates is lost](#)

[it's not what you know, it's who you know](#)

[Joe Who](#)

[people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones](#)

[the Lord helps those who help themselves](#)

[who cares](#)

[who do you think you are](#)

whole

[it's a whole nother world out there](#)

[it's a whole other world out there](#)

[on the whole](#)

[the whole ball of wax](#)

[the whole caboodle](#)

[the whole nine yards](#)

[the whole shebang](#)

[the whole shooting match](#)

[the whole works](#)

[whole hog](#)

[whole shebang](#)

[whole shooting match](#)

whoop-ass

[open up a big can of whoop-ass](#)

whoopee

[make whoopee](#)

whore

[whore blossom](#)

whup

[whup you](#)

[whup your ass](#)

why

[why in the name of...](#)

[why in the world](#)

wicked

[no rest for the wicked](#)

[wicked](#)

wide

[cut a wide swath](#)

[wide awake](#)

[World Wide Web \(www\)](#)

wig

[a big wig](#)

[big wigs](#)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| wild | a wild goose chase go hog wild go wild sow wild oats went wild wild wild about wild and woolly wild goose chase |
| wildfire | spread like wildfire |
| will | at will boys will be boys flattery will get you nowhere heads will roll if you're born to hang, you won't drown paths will cross what you don't know won't hurt you where there's a will, there's a way won't see you stuck won't tell a soul |
| willickers | gee willickers |
| willy-nilly | willy-nilly |
| wimp | wimp |
| wimpy | wimpy |
| win | out to win win big win by a nose win going away win the hearts |
| wind | a breath of wind breath of wind get wind of knock the wind out of his sails |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| | like the wind out of wind pass wind pissing into the wind [B] second wind shit or wind my watch three sheets to the wind throw caution to the wind wind up |
| windbag | windbag |
| winded | winded |
| window | a window of opportunity open a window window of opportunity window on the world |
| windstorm | a fart in a windstorm fart in a windstorm [B] |
| wing | on the wing under my wing wing it with wings |
| wingding | wingding |
| wingnut | wingnut |
| wingy | wingy |
| wink | in the wink of an eye |
| winner | winner take all |
| winning | winning isn't everything; it's the only thing winning streak |
| wino | wino |
| wipe | wipe out |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| | wipe that smile off your face wipe you |
| wire | down to the wire get your wires crossed pull your wire [B] under the wire |
| wired | wired wired for sound |
| wise | a word to the wise is sufficient penny wise, dollar dumb penny wise, pound foolish street wise wise to us word to the wise worldly wise |
| wish | death wish |
| wishful | wishful thinking |
| wishy-washy | wishy-washy |
| wit | a sharp wit at my wits' end match wits scared out of my wits |
| with | a way with words born with a silver spoon in his mouth brush with death brush with the law catch up with caught with his pants down come down with come out with come to grips with come to terms with come up with crawling with |

[curl up with a good book](#)
[dance with the one who brought you](#)
[do away with](#)
[do with](#)
[don't get smart with me](#)
[done with it](#)
[down with](#)
[fight fire with fire](#)
[friends with](#)
[get away with](#)
[get it over with](#)
[get on with it](#)
[get with it](#)
[go along with](#)
[go around with](#)
[go out with](#)
[go with the flow](#)
[green with envy](#)
[have a word with you](#)
[hit me with your best shot](#)
[hook up with](#)
[if you're not with us you're against us](#)
[in keeping with](#)
[it goes with the territory](#)
[it's over/ it's over with](#)
[jump in with both feet](#)
[keep up with the Joneses](#)
[keep up with the times](#)
[kill two birds \(with one stone\)](#)
[knock around with](#)
[knock me over with a feather](#)
[level with you](#)
[make off with](#)
[meet up with](#)
[mess with](#)
[mop the floor with us](#)
[not playing with a full deck](#)
[not with it](#)
[off with](#)
[off with you](#)
[over and done with](#)
[over with](#)

[paint with the same brush](#)
[part with](#)
[play havoc with](#)
[play with fire](#)
[put up with](#)
[roll with the punches](#)
[rub shoulders with](#)
[saddled with](#)
[short with me](#)
[sit with you](#)
[start with a bang](#)
[take it with a grain of salt](#)
[take with a grain of salt](#)
[tangle with](#)
[tar with the same brush](#)
[the road to hell is paved with good intentions](#)
[throw the baby out with the bath water](#)
[to hell with that \[B\]](#)
[touch it with a ten-foot pole](#)
[toy with](#)
[trifle with me](#)
[up with](#)
[wait with bated breath](#)
[wake with a start](#)
[with all my heart](#)
[with bated breath](#)
[with bells on](#)
[with his tail between his legs](#)
[with it](#)
[with the naked eye](#)
[with wings](#)

within

[within earshot](#)

without

[do without](#)
[go without](#)
[it goes without saying](#)
[past is slipping by without a trace](#)
[the past is slipping by without a trace](#)
[without a doubt](#)
[without a full deck](#)
[without a hitch](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| | without a stitch of clothes on |
| | without a word of a lie |
| | without batting an eye |
| | without question |
| | without turning a hair |
| wives | |
| | old wives' tale |
| wolf | |
| | a wolf in sheep's clothing |
| | keep the wolf from the door |
| | the wolf is at the door |
| | the wolf knocking |
| | wolf down |
| | wolf in sheep's clothing |
| woman | |
| | a kept woman |
| | fallen woman |
| | kept woman |
| wonder | |
| | wonder of wonders |
| wonky | |
| | wonky |
| wood | |
| | a babe in the woods |
| | babe in the woods |
| | get good wood on |
| | good wood on it |
| | neck of the woods |
| | out of the woods |
| | touch wood |
| woodwork | |
| | out of the woodwork |
| woof | |
| | woof your cookies |
| wool | |
| | dyed in the wool |
| | pull the wool over your eyes |
| woolly | |
| | wild and woolly |
| woozy | |
| | woozy |
| word | |
| | a man of few words |

[a picture is worth a thousand words](#)

[a play on words](#)

[a way with words](#)

[a word to the wise is sufficient](#)

[actions speak louder than words](#)

[any word](#)

[at a loss for words](#)

[by word of mouth](#)

[doesn't mince words](#)

[eat your words](#)

[famous last words](#)

[four-letter words](#)

[from the word go](#)

[get the word out](#)

[give your word](#)

[hang on every word](#)

[have a word with you](#)

[keep your word](#)

[last word](#)

[man of few words](#)

[mark my words](#)

[mince words](#)

[mum's the word](#)

[nary a word](#)

[no word](#)

[on my word](#)

[picture is worth a thousand words](#)

[play on words](#)

[put in a good word for](#)

[say the word](#)

[spread the word](#)

[take your word for it](#)

[the last word](#)

[twist your words](#)

[upon my word](#)

[upon the words offhandedly spoken](#)

[weasel word](#)

[without a word of a lie](#)

[word for word](#)

[word is good](#)

[word is out](#)

[word of honor](#)

| | |
|------------|--|
| | word of mouth |
| | word to the wise |
| wordslines | |
| | pen those words/lines |
| wordsmith | |
| | a wordsmith |
| | wordsmith |
| work | |
| | all in a day's work |
| | all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy |
| | dirty work |
| | have my work cut out |
| | in the works |
| | it works |
| | keep up the good work |
| | leg work |
| | out of work |
| | spade work |
| | the devil makes work for idle hands |
| | the whole works |
| | throw a monkey wrench into the works |
| | work |
| | work cut out for |
| | work ethic |
| | work it out |
| | work my buns off |
| | work my fingers to the bone |
| | work of art |
| | work off |
| | work out |
| | work the room |
| | work things out |
| | work to rule |
| | work up a sweat |
| | work up a thirst |
| | work your ass off [B] |
| | work your buns off |
| workaholic | |
| | workaholic |
| worked | |
| | get worked up |
| | worked up |

| | |
|---------|--|
| worker | blue-collar worker |
| workout | workout |
| world | all the world's a stage best of both worlds dead to the world it's a whole nother world out there it's a whole other world out there not long for this world out of this world set the world on fire the best of both worlds the world is your oyster think the world of what in the world why in the world window on the world world beater world is your oyster World Wide Web (www) worlds apart wouldn't miss it for the world |
| worldly | worldly wise |
| worm | book worm can of worms open a can of worms the early bird gets the worm |
| worn | worn out |
| worried | worried sick |
| worry | not to worry |
| worse | bark is worse than his bite for better or worse make it worse none the worse for wear |

| | |
|----------|---|
| | worse for wear |
| worship | |
| | worship the ground she walks on |
| worst | |
| | in the worst way |
| | own worst enemy |
| | your own worst enemy |
| worth | |
| | a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush |
| | a picture is worth a thousand words |
| | an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure |
| | not worth a plugged nickel |
| | picture is worth a thousand words |
| | play it for all it's worth |
| | two cents' worth |
| | worth their weight in gold |
| would | |
| | as luck would have it |
| | do unto others as you would have them do unto you |
| wouldn't | |
| | butter wouldn't melt in his mouth |
| | wouldn't be caught dead |
| | wouldn't miss it for the world |
| | wouldn't say shit if her mouth was full of it [B] |
| wound | |
| | lick your wounds |
| | rub salt in the wound |
| | wound up |
| wow | |
| | wow |
| wrap | |
| | keep under wraps |
| | under wraps |
| | wrap around his finger |
| | wrap it up |
| | wrap up |
| | wrap your mind around |
| wrap-up | |
| | wrap-up |
| wreak | |
| | wreak havoc |
| wrench | |
| | throw a monkey wrench into the works |

| | |
|----------|---|
| wringer | get your tits in a wringer through the wringer tits in a wringer |
| wrinkles | get the wrinkles out |
| write | nothing to write home about write it off write up |
| writer | writer's block |
| writing | in writing |
| written | written all over your face written in blood written in stone |
| wrong | bark up the wrong tree dead wrong don't get me wrong get up on the wrong side of bed go wrong rub the wrong way take it the wrong way wake up on the wrong side of bed |
| wrote | all she wrote that's all she wrote |
| wuss | wuss |
| www | World Wide Web (www) |
| wysiwyg | wysiwyg |

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Legend:
[B] bad language

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Idiom Index X

x

[Generation X](#)
[X Generation](#)
[x marks the spot](#)

x-rated

[x-rated](#)

xl

[XL](#)

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Idiom Index Y

| | |
|-----------|---|
| ya | back at ya ya |
| yada | yada |
| yak | yak |
| yang | coming out of your yin yang yin yang |
| yards | the whole nine yards |
| yarn | spin a yarn |
| yawner | a yawner yawner |
| years | get on in years getting on in years golden years on in years sunset years twilight years |
| yellow | yellow yellow belly |
| yeow | yeow |
| yep | yep |
| yeppers | yeppers |
| yesterday | wasn't born yesterday |
| | |

| | |
|--------|---|
| yikes | yikes |
| yin | coming out of your yin yang yin yang |
| yo | yo |
| yokel | local yokel yokel |
| yonder | yonder over there |
| you're | don't know whether you're coming or going I smell where you're stepping if you're born to hang, you won't drown if you're not with us you're against us quit while you're ahead smell where you're stepping till you're blue in the face time flies when you're having fun until you're blue... you're full of it [B] you're kidding you're not kidding/ you aren't kidding you're on you're only as good as your last shift |
| you've | give it all you've got take you for all you've got you've got to be kidding |
| young | young at heart |
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[jazz up](#)

[pad an expense account](#)

[plug the team](#)

[put the finishing touches on](#)

[read into](#)

[rub salt in the wound](#)

[run up](#)

[spice up](#)

[stretch the truth](#)

[sweeten the pot](#)[top it off](#)[touch up](#)[water down](#)

added

[thrown in](#)

addicted

[workaholic](#)

adding

[for good measure](#)[not by any stretch of the imagination](#)[that's stretching it](#)

addition

[by the way](#)[no-frills](#)[on the side](#)[to boot](#)

adjust

[tune in](#)

administer

[mete out](#)

administrator

[zipperhead](#)

admire

[go for](#)[look up to](#)[pay tribute](#)[think the world of](#)

admit

[come clean](#)[eat crow](#)[eat humble pie](#)[eat your words](#)[face up](#)[have to hand it to you](#)[make a clean breast of it](#)[make no bones about it](#)[own up](#)[stand corrected](#)

adorable

[cute as a bug's ear](#)

ads

[all it's cracked up to be](#)

| | |
|---------------|---|
| adult | grow up half-pint hip hop (generation) x-rated |
| advance | come onto go nowhere fast |
| advanced | state of the art |
| advantage | a blessing in disguise get in on it got you by the short hairs lose out no fair screw seize the opportunity the upper hand |
| advertise | make a splash put in a plug for |
| advertised | under wraps up for sale |
| advertisement | junk mail sound bite |
| advisor | spin doctor |
| affair | fool around |
| affect | come into play faze me hit home make a difference makes no difference play a part shrug it off wear off |
| affecting | |

[across the board](#)

afford

[see your way](#)

afraid

[bark is worse than his bite](#)

[chicken](#)

[fraidy cat](#)

[frightened to death](#)

[hold your hand](#)

[keep a stiff upper lip](#)

[make strange](#)

[make your hair stand on end](#)

[on tenterhooks](#)

[pussy whipped](#)

[quake in his boots](#)

[rile up](#)

[scaredy cat](#)

[shuck on down to the fraidy hole](#)

[sweat bullets](#)

[yellow](#)

[yellow belly](#)

[yeppers](#)

afro

[shut my mouth](#)

after

[after all](#)

[baby boomer](#)

[blue in the face](#)

[breathe a sigh of relief](#)

[chain smoker](#)

[change horses in mid stream](#)

[dead-cat bounce](#)

[eat humble pie](#)

[give up the ghost](#)

[hand over fist](#)

[hangover](#)

[have your cake and eat it, too](#)

[high](#)

[hold the fort](#)

[hungover](#)

[in the long haul](#)

[keep fit](#)

[look out for](#)
[losing streak](#)
[on a full stomach](#)
[on the heels](#)
[shake hands](#)
[take care of](#)
[under my care](#)
[under oath](#)
[wash it down](#)
[watch over](#)
[whew](#)
[winning streak](#)

afternoon

[good day](#)

afterwards

[thrown in](#)

again

[a fresh start](#)
[at it again](#)
[back at it](#)
[bounce back](#)
[darn it](#)
[dead-cat bounce](#)
[double take](#)
[fall off the wagon](#)
[how's that again](#)
[it never fails](#)
[lick your wounds](#)
[like a broken record](#)
[make up](#)
[off the wagon](#)
[on the mend](#)
[patch things up](#)
[pick up the pieces](#)
[run it by me again](#)
[start over](#)
[touch base](#)
[up to speed](#)
[when the dust settles](#)

against

[against the grain](#)
[at the hands of](#)

[cross someone](#)
[do it the hard way](#)
[fucked by the fickle finger of fate \[B\]](#)
[gang up on](#)
[get blood from a stone](#)
[if you're not with us you're against us](#)
[in over your head](#)
[in tough](#)
[one on one](#)
[power play \(hockey\)](#)
[shutout \(sports\)](#)
[take you to court](#)
[tangle with](#)
[turn on you](#)
[up against](#)

age

[a coon's age](#)
[a dog's age](#)
[age of majority](#)
[at the ripe old age](#)
[dates you](#)
[for a dog's age](#)
[golden years](#)
[in a coon's age](#)
[in a long time](#)
[peer sneer](#)
[still wet behind the ears](#)
[the age of majority](#)
[the tender age of](#)

aged

[geezer gap](#)
[long in the tooth](#)

agent

[check your bags](#)

aggravate

[add fuel to the fire](#)
[dig yourself in](#)
[rub salt in the wound](#)

aggressive

[a go-getter](#)
[pull in your horns](#)

ago

[once upon a time](#)

agree

[buy into](#)

[come to terms](#)

[darn tooting](#)

[give your word](#)

[go along with](#)

[hold-out](#)

[in bad faith](#)

[patch things up](#)

[see eye to eye](#)

[shake hands](#)

[shake on it](#)

[shove down my throat](#)

[take on](#)

[the customer is always right](#)

[work it out](#)

agreeable

[copacetic](#)

agreeing

[at loggerheads](#)

agreement

[at odds](#)

[at sixes and sevens](#)

[come to terms](#)

[in good faith](#)

[meet you half way](#)

[meeting of minds](#)

[settle it](#)

[worlds apart](#)

ahead

[a head start](#)

[in the long run](#)

[make headway](#)

[off to the races](#)

[offside \(hockey\)](#)

[step on people](#)

[tunnel vision](#)

[win going away](#)

aim

[take a shot](#)

aiming

[shoot-up](#)

ain't

[half-bad](#)

air

[a sick building](#)[all show](#)[all talk and no action](#)[butter wouldn't melt in his mouth](#)[cuss](#)[feel a draft](#)[goodies](#)[hogwash](#)[shoot-up](#)[spirit away](#)[swear like a sailor](#)[talk through your hat](#)

airhead

[a bimbo](#)[ding-a-ling](#)[ditz](#)[dumbbell](#)[popcorn brain](#)[twit](#)

airline

[milk run](#)[take a flight](#)

airplane

[air rage](#)[rodchester](#)

airport

[catch a plane/bus/train](#)

aka

[go by the name of](#)

alberta

[Cowtown](#)

alcatraz

[The Rock](#)

alcohol

[drive you to drink](#)[dry out](#)[had a belt](#)[had a couple](#)

[hard liquor](#)
[into the sauce](#)
[spike a drink](#)

alcoholic

[lush](#)
[tank](#)
[wino](#)

ale

[on tap](#)

alert

[asleep at the switch](#)
[be there](#)
[glassy eyed](#)
[on your toes](#)
[stay awake](#)
[wake up](#)
[wide awake](#)
[you snooze, you lose](#)

alias

[a.k.a. \(aka\)](#)

aligned

[out of whack](#)

all

['round the clock](#)
[a few bricks short of a full load](#)
[a fool and his money are soon parted](#)
[across the board](#)
[after all](#)
[ahead of the game](#)
[all hat and no cattle](#)
[all-out](#)
[all over hell's half acre](#)
[all that jazz](#)
[all the livelong day](#)
[all the marbles](#)
[all the way to Egery and back](#)
[all the world's a stage](#)
[all walks of life](#)
[bag and baggage](#)
[bar none](#)
[blow your wad](#)
[boys will be boys](#)

[brand new/ brand spanking new](#)
[break the bank](#)
[bugger all \[B\]](#)
[bull/bullshit/BS \[B\]](#)
[buy out](#)
[buy up](#)
[cash up/cash out](#)
[clean me out](#)
[clean up your plate](#)
[come across \[B\]](#)
[couldn't care less](#)
[die off](#)
[do the town](#)
[do your own thing](#)
[dog tired](#)
[don't count your chickens before they hatch](#)
[don't give a crap \[B\]](#)
[don't know the half of it](#)
[don't put all your eggs in one basket](#)
[done in](#)
[eat it up](#)
[eat you out of house and home](#)
[every walk of life](#)
[feel free](#)
[foot the bill](#)
[fresh out](#)
[full blast](#)
[full blown](#)
[give her](#)
[give it all you've got](#)
[go all-out](#)
[go downtown \[B\]](#)
[grand slam](#)
[hear me out](#)
[in any way, shape or form](#)
[in plain view](#)
[in the least](#)
[it's now or never](#)
[jump through hoops](#)
[jump to conclusions](#)
[keep an open mind](#)
[kill off](#)

[kit and caboodle](#)
[let yourself go](#)
[life is not all guns and roses](#)
[love conquers all](#)
[make a clean breast of it](#)
[make a clean sweep](#)
[milk it](#)
[not at all](#)
[not for all the tea in China](#)
[not playing with a full deck](#)
[on fire](#)
[on your ass \[B\]](#)
[one brick short of a full load](#)
[out in left field](#)
[pay off](#)
[pedal to the metal](#)
[pin your hopes on](#)
[polish off/polish it off](#)
[pour out your soul](#)
[put in a hard day](#)
[rotten to the core](#)
[run out](#)
[sell out](#)
[shoot your wad](#)
[sometimes life is a bucket of shit and the handle is inside \[B\]](#)
[stark naked](#)
[straight cash](#)
[strip](#)
[take it with a grain of salt](#)
[take you for all you've got](#)
[talk your ear off](#)
[tear me apart](#)
[the best things in life are free](#)
[the big picture](#)
[the burning question](#)
[the lights are on but nobody's home](#)
[the rest is history](#)
[the whole ball of wax](#)
[the whole nine yards](#)
[the whole works](#)
[think nothing of it](#)
[tick over](#)

[to hell and gone](#)
[use up](#)
[whole hog](#)
[winner take all](#)
[with all my heart](#)
[World Wide Web \(www\)](#)
[yin yang](#)

all-out

[all-out](#)
[go for broke](#)
[pull out all the stops](#)

allow

[a sucker for punishment](#)
[a three-bagger \(baseball\)](#)
[break curfew](#)
[cascade \(business\)](#)
[crack down on](#)
[give him enough rope and he'll hang himself](#)
[give you an out](#)
[ground me](#)
[leak](#)
[leave the door open](#)
[leave yourself open](#)
[let a fart \[B\]](#)
[let go of](#)
[let this chance go by](#)
[part with](#)
[rule out](#)
[see you through](#)
[spell you off](#)
[stonewall](#)

allowed

[age before beauty](#)
[at liberty](#)
[black-listed](#)
[cut off](#)
[grounded](#)
[have a say](#)
[time ran out](#)

almost

[down to the short strokes](#)
[everything but the kitchen sink](#)

[hat in hand](#)
[just about](#)
[on the brink](#)
[on the tip of my tongue](#)
[on the verge](#)

alone

[holding the bag](#)
[if a mussel doesn't open don't eat it](#)
[in the lurch](#)
[it takes two to tango](#)
[keep to yourself](#)
[let it be](#)
[let sleeping dogs lie](#)
[throw you to the dogs](#)

along

[chairman of the boards \(hockey\)](#)
[copacetic](#)
[go along with](#)
[in that vein](#)
[play along](#)
[play dumb](#)
[string along](#)
[walk down](#)
[walk up](#)

alongside

[cheek by jowl](#)

alphabet

[letter-perfect](#)

already

[enough is enough](#)
[in the bag](#)
[preach to the choir/preach to the converted](#)

alright

[okay, OK](#)

also

[a.k.a. \(aka\)](#)
[screw](#)
[what's good for the goose is good for the gander](#)

alternative

[grunge \(music\)](#)
[Plan B](#)

always

[a brick](#)
[a rolling stone gathers no moss](#)
[born tired](#)
[horse shoes up his ass \[B\]](#)
[in a rut](#)
[it never fails](#)
[like a dirty shirt](#)
[spoiled brat](#)

am

[blow me down](#)
[by golly](#)
[can't see the forest for the trees](#)
[darn my luck](#)
[don't give a damn \[B\]](#)
[eh](#)
[follow me](#)
[get out of my face](#)
[got my eye on](#)
[got my hands full](#)
[have a mind to](#)
[hey](#)
[hold me responsible](#)
[no kidding](#)
[out of the goodness of my heart](#)
[sheesh](#)
[shit fire and apple butter](#)
[shoot](#)
[talk to the hand](#)
[TGIF](#)
[thank goodness](#)
[the buck stops here](#)
[what did I do to deserve this](#)
[yonder over there](#)

amaze

[blow your mind](#)
[knock you out](#)
[make your head spin](#)

amazing

[by jove](#)
[gadzooks](#)
[holy Moses](#)
[that's a corker](#)

[the devil you say](#)

amazingly

[wonder of wonders](#)

amber

[Florida green](#)

ambiguous

[weasel word](#)

ambitious

[moppie](#)

ambivalent

[betwixt and between](#)

america

[Bigfoot](#)

american

[as American as apple pie](#)

[greenback](#)

among

[elbow room](#)

[in his good books](#)

[in my good books](#)

amount

[a chunk of change](#)

[a hill of beans](#)

[a paltry sum](#)

[a short one](#)

[bit by bit](#)

[by leaps and bounds](#)

[chicken feed](#)

[finish off](#)

[just a smidgeon](#)

[just a titch](#)

[motherlode](#)

[peanuts](#)

[salt away](#)

[the take](#)

[to the max](#)

[way out \(away out\)](#)

amused

[get a charge out of](#)

amusement

[for laughs](#)

analyse

[figure out](#)

ancestors

[family tree](#)

angels

[where angels fear to tread](#)

anger

[add fuel to the fire](#)

[crank issue](#)

[don't get mad; get even](#)

[gnashing of teeth](#)

[no hard feelings](#)

[rattle my chain](#)

[simmer down](#)

[so much as](#)

[take it out on](#)

[the calm before the storm](#)

anglo-saxon

[WASP](#)

angrily

[hammer and tongs](#)

[hot and bothered](#)

angry

[a bee in her bonnet](#)

[a hothead](#)

[air rage](#)

[bark is worse than his bite](#)

[blood is up](#)

[blow up](#)

[blow your lid/stack/top](#)

[boiling mad](#)

[browned off](#)

[burn up](#)

[choked](#)

[don't go away mad; just go away](#)

[don't have a cow](#)

[fit to be tied](#)

[flip your lid](#)

[fly off the handle](#)

[get mad](#)

[get worked up](#)

[give you shit \[B\]](#)

[go through the roof](#)

[hell to pay \[B\]](#)

[hit the ceiling](#)
[hold a grudge](#)
[hopping mad](#)
[hot](#)
[hot and bothered](#)
[hot tempered](#)
[hot under the collar](#)
[in the doghouse](#)
[kick myself](#)
[look daggers](#)
[lose it](#)
[lose your temper](#)
[mad about](#)
[pissed \[B\]](#)
[pissed off \[B\]](#)
[rip-snorting mad](#)
[see red](#)
[short temper](#)
[spitting mad](#)
[spitting nails](#)
[take my head off](#)
[tell him off](#)
[the shit hit the fan](#)
[up in arms](#)

animal

[fight tooth and nail](#)
[the runt of the litter](#)
[wild and woolly](#)

announce

[send a bouquet](#)

announcer

[disk jockey \(DJ\)](#)

annoy

[get your dander up](#)
[get your goat](#)
[rattle my chain](#)
[ruffle your feathers](#)

annoyed

[cheesed off](#)
[miffed](#)
[put out about](#)
[ticked off](#)

annoying

[damn it \[B\]](#)[doggone](#)

another

[add insult to injury](#)[another nail in your coffin](#)[branch office](#)[by word of mouth](#)[chain smoker](#)[from pillar to post](#)[he who hesitates is lost](#)[hit me \(card games\)](#)[one at a time](#)[one by one](#)[one man's meat is another man's poison](#)[parachute](#)[pot calling the kettle black](#)[pull up stakes](#)[rob Peter to pay Paul](#)[say jump...how high](#)[tell me another one](#)[there's more than one way to skin a cat](#)

answer

[a pat answer](#)[any old thing](#)[canned](#)[draw a blank](#)[get a rise](#)[give me a hint](#)[go figure](#)[go wrong](#)[got you cornered](#)[hard put](#)[have a clue](#)[haven't the foggiest](#)[hazard a guess](#)[hell to pay \[B\]](#)[know your stuff](#)[make a mistake](#)[nail down](#)[pin down/pin him down](#)[search me](#)

[snap at](#)
[song and dance](#)
[stump me](#)
[take a guess](#)
[take calls](#)
[that's the ticket](#)
[the runaround](#)
[there's no two ways about it](#)
[touch it with a ten-foot pole](#)
[way out \(away out\)](#)
[you got it](#)

anxious

[chomping at the bit](#)
[drive me up the wall](#)
[itchy feet](#)
[on edge](#)
[scared to death](#)
[worried sick](#)

anxiously

[on pins and needles](#)

any

[any old thing](#)
[any word](#)
[as clean as a whistle](#)
[at all](#)
[blank](#)
[by any means](#)
[by guess or by gosh](#)
[by hook or by crook](#)
[by no means](#)
[come hell or high water](#)
[conk out](#)
[couldn't care less](#)
[cut off](#)
[drop it](#)
[dude](#)
[for love nor money](#)
[fresh out](#)
[Gang of Four](#)
[give up](#)
[go without](#)
[had a bellyful](#)

[in any way, shape or form](#)[in the least](#)[lay off](#)[lose patience](#)[no truth to it](#)[out of hock](#)[out of the woods](#)[plate is full](#)[pull the plug](#)[put to rest](#)[put yourself out](#)[sick of](#)[the end justifies the means](#)[without a word of a lie](#)

anybody

[don't rock the boat](#)

anymore

[break up](#)[breakup](#)[call it a day](#)[drop her/him](#)[give in](#)[give it a rest](#)[lose your appetite](#)[out of sight](#)[wash your hands of it](#)[wear out your welcome](#)

anyone

[button your lip](#)[keep a secret](#)[keep it quiet](#)[keep it to yourself](#)[mum's the word](#)[on the QT](#)[who cares](#)[won't tell a soul](#)

anything

[anything goes](#)[bend over backwards](#)[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)[don't know the first thing about it](#)[don't make waves](#)

[duh](#)
[game for anything](#)
[give you the shirt off his back](#)
[kill for](#)
[lift a finger](#)
[no holds barred](#)
[stop at nothing](#)
[there's one born every minute](#)
[vegetate \(veg out\)](#)

anytime

[spotcheck](#)

apart

[absence makes the heart grow fonder](#)
[breakdown](#)
[come unglued](#)
[spread out](#)
[the wheels fall off](#)

apartment

[digs](#)
[pad](#)
[settle in](#)

ape-man

[Bigfoot](#)
[Sasquatch](#)

apologize

[make amends](#)

appeal

[sit with you](#)
[strike your fancy](#)

appear

[a budding genius](#)
[break out in a rash](#)
[come across](#)
[it figures](#)
[look like death warmed over](#)
[look like he was dragged through a knothole](#)
[make sense](#)
[pass for](#)
[pop up](#)
[rattle sabres](#)
[set you up](#)
[shuffle the chairs on the deck](#)

[snatch victory from the jaws of defeat](#)
[stand out](#)

appearance

[knockout](#)

appeared

[clouds on the horizon](#)

appearing

[crazy like a fox](#)

appetite

[whet your appetite](#)

applaud

[come alive](#)

[give them a hand](#)

applause

[bring the house down](#)

[steal the show](#)

[take a bow](#)

apple

[a chip off the old block](#)

[an apple a day keeps the doctor away](#)

applicant

[put in a good word for](#)

application

[back you](#)

applies

[across the board](#)

apply

[no holds barred](#)

[what's good for the goose is good for the gander](#)

appointment

[cold call](#)

[stand up](#)

appreciate

[lap up](#)

[tin ear](#)

[you don't miss the water till the well runs dry](#)

appropriate

[on my best behavior](#)

[out of place](#)

[politically correct](#)

[work](#)

appropriately

[presence of mind](#)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| approval | get the green light lose favor win the hearts |
| approved | it's a go no dice |
| approximate | a ball-park figure |
| are | ain't |
| area | breadbasket grain belt know like the back of your hand neck of the woods run the gauntlet virgin territory wheatbelt |
| argue | a bone to pick an axe to grind have it out touchy want to make something of it |
| arguing | at sixes and sevens bury the hatchet throw down your arms |
| argument | a score to settle cut you to ribbons fence sitter pick a fight put your foot in it raise a stink rest my case run-in set-to smooth out take sides the last word |

[touch off](#)[two-fisted attack](#)

aristocracy

[upper crust](#)

arm

[a lift](#)[bury the hatchet](#)[give my eye teeth](#)[nukes](#)[pay through the nose](#)[spread out](#)

armrest

[rodchester](#)

around

['round the clock](#)[all the way to Egery and back](#)[bomb around](#)[crack under the strain](#)[cruise](#)[do a 180](#)[drive around](#)[drive me up the wall](#)[find a way around](#)[fool around](#)[get around it](#)[get your mind around](#)[give it to me straight](#)[go in circles](#)[goof off](#)[hand out](#)[handle herself](#)[have an affair](#)[hemming and hahing](#)[horse around](#)[horseplay](#)[jerk me around](#)[joke around](#)[kicking around](#)[knock around with](#)[nobody's fool](#)[nuts](#)[off your rocker](#)

[on a string](#)
[on all fours](#)
[on the loose](#)
[out of circulation](#)
[over the edge](#)
[play around](#)
[play musical chairs](#)
[shuffle the chairs on the deck](#)
[street wise](#)
[tear around](#)
[tie up](#)
[to hell and gone](#)
[tool around](#)
[touch it with a ten-foot pole](#)
[turn about is fair play](#)
[wait around](#)
[wasn't born yesterday](#)
[work the room](#)
[wrap your mind around](#)

arouse

[float your boat](#)
[turn-on](#)
[turn you on](#)

aroused

[horny \[B\]](#)

arrange

[make the bed](#)
[play a prank on](#)

arrested

[busted](#)
[in trouble](#)

arrive

[better late than never](#)
[bottom out](#)
[catch up](#)
[come full circle](#)
[get home](#)
[hit town](#)
[roll around](#)
[the early bird gets the worm](#)

arrived

[speak of the devil](#)

| | |
|-----|--|
| art | |
|-----|--|

[cutting edge](#)

[gild the lily](#)

[the cutting edge](#)

| | |
|------------|--|
| artificial | |
|------------|--|

[all show](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| artists | |
|---------|--|

[The Group of Five/The Regina Five](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| ashamed | |
|---------|--|

[come back to haunt you](#)

[put to shame](#)

[red-faced](#)

| | |
|-----|--|
| ask | |
|-----|--|

[ask for the moon](#)

[at least](#)

[beat a dead horse](#)

[beg off](#)

[bend your ear](#)

[buy time](#)

[call attention to](#)

[call for](#)

[call on](#)

[come on](#)

[do a favor](#)

[don't give me any of your lip](#)

[don't push your luck](#)

[draw attention to](#)

[eat out of the palm of your hand](#)

[fire away](#)

[go easy on](#)

[grill you](#)

[have it coming](#)

[hit me for a loan](#)

[mind your own business](#)

[needle](#)

[pick your brains](#)

[pop the question](#)

[press charges](#)

[pull your chain](#)

[put out feelers](#)

[rake you over the coals](#)

[reduce to tears](#)

[stump me](#)
[take you to task](#)
[take your word for it](#)
[try me](#)

asked

[give 110%](#)
[hard done by](#)
[no questions asked](#)
[on the carpet](#)
[rope into](#)
[scot-free](#)
[under fire](#)
[up your sleeve](#)

asking

[bottle drive](#)
[cruising for a bruising](#)
[fall into my lap](#)
[hound](#)

asleep

[dead to the world](#)
[drop off](#)
[saw logs](#)
[zonked](#)

ass

[a pain in the butt](#)
[a royal pain](#)
[blow me \[B\]](#)
[it's the duck's guts](#)
[kick ass](#)
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attractive

[hunk](#)
[smashing](#)
[spinork/spinorky](#)

attribute

[chalk it up to](#)

| | |
|-------------|---|
| audible | clear as a bell |
| audience | hand out mop the floor with us play the ham preach to the choir/preach to the converted take a bow x-rated |
| australia | down under |
| author | a wordsmith |
| authorities | cover-up go to bat for rat on squealer |
| authority | a free hand chain of command pecking order power trip |
| authorized | bootleg |
| automatic | pack Uzis |
| available | in place inside information on tap run the gamut up for grabs |
| average | A-OK a regular guy behind the curve fair to middling not too shabby run of the mill |
| avoid | dodge a bullet find a way around |

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[get out of](#)
[have to](#)
[keep an open mind](#)
[sluff off](#)
[steer clear](#)

avoided

[cooler heads prevailed](#)

avoiding

[nine lives](#)

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[gee whiz](#)

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[wide awake](#)

awaken

[wake up](#)

aware

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[clued in](#)
[draw it to my attention](#)
[get with it](#)
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[under arrest](#)
[wipe you](#)
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[you can run but you can't hide](#)
[you don't miss the water till the well runs dry](#)

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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Idiom Definition Index B

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|--------------|---|
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| | break and enter |
| baby | |
| | a babe in arms a bun in the oven |
| baby-sit | |
| | hold your hand |
| back | |
| | a suicide pass (hockey) at it again back to square one back to the drawing board back to the grind backroom boys break a promise catch up with dance with the one who brought you ditto don't get smart with me don't give me any of your lip eat crow fix you fix your wagon get cold feet get even get him back get revenge God bless the Duke of Argyle got you by the balls [B] hold your tongue jam/jam out kick back laugh up your sleeve lip off lose ground |

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[stand it](#)

| | |
|-----------|---|
| beat | bad date blow you away butt out buzz off clean up on get blood from a stone get lost give it to me straight hemming and hahing kick some ass like crazy/like mad piss off [B] rough up take off, eh the bigger they are the harder they fall touch it with a ten-foot pole wasted whip you |
| beaten | done for out of the way |
| beater | be-all, end-all clunker rustbucket the be-all, end-all |
| beautiful | a humdinger a jim dandy beauty is in the eye of the beholder bevy of beauties ear candy eye candy gild the lily it's a dilly it's a Duesey knockout on a silver platter pale by comparison peaches-and-cream pretty as a picture |

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[street wise](#)
[the cat's out of the bag](#)
[there's more than meets the eye](#)
[unsung hero](#)
[wasn't born yesterday](#)
[you had to be there](#)

beer

[a hollow leg](#)
[bend your elbow](#)
[cry in your beer](#)
[on tap](#)
[tip a few](#)

beetle

[Love Bug](#)

before

[a shadow of his former self](#)
[at first light](#)
[doughhead](#)
[dress rehearsal](#)
[drop back](#)
[for crying out loud](#)
[front man](#)
[get it over with](#)
[give a black eye](#)
[give up the blueline \(hockey\)](#)
[in time](#)
[jump to conclusions](#)
[just-in-time](#)
[just like that](#)
[like a chicken on a June bug](#)
[nip it in the bud](#)
[one for the road](#)

[outdo yourself](#)
[pre-menstrual syndrome](#)
[pride goeth before a fall](#)
[pull it out](#)
[quicker than you can say Jack Robinson](#)
[quit while you're ahead](#)
[scoop them](#)
[shack up \[B\]](#)
[strike while the iron is hot](#)
[the calm before the storm](#)
[under the wire](#)
[walk-through](#)

before"

[eyes glaze over](#)

beforehand

[up front](#)

beg

[bleeding heart](#)
[come again](#)
[give you an out](#)

began

[come full circle](#)
[the fat hit the fire](#)

begging

[hat in hand](#)

begin

[asking price](#)
[bankroll](#)
[bite off more than you can chew](#)
[break a sweat](#)
[break into song](#)
[bring up](#)
[catch a buzz](#)
[come around](#)
[dig in](#)
[eat up](#)
[fall asleep](#)
[fall for](#)
[fall in love](#)
[fever breaks](#)
[for openers](#)
[get busy](#)

[get off the ground](#)
[get off to a good start](#)
[get the jitters](#)
[get this show on the road](#)
[get your head together](#)
[hit the books](#)
[hit the ground running](#)
[hit the skids](#)
[hold on](#)
[it's a go](#)
[let the good times roll](#)
[light up](#)
[love at first sight](#)
[mark a watershed](#)
[mount a comeback](#)
[pick a fight](#)
[put your shoulder to the wheel](#)
[quit while you're ahead](#)
[say the word](#)
[scratch the surface](#)
[self-starter](#)
[set about](#)
[set in](#)
[spoil for a fight](#)
[start out](#)
[start over](#)
[start up](#)
[strike up a conversation](#)
[strike up the band](#)
[take up](#)
[turn over a new leaf](#)
[turn the tables on](#)
[turn ugly](#)
[turn you around](#)
[warm up](#)
[wax poetic](#)
[when push comes to shove](#)
[where the rubber hits the road](#)
[x marks the spot](#)

beginning

[a leg up](#)
[back to the drawing board](#)

[falling in love](#)
[from day one](#)
[from the get-go](#)
[from the word go](#)
[off to a bad start](#)
[off to a good start](#)
[on the tip of my tongue](#)
[square one](#)
[start from scratch](#)
[the gloves are off](#)
[the turn of the century](#)
[trendy](#)
[up front](#)

begun

[change horses in mid stream](#)

behave

[be yourself](#)
[ears pinned back](#)
[play my cards right](#)
[stay in line](#)

behaving

[on my best behavior](#)

behavior

[shitty \[B\]](#)

behind

[a babe in arms](#)
[a suicide pass \(hockey\)](#)
[drop back](#)
[drop behind](#)
[fall behind](#)
[hot on your heels](#)
[in the clink](#)
[laugh up your sleeve](#)
[lose ground](#)
[lose time](#)
[pokey](#)
[the tender age of](#)
[unsung hero](#)

behold

[wonder of wonders](#)

being

[a scandal is brewing](#)

[at the ripe old age](#)
[being there](#)
[breakup](#)
[dream on](#)
[falling in love](#)
[first hand](#)
[gathering dust](#)
[horse sense](#)
[in her good graces](#)
[in person](#)
[Johnny on the spot](#)
[jolly good fellow](#)
[mean streak](#)
[on my best behavior](#)
[scandal is brewing](#)
[take it personally](#)
[the bum's rush](#)
[the inside track](#)
[under fire](#)
[what did I do to deserve this](#)
[writer's block](#)

belief

[a marked man](#)
[dyed in the wool](#)
[stick to your guns](#)
[true colors](#)
[work ethic](#)

believable

[doesn't wash](#)

believe

[afraid so](#)
[blow me down](#)
[buy into](#)
[buy that](#)
[can't believe my ears](#)
[can't believe my eyes](#)
[come around](#)
[come off it](#)
[cotton to that](#)
[course you can](#)
[don't eat that](#)
[don't think so](#)

[double take](#)
[eat it up](#)
[eat that](#)
[fall for that](#)
[get out](#)
[get out of town](#)
[go for](#)
[granola](#)
[hard to believe](#)
[hell's bells](#)
[I'll be a monkey's uncle](#)
[it appears to me](#)
[keep the faith](#)
[knock me over with a feather](#)
[let on](#)
[my eye](#)
[play along](#)
[put stock in](#)
[read my lips](#)
[sold on](#)
[stand for](#)
[string along](#)
[sucked in](#)
[swallow that](#)
[swear by](#)
[take a stand](#)
[take it](#)
[take it personally](#)
[take it to heart](#)
[take it with a grain of salt](#)
[take your word for it](#)
[the hell you say](#)
[there's one born every minute](#)
[to the best of my knowledge](#)
[upon my word](#)
[word is good](#)
[you bet your boots](#)

believing

[in agreement](#)
[in tune](#)
[mind over matter](#)
[wishful thinking](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| bell | it ain't over till the fat lady sings shit fire and apple butter |
| belly | breadbasket the pit of my stomach |
| belong | pinch the best things in life are free |
| belonged | hand me down |
| belt | buckle up pack a rod |
| bend | crack under the strain drive me up the wall give you the shirt off his back make every effort nuts off your rocker over the edge tip a few try your darndest |
| benefit | a blessing in disguise get in on it get something out of icing on the cake take your word for it what's in it for me |
| bent | lickety-split |
| beside | a black mark cheek by jowl get over have a bird rub elbows shoulder to shoulder side by side the world is your oyster |
| | |

best

[all spruced up](#)
[as far as I know](#)
[at the top of her game](#)
[beggars can't be choosers](#)
[come into your own](#)
[cream of the crop](#)
[dress up](#)
[front runner](#)
[give it your best shot](#)
[glad rags](#)
[go all-out](#)
[golden age](#)
[heyday](#)
[high hopes](#)
[honesty is the best policy](#)
[in your prime](#)
[kick ass](#)
[kick some ass](#)
[make it big](#)
[make the most of it](#)
[number one](#)
[outdo yourself](#)
[play my cards right](#)
[plug the team](#)
[put your best foot forward](#)
[put your heart into it](#)
[realize your potential](#)
[selling point](#)
[show your stuff](#)
[step up to the plate](#)
[Sunday best](#)
[super mint](#)
[superstar](#)
[take advantage of](#)
[the be-all, end-all](#)
[the bee's knees](#)
[the best of both worlds](#)
[the cat's ass \[B\]](#)
[the key to success](#)
[the life of Riley](#)
[the living end](#)

[the most](#)
[the pick of the litter](#)
[the sweet spot](#)
[top of the morning](#)
[world beater](#)

bestbiggestworst

[if that doesn't beat all](#)

bet

[a sure bet](#)
[all your eggs in one basket](#)
[bet on](#)
[bet on a lame rooster](#)
[bet you dollars to donuts](#)
[double or nothing](#)
[give you odds](#)
[good bet](#)
[hedge your bets](#)
[lay you](#)
[pay up](#)
[play the ponies](#)
[see you/see your](#)
[sure as hell](#)
[the odds-on favorite](#)
[you can bet your bottom dollar](#)

betcha

[darn right](#)

better

[a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush](#)
[a cut above](#)
[a new lease on life](#)
[A-OK](#)
[ahead of the curve](#)
[back on your feet](#)
[better late than never](#)
[better off](#)
[better than a kick in the ass \[B\]](#)
[break the record](#)
[change for the better](#)
[circles around you](#)
[clean up your act](#)
[get off your high horse](#)
[give me a lift](#)

[head and shoulders](#)
[high and mighty](#)
[how do you like them apples](#)
[in over your head](#)
[it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all](#)
[it takes two to tango](#)
[knock your socks off](#)
[look down on](#)
[love is where you find it](#)
[necessity is the mother of invention](#)
[not half bad](#)
[not too shabby](#)
[outdo yourself](#)
[outplay](#)
[pick you up](#)
[pull up your socks](#)
[put on airs](#)
[show you up](#)
[stretching it](#)
[the best of both worlds](#)
[the grass is greener on the other side of the fence](#)
[the more the merrier](#)
[the turning point](#)
[things are looking up](#)
[through thick and thin](#)
[top that](#)

betting

[high roller](#)
[skins game](#)

between

[a pinch of salt](#)
[as the crow flies](#)
[behind the eight ball](#)
[between the devil and the deep blue sea](#)
[damned if you do and damned if you don't](#)
[geezer gap](#)
[muscle in](#)
[on the bubble](#)
[puppy love](#)
[rodchester](#)
[run interference](#)
[shop-floor struggle](#)

[Sophie's choice](#)
[split the difference](#)
[the age of majority](#)
[the man in the middle](#)
[the odd one](#)
[tight spot](#)
[touch and go](#)

beyond

[a goner](#)
[beyond the pale](#)
[had it](#)

biffy

[the john](#)

big

[a big rig](#)
[a big shot](#)
[a big wheel](#)
[a bull in a china shop](#)
[a chunk of change](#)
[big boys](#)
[big break](#)
[big hairy deal](#)
[big shot](#)
[blow it](#)
[can't see the forest for the trees](#)
[don't make a mountain out of a molehill](#)
[go places](#)
[lard butt/lard ass \[B\]](#)
[last hurrah](#)
[major](#)
[make a killing](#)
[pin your hopes on](#)
[play it up](#)
[save a bundle](#)
[serious coin](#)
[stacked](#)
[sweater girl](#)
[the bigger they are the harder they fall](#)
[VIP](#)
[win big](#)

big-sky

[think outside the box](#)

[think tank](#)

bigfoot

[Sasquatch](#)

bigger

[blow it out of proportion](#)

[larger than life](#)

[make a mountain out of a mole hill](#)

[snowball](#)

[stretching it](#)

biggest

[the lion's share](#)

bigot

[a redneck](#)

bill

[ahead of the game](#)

[charge it](#)

[cold, hard cash](#)

[make a go of it](#)

[make ends meet](#)

[pay the shot](#)

[pick up the tab](#)

[run a tab](#)

[see you through](#)

[up against it](#)

bin

[binner](#)

[nut house](#)

binding

[written in blood](#)

binoculars

[the naked eye](#)

[with the naked eye](#)

bird

[birder](#)

[go the way of the dodo](#)

[put a bug in my ear](#)

[Saskatchewan pheasant](#)

[stark naked](#)

[without a stitch of clothes on](#)

birth

[born tired](#)

birthday

[a pinch to grow an inch](#)

[didn't have a stitch of clothes on](#)
[full Monty](#)

bit

[a bee in her bonnet](#)
[a bit at sea](#)
[a grain of truth](#)
[a little off](#)
[a pinch of salt](#)
[a screw loose](#)
[browned off](#)
[feel the pinch](#)
[feeling good](#)
[for good measure](#)
[give an inch](#)
[hoity-toity](#)
[little by little](#)
[over the rainbow](#)
[rough up](#)
[six bits](#)
[tip of the hat](#)
[tipsy](#)
[too bad](#)
[touched in the head](#)
[woozy](#)

bitch

[battleaxe](#)
[grouse](#)

bite

[bear down](#)
[buckle down](#)
[grab a bite to eat](#)
[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[pass on](#)

bitpieceperson

[the whole shebang](#)
[the whole shooting match](#)

bittersweet

[mixed feelings](#)

blab

[shoot your mouth off](#)

black

[black eye](#)

[in writing](#)
[Saskatchewan pheasant](#)

| | |
|----------|---|
| blame | a bum rap at fault bear the brunt finger hold me responsible lay a trip lay the blame pass the buck shoulder the blame take a bullet take the blame take the rap |
| blamed | a sucker for punishment damned if you do and damned if you don't get burned get fingered the goat |
| blank | draw a blank |
| blankets | make the bed |
| blarney | a little thick flattery will get you nowhere |
| blast | a hell of a time gas have a ball have a good time |
| blasted | consarned dingbusted doggone |
| blaster | boom box |
| blemish | zit |
| blend | |

[stick out like a sore thumb](#)

blending

[dasein](#)

blink

[bat an eye](#)

[bat her eyes](#)

bliss

[duh](#)

[go to hell in a handbasket](#)

bloated

[full as a tick](#)

block

[Denver boot](#)

[like father, like son](#)

[stonewall](#)

[the apple doesn't fall far from the tree](#)

blocking

[in the road](#)

[out of the way](#)

blood

[blood is thicker than water](#)

[hold a grudge](#)

[there's no love lost](#)

bloore

[The Group of Five/The Regina Five](#)

blotto

[dead tired](#)

blow

[beat the pants off](#)

[bite me \[B\]](#)

[blow a kiss](#)

[blow to kingdom come](#)

[blow your wad](#)

[botch it](#)

[bowl me over](#)

[fall flat on my face](#)

[finish off](#)

[flip your lid](#)

[go through the roof](#)

[kick butt](#)

[knock me over with a feather](#)

[knock you out](#)

[make mincemeat of](#)
[quit this place](#)
[rocks socks](#)
[screw up](#)
[throw a kiss](#)
[wipe you](#)

blue

[clouds on the horizon](#)
[cry in your beer](#)
[cuss](#)
[got the blues](#)
[lo and behold](#)
[sob story](#)
[swear like a sailor](#)
[tried and true](#)

blueline

[give up the blueline \(hockey\)](#)

bluff

[buffalo](#)

blurt

[come out with](#)

board

[boarding \(hockey\)](#)
[chairman of the boards \(hockey\)](#)
[clotheslined \(hockey\)](#)
[hang ten \(surfing\)](#)
[under the table](#)
[underhanded](#)

boarders

[skaters](#)

boast

[show off](#)

boat

[on board](#)

bob

[it's not what you know, it's who you know](#)
[parachute](#)
[the inside track](#)

bodacious

[a daredevil](#)

body

[body language](#)
[built like a brick shithouse \[B\]](#)

[keep fit](#)
[keep in good shape](#)
[knockout](#)
[pinch an inch](#)
[written all over your face](#)

bodycheck

[clotheslined \(hockey\)](#)

bodychecked

[had his bell rung](#)

boggle

[head is spinning](#)
[make your head spin](#)
[mix you up](#)

bogof

[loss leader](#)

bold

[a caution](#)
[bodacious](#)
[no shrinking violet](#)
[out and out](#)

bomb

[blow up](#)
[cruise](#)
[make war](#)

bonds

[cash in](#)

bone

[a score to settle](#)
[bare bones](#)
[bone dry](#)
[brush up on](#)
[bust my butt](#)
[slackass \[B\]](#)

bonkers

[climb the walls](#)
[crackers](#)
[go nuts](#)
[wacko](#)

bonus

[icing on the cake](#)

bonzer

[awesome](#)

| | |
|---------|---|
| boo | take a gander take a look |
| booboo | caribouboo fuck up [B] make a mistake slip up |
| boobs | stacked |
| book | a yawner beauty is only skin deep come down hard curl up with a good book geek hang you out to dry hit the books look up/look it up lose favor on my good side on the shit list [B] that's his bible |
| boom | feast or famine ghetto blaster |
| boost | supercharge |
| boot | highball it lickety-split |
| booth | so small you had to back out to change your mind |
| bootleg | pirate software piracy |
| booze | hooch |
| boozing | down and out partners in crime |
| bore | buttonhole you |

[spare me](#)

bored

[sick of](#)
[tired of](#)

boredom

[roll their eyes](#)

boring

[a drag](#)
[a yawner](#)

born

[baby boomer](#)
[been around](#)
[born with a silver spoon in his mouth](#)
[dates you](#)
[Generation X](#)
[the runt of the litter](#)

borrow

[hit me for a loan](#)
[sign out](#)

borrowed

[on loan](#)
[pay back](#)

boss

[a big shot](#)
[big cheese](#)
[head honcho](#)
[lord it over](#)
[low on the totem pole](#)
[the big cheese](#)
[top dog](#)

both

[by the same token](#)
[damned if you do and damned if you don't](#)
[fence sitter](#)
[have your cake and eat it, too](#)
[if you're not with us you're against us](#)
[lesser of two evils](#)
[middle ground](#)
[mixed feelings](#)
[neither fish nor fowl](#)
[over easy](#)
[you and the horse you rode in on](#)

bother

[a hassle](#)
[a pain in the ass \[B\]](#)
[brush it off](#)
[bug \(someone\)](#)
[burn your ass \[B\]](#)
[dog me](#)
[faze me](#)
[get on my nerves](#)
[get out of your hair](#)
[get to me](#)
[get under my skin](#)
[get your dander up](#)
[hassle me](#)
[never mind](#)
[no skin off my nose](#)
[rub the wrong way](#)
[ruffle your feathers](#)
[shrug it off](#)
[what the heck](#)

bothered

[discombobulated](#)
[hot under the collar](#)
[put out about](#)

bothering

[in your hair](#)
[out of my hair](#)
[what's eating you](#)

bothersome

[needle](#)

bottle

[bag lady](#)
[big cheese](#)
[bottle drive](#)
[bottle man](#)
[Dumpster diving](#)
[the big cheese](#)

bottom

[bottom out](#)
[drink up](#)
[from stem to stern](#)
[get to the root of the problem](#)

[look into](#)
[the pit of my stomach](#)
[what it boils down to](#)

bought

[up for grabs](#)

boundaries

[stretch the envelope](#)

boundary

[beyond the pale](#)
[out of bounds](#)

bow

[step down](#)
[take a bow](#)

bowel

[drop a log \[B\]](#)
[pinch off a loaf \[B\]](#)
[take a shit \[B\]](#)

bowl

[floor you](#)

box

[big-sky thinking](#)
[ghetto blaster](#)
[push the envelope](#)
[put to bed \(print media\)](#)
[the sin bin \(hockey\)](#)

boxer

[The Great White Hope](#)

boy

[a chip off the old block](#)
[attaboy \(that a boy\)](#)
[big shot](#)
[blind date](#)
[boys will be boys](#)
[date](#)
[drugstore cowboy](#)
[fair-haired boy](#)
[good for you](#)
[hood](#)
[keep up the good work](#)
[snotty-nosed kid](#)
[that a boy/that a girl](#)
[VIP](#)

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| boyfriend | beat your time ex |
| boyfriendgirlfriend | go out with |
| brag | show off talk big toot your own horn windbag |
| bragging | hot air |
| brain | bandwidth birdbrain brain is fried brain traffic deadhead grey matter pinhead something snapped think tank |
| brainy | bright |
| brakes | hit the brakes |
| branch | twiggy |
| brass | buckstop (military) |
| brave | chicken discretion is the better part of valor take it like a man |
| brawling | knock them down, drag them out |
| bread | melt in your mouth scratch square meal stock in trade |
| breadbasket | wheatbelt |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| break | a blowout a falling out big break blow the lid off break and enter break into breakup bust out cheat on crash double-cross get into trouble give me a break give out go back on go haywire luck out play dirty put you at ease stroke of good luck take five the wheels fall off work up a sweat |
| breakdown | burn out |
| breakfast | a duke's mixture eat you for breakfast |
| breaking | over easy |
| breakup | break up |
| breasts | boobs [B] stacked sweater girl |
| breath | jungle mouth out of breath out of wind that'll be the frosty Friday |

[tuckered out](#)
[within earshot](#)

breathe

[breathe easy](#)

breeze

[a breath of wind](#)

brick

[a bit off/a bit mental](#)
[a little off](#)
[a screw loose](#)
[a tower of strength](#)
[not all there](#)
[three slices short \(of a full loaf\)](#)
[without a full deck](#)

brief

[a fleeting glance](#)
[catch a glimpse](#)
[pit stop](#)

briefcase

[suckbucket](#)

briefly

[in brief](#)
[touch on](#)

bright

[on the ball](#)
[swift](#)
[what a brain](#)

bring

[bring home the bacon](#)
[loss leader](#)
[make mention](#)
[put a hex on me](#)
[round up](#)
[take you to court](#)
[wait on you hand and foot](#)
[wrap it up](#)

british

[cheers](#)
[Lotus Land](#)

broad

[as plain as day](#)
[gash](#)

[grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads](#)

[in plain view](#)

[plain as day](#)

broadcast

[a blackout \(TV\)](#)

broke

[pull out all the stops](#)

[something snapped](#)

[strapped](#)

broken

[had the bird](#)

[kaput](#)

[on the fritz](#)

[out of order](#)

[shot](#)

[something is haywire](#)

brokers

[the powers that be](#)

browbeat

[hound](#)

brown

[kiss ass \[B\]](#)

[kowitz](#)

[suck up to](#)

bruised

[wasted](#)

bruising

[spoil for a fight](#)

brush

[at death's door](#)

[brush cut](#)

buck

[a chunk of change](#)

[clam](#)

[greenback](#)

[serious coin](#)

[shekel](#)

[the buck stops here](#)

[the runaround](#)

bucket

[bite the dust](#)

[buy the farm](#)

[cross over to the other side](#)

[pass on](#)

buckle

[buckle up](#)

buddies

[partners in crime](#)

budget

[rob Peter to pay Paul](#)

buff

[birthday suit](#)[didn't have a stitch of clothes on](#)[in the nude](#)[skinny dip](#)[strip](#)

bug

[a thorn in my side](#)[burn your ass \[B\]](#)[drive me crazy](#)[get on my nerves](#)[get to me](#)[get under my skin](#)[get your dander up](#)[get your goat](#)[give me a bad time](#)[give you a ribbing](#)[hassle me](#)[Love Bug](#)[rub the wrong way](#)[set your teeth on edge](#)

bugging

[a hard time](#)[a rough time](#)[in your hair](#)

bugme

[push me \(to the limit\)](#)

build

[built like a brick shithouse \[B\]](#)[necessity is the mother of invention](#)[rack up](#)

building

[a sick building](#)[blow this joint](#)[sign in](#)

[the whole works](#)[trash the place](#)

built

[in the works](#)

bulk

[beef it up](#)

bull

[a bunch of malarkey](#)[a lot of bunk](#)[baloney](#)[bunk](#)[claptrap](#)[cock and bull \[B\]](#)[crap](#)[cut the crap \[B\]](#)[hogwash](#)[horse feathers](#)[hot air](#)[in a pig's ass \[B\]](#)[prairie oyster](#)[trash the place](#)

bullet

[bear down](#)[buckle down](#)[faster than a minnow can swim a dipper](#)[greased lightning](#)[lightning fast](#)

bullshit

[that's a crock \(of shit\) \[B\]](#)

bum

[backside](#)[buns](#)[butt](#)[from rags to riches](#)[keester](#)[lard butt/lard ass \[B\]](#)[moon them](#)[run out of town](#)[run you out](#)

bumming

[down and out](#)

bump

[a love tap](#)
[bump and grind \(hockey\)](#)
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Legend:

[B] bad language

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[a wake-up call](#)
[tempt fate](#)

cautious

[on your guard](#)
[throw caution to the wind](#)

cautiously

[on tenterhooks](#)

celebrate

[do the town](#)
[kick up your heels](#)
[shoot up](#)

celebrating

[high five](#)

celebration

[go hog wild](#)

cell

[bandwidth](#)
[in the hole](#)

cellar

[shuck on down to the fraidy hole](#)

cement

[butter fingers](#)

cent

[chime in](#)
[from hand to mouth](#)
[say my piece](#)
[six bits](#)
[two bits](#)

center

[ante up](#)
[cherrypicker \(hockey\)](#)
[smack dab in the middle](#)
[the eye of the storm](#)

centered

[a little off](#)

century

[the turn of the century](#)

cereal

[grain belt](#)

ceremony

[blood is thicker than water](#)

[pay my respects](#)

certain

[a foregone conclusion](#)

[a shoo-in](#)

[a sure bet](#)

[as sure as shit](#)

[dead certain](#)

[dyed in the wool](#)

[lead pipe cinch](#)

[make sure](#)

[no doubt](#)

[no question](#)

[positive](#)

[rest assured](#)

[see to it/see to that](#)

[sure as hell](#)

[sure as shit](#)

[without question](#)

certainly

[for sure](#)

[you bet your boots](#)

cetera

[and stuff](#)

chain

[line of authority](#)

[smoke like a furnace](#)

chair

[be my guest](#)

[belly up to the bar](#)

[have a chair](#)

[have a seat](#)
[move over](#)
[musical chairs](#)
[play musical chairs](#)
[rolling in the aisles](#)
[shuffle the chairs on the deck](#)
[take a load off your feet](#)
[take the stand](#)
[take your seat](#)

chairman

[boarding \(hockey\)](#)

chalk

[a feather in your cap](#)

challenge

[back down](#)
[call his bluff](#)
[mess with](#)
[mix it up](#)
[push the envelope](#)
[shooting fish in a barrel](#)
[stand up to](#)
[take on](#)
[take risks](#)
[try me](#)

challenged

[hard pressed](#)
[put to the test](#)

chamber

[in the pipe five by five](#)

chance

[a daredevil](#)
[a fighting chance](#)
[a ghost of a chance](#)
[a golden opportunity](#)
[a head start](#)
[a level playing field](#)
[a long shot](#)
[a pig in a poke](#)
[a slim chance](#)
[a snowball's chance in hell](#)
[a window of opportunity](#)
[against all odds](#)

[big break](#)
[bump into](#)
[by guess or by gosh](#)
[do or die](#)
[fat chance](#)
[first crack at](#)
[first dibs](#)
[game over](#)
[give me a break](#)
[go out on a limb](#)
[goose is cooked](#)
[have a shot at](#)
[haven't got a hope](#)
[haven't got a hope in hell](#)
[he who hesitates is lost](#)
[know where we stand](#)
[last call](#)
[last resort](#)
[let this chance go by](#)
[lose out](#)
[no chancy](#)
[no dice](#)
[no news is good news](#)
[not by a long shot](#)
[not likely](#)
[out on a limb](#)
[out to get you](#)
[photo op](#)
[pin your hopes on](#)
[play fair](#)
[play it safe](#)
[play with fire](#)
[run into](#)
[shoot yourself in the foot](#)
[tempt fate](#)
[the fickle finger of fate](#)
[the luck of the draw](#)
[try your luck](#)
[your turn](#)

change

[a breath of fresh air](#)
[back out](#)

[bend the rules](#)
[cast a spell](#)
[change hands](#)
[change horses in mid stream](#)
[change of heart](#)
[change your mind](#)
[change your tune](#)
[die hard](#)
[don't rock the boat](#)
[flatliner](#)
[flip-flop](#)
[Generation X](#)
[get a life](#)
[go straight](#)
[hard line](#)
[make a difference](#)
[makes no difference](#)
[mark a watershed](#)
[out of our hands](#)
[play havoc with](#)
[play musical chairs](#)
[put a different slant on it](#)
[rock](#)
[set in her ways](#)
[shuffle the chairs on the deck](#)
[sick to death](#)
[soften your stance](#)
[stick to your guns](#)
[take effect](#)
[take risks](#)
[the fickle finger of fate](#)
[the point of no return](#)
[the tide turned](#)
[think better of it](#)
[tip the scales](#)
[touch up](#)
[turn into](#)
[turn on you](#)
[twist your words](#)
[what came over me](#)
[wing it](#)
[you can't teach an old dog new tricks](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| changed | business as usual sacred cow written in blood |
| changeup | fastball |
| changing | in a rut |
| character | capture the imagination weak-kneed |
| charge | beat the rap drop charges in control in the driver's seat press charges put it on the bill run a tab run up take the bull by the horns |
| charged | busted off the hook |
| charity | raise money |
| charley | pull a muscle |
| charm | a lady-killer cast a spell |
| chart | family tree |
| chase | a wild goose chase all around Robin Hood's barn round up run out of town take after |
| chased | the bum's rush |
| chasing | on his tail |

| | |
|----------|---|
| chat | shoot the breeze |
| chatter | yada |
| cheap | a dime a dozen cheap like borsch chintzy dirt cheap tight/tight fisted |
| cheaper | happy hour |
| cheat | bilk double-cross rotter screw shaft sucker you |
| cheated | been had fucked by the fickle finger of fate [B] laugh it off ripped off sucked in taken |
| cheating | hanky-panky take you for all you've got |
| check | cold, hard cash eyeball this get a load of that get off my case get the lay of the land give up the blueline (hockey) keep track look over make sure peep this pogey price out |

[read them and weep](#)[run down](#)[run the gamut](#)[size up](#)[spotcheck](#)[take your pulse](#)[test the water](#)

checker

[clotheslined \(hockey\)](#)

checking

[boarding \(hockey\)](#)

checkup

[a clean bill of health](#)

cheek

[lip](#)

cheeky

[lippy](#)[sassy](#)[shirty](#)

cheer

[come alive](#)[come on](#)[here's to](#)[pull for](#)[root for](#)[skoal](#)

cheering

[bring the house down](#)[it's all over but the shouting](#)

cheerio

[cheery-bye](#)

cheesecake

[tits and ass \(T & A\) \[B\]](#)

chest

[sound off](#)

chew

[Fletcherize your food](#)[shoot the breeze](#)

chick

[broad](#)[gash](#)[lovelies](#)[some chick](#)

[what a dish](#)

chicken

[a paltry sum](#)[cackleberries](#)[faint of heart](#)[fraidy cat](#)[lily-livered](#)[peanuts](#)[the pope's nose](#)[wimp](#)[wuss](#)[yellow](#)[you reap whatsoever you sow](#)

chief

[big cheese](#)[the big cheese](#)[too many cooks spoil the broth](#)

child

[a babe in arms](#)[a budding genius](#)[a handful](#)[fraidy cat](#)[half-pint](#)[knee high to a grasshopper](#)[sleepy head](#)[snotty-nosed kid](#)[Sophie's choice](#)[spoiled brat](#)[twerp](#)

childhood

[grow up](#)

children

[hand down](#)[one for the money, two for the show...](#)[puppy love](#)[ride herd](#)

chill

[cool off](#)[don't have a cow](#)[play it cool](#)[simmer down](#)

chime

[two cents' worth](#)

chimo

[cheers](#)

chin

[chew the fat/ chew the rag](#)

[shoot the shit \[B\]](#)

[tonsil hockey](#)

[yak](#)

china

[not for all the tea in China](#)

[trash the place](#)

chip

[boys will be boys](#)

[cash in](#)

[like father, like son](#)

[spoil for a fight](#)

[the apple doesn't fall far from the tree](#)

chock

[chockablock](#)

[plump full](#)

chockablock

[chock full](#)

choice

[a sure bet](#)

[a tough call](#)

[between a rock and a hard place](#)

[between the devil and the deep blue sea](#)

[cup of tea](#)

[get her way](#)

[how do you like them apples](#)

[kick myself](#)

[run the gamut](#)

[the life of Riley](#)

[up to you](#)

[willy-nilly](#)

choke

[buck fever](#)

choose

[betwixt and between](#)

[can't have it both ways](#)

[change your mind](#)

[choose up sides](#)

[go wrong](#)
[heads or tails](#)
[it's up to you](#)
[make up your mind](#)
[set your price](#)
[set your sights](#)
[single out](#)
[sit the fence](#)
[suit yourself](#)
[take your pick](#)

choosing

[Sophie's choice](#)

chore

[joe-job](#)

chosen

[off topic](#)
[the luck of the draw](#)

christmas

[Christmas graduate](#)

chromedome

[silkhead](#)

chuck

[smithwright it](#)

chuckle

[have a laugh](#)

chunks

[blow chunks](#)

church

[below the poverty line](#)
[darken a church door](#)
[dogan](#)
[in the poorhouse](#)

ciao

[cheers](#)
[chimo](#)
[toodles/toodle-oo](#)

cigarette

[another nail in your coffin](#)
[chain smoker](#)
[got a light](#)
[have a drag](#)
[light up](#)
[reefer](#)

[smoke like a furnace](#)

circle

[biter \(curling\)](#)[don't know whether you're coming or going](#)[frazzled](#)

circulation

[lay low](#)

circumstances

[sitting pretty](#)

cities

[milk run](#)

citizen

[Canuck](#)[Gang of Four](#)[go straight](#)

city

[branch office](#)[life in the fast lane](#)[out on the town](#)[pass through](#)[rat race](#)[settle down](#)[The Big Apple](#)

claim

[got no business](#)[pad an expense account](#)

clap

[give them a hand](#)

clark

[Joe Who](#)

class

[class act](#)[cut rate](#)[hand out](#)[his nibs](#)[new kid on the block](#)[putting on the ritz](#)[show up](#)[top drawer](#)[top notch](#)[upper crust](#)

classes

[play hooky](#)
[skip classes](#)

classic

[an old warhorse](#)

classy

[dapper Dan](#)
[putting on the ritz](#)

clause

[grandfather](#)

clean

[all spruced up](#)
[as clean as a whistle](#)
[clean cut](#)
[mop up](#)
[own up](#)
[preppy](#)
[shipshape](#)
[spiffy](#)
[squeaky clean](#)
[tiddly](#)
[wash it off](#)
[wash out](#)
[watch your step](#)
[winning streak](#)

cleanup

[a lick and a promise](#)

clear

[a dead giveaway](#)
[as plain as the nose on your face](#)
[butter wouldn't melt in his mouth](#)
[come out in the wash](#)
[crystal clear](#)
[drain the swamp](#)
[drive it home](#)
[hit me](#)
[it strikes me](#)
[it's as plain as the nose on your face](#)
[nail down](#)
[peaches-and-cream](#)
[plain as the nose on your face](#)
[the handwriting is on the wall](#)

clearly

[as plain as day](#)
[clear as a bell](#)
[clear your head/mind](#)
[collect my thoughts](#)
[cut](#)
[dead wrong](#)
[fall between two stools](#)
[get your head together](#)
[in no uncertain terms](#)
[keep your head](#)
[lose it](#)
[lose your head](#)
[make myself clear](#)
[neither fish nor fowl](#)
[on the same wavelength](#)
[open to question](#)
[out loud](#)
[plain as day](#)
[presence of mind](#)
[take leave of your senses](#)
[think straight](#)

clergyman

[a man of the cloth](#)

clever

[fancy footwork](#)

clich_html_eacute_

[song and dance](#)

cliff

[Lovers' Leap](#)

cliff-hanger

[a barnburner](#)[a whale of a game](#)

climax

[come to a head](#)

clink

[pokey](#)

clique

[the in-crowd](#)

clock

['round the clock](#)[around the clock](#)[on the clock](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| close | a cliff-hanger a close call a close shave a dead ringer a fine line belly up to the bar bosom buddy can't see the forest for the trees double whammy fast friends hot on your heels in the ball park keep your distance nail it down nip and tuck on the brink on the verge out of range out of the ball park point-blank range sign off tailgate the inside track tight race under my nose way out (away out) within earshot worlds apart wrap it up zip |
| closely | on his tail |
| closer | back off crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo zoom in |
| closest | next of kin |
| closet | a duke's mixture Fibber McGee's closet |

| | |
|----------|--|
| closing | under the wire wrap-up |
| closure | shut-down |
| clothes | all spruced up bundle up clean up cut a fine figure dress clothes dress down dress up dressed fit to kill get-up glad rags hand me down naked as a jay bird preppy put on the dog rags stark naked strip Sunday best threads |
| clothing | drag queen get-up grunge (fashion) off with potato sack |
| cloud | come down to earth out of touch riding high the sky isn't blue |
| clown | such a card |
| clue | have an inkling haven't the foggiest |
| clumsy | |

[all thumbs](#)[klutz](#)

clunker

[beater](#)

clutch

[ride the clutch](#)

co-op

[rubberneck](#)

co-operate

[come around](#)[get along](#)[give no quarter](#)[go along with](#)[pull together](#)

co-operative

[soften up](#)

coast

[Lotus Land](#)[The Rock](#)

cocky

[smartass \[B\]](#)[smelling yourself](#)[too big for his britches](#)

cocoon

[snug as a bug in a rug](#)

code

[that's his bible](#)

coffee

[a wake-up call](#)[break a habit](#)[coffee talk](#)[gofer](#)[spike a drink](#)

coiffure

[hairdo](#)

coil

[vale of tears \(valley of tears\)](#)

coin

[coin](#)[flip you for it](#)[heads or tails](#)[it's a toss-up](#)[loonie](#)

[piggy bank](#)[shekel](#)

cold

[cash on the barrelhead](#)[catch a cold \(catch cold\)](#)[catch your death](#)[knock out](#)[stand away](#)[whore blossom](#)

coldhot

[it's cold / it's hot](#)

collect

[call tabs](#)

collecting

[gathering dust](#)

college

[Christmas graduate](#)[put yourself through college](#)[the old college try](#)

collision

[bam](#)[crackup](#)[fender bender](#)[hit and run \(traffic\)](#)

color

[jazz up](#)

columbia

[Lotus Land](#)

column

[fifth column](#)[the fifth column](#)

combination

[a duke's mixture](#)

come

[a fool and his money are soon parted](#)[age of majority](#)[back off](#)[be there or be square](#)[blow your stones \[B\]](#)[buy into](#)[catch a cold \(catch cold\)](#)[catch up with](#)

[come around](#)
[come onside](#)
[come to a head](#)
[come to think of it](#)
[come true](#)
[crop up](#)
[drop over](#)
[face facts](#)
[fall apart \(at the seams\)](#)
[fall ill](#)
[fall through](#)
[first come, first served](#)
[flag a cab](#)
[future looks bright](#)
[get fresh](#)
[get home](#)
[get to the point](#)
[get together](#)
[get your buns over here](#)
[get your head out of the clouds](#)
[hit on](#)
[how so](#)
[how's that again](#)
[it never rains but it pours](#)
[it occurs to me](#)
[jam/jam out](#)
[keep out](#)
[keep your distance](#)
[keep your fingers crossed](#)
[land up](#)
[last call](#)
[life is not all guns and roses](#)
[make advances](#)
[make it](#)
[make strange](#)
[make up](#)
[more than welcome](#)
[own up](#)
[realize your potential](#)
[run interference](#)
[run it by me again](#)
[set foot](#)

[that'll be the frosty Friday](#)
[the age of majority](#)
[the more the merrier](#)
[throw the book at](#)
[wait up for](#)
[when it rains it pours](#)
[where do they get off](#)
[with bells on](#)
[you reap whatsoever you sow](#)
[your number is up](#)

come-on

[give her the eye](#)

comeback

[make a comeback](#)

[snatch victory from the jaws of defeat](#)

[turn the tables on](#)

comedian

[ham](#)

comfort

[cold comfort](#)

[in the lap of luxury](#)

[take solace](#)

comfortable

[cocoon](#)

[curl up with a good book](#)

[cushy](#)

[feather your nest](#)

[settle in](#)

[snug as a bug in a rug](#)

coming

[dead-cat bounce](#)

[take that](#)

[the wolf is at the door](#)

[up the wahoozey](#)

[up to my ears](#)

command

[an offer I couldn't refuse](#)

[line of authority](#)

commandment

[written in stone](#)

commenced

[under way](#)

| | |
|---------------|---|
| comment | fire away talk to the hand touch it with a ten-foot pole two cents' worth |
| commercial | junk mail |
| commit | break the law/rules hit man partners in crime |
| committed | footloose and fancy free |
| common | build a better mousetrap horse sense know which side your bread is buttered on mainstream out of the norm run of the mill the salt of the earth |
| common-law | shack up [B] |
| communicate | bridge the gap get your wires crossed |
| communicating | on the same wavelength out of touch |
| communist | pinko |
| community | charity begins at home local yokel |
| company | a major backpack (business) branch out buy up don't put all your eggs in one basket pound the pavement rabbit split up |

compare

[compare notes](#)
[hold a candle](#)
[in the know](#)
[stack up](#)
[the pick of the litter](#)
[there are two sides to every story](#)

comparison

[stack up](#)

compatible

[made for each other](#)
[soul mate](#)

compensate

[make up for](#)

compete

[dead in the water](#)
[give you a run for your money](#)
[have a shot at](#)
[match wits](#)
[roll over and play dead](#)

competing

[at the hands of](#)
[in over your head](#)
[out of the picture](#)
[up against](#)

competition

[a run for your money](#)
[bat a thousand](#)
[bat five hundred](#)
[change horses in mid stream](#)
[dog eat dog](#)
[jump ship](#)
[knocked out](#)
[work out](#)

competitive

[dead duck](#)
[dead in the water](#)
[in the running](#)
[out to win](#)

competitor

[dark horse](#)
[dead last](#)

[no match for](#)
[potlicker](#)
[roll with the punches](#)

compile

[rack up](#)

complain

[bellyache](#)
[bitch](#)
[cry the blues](#)
[dish it out](#)
[get it off your chest](#)
[grouse](#)
[kick up a fuss](#)
[make a big deal of it](#)
[make a big to-do](#)
[make a fuss](#)
[make a scene](#)
[nag](#)
[raise a stink](#)
[rant and rave](#)
[sound off](#)
[take exception to](#)
[take it like a man](#)
[the squeaky wheel gets the grease](#)

complaining

[a bitch \[B\]](#)
[doesn't mince words](#)
[give it a rest](#)
[gnashing of teeth](#)

complaint

[drop charges](#)
[take the flack](#)
[what's your beef](#)

complete

[a dead loss](#)
[a free hand](#)
[bite off more than you can chew](#)
[carry out](#)
[close a deal/sale](#)
[come through](#)
[drop the ball](#)
[dry run](#)

[fill in](#)
[fill out](#)
[finishing touch](#)
[flesh out](#)
[game over](#)
[get around to](#)
[get to first base](#)
[go the distance](#)
[nail it down](#)
[over and out](#)
[push the boat out](#)
[tie up loose ends](#)
[to top it off](#)

completed

[caught up](#)
[come to fruition](#)
[down to the short strokes](#)
[half the battle](#)
[over with](#)
[rest my case](#)
[under my belt](#)

completely

[but good](#)
[cold turkey](#)
[fall flat on my face](#)
[full Monty](#)
[hook, line and sinker](#)
[plumb loco](#)
[stark raving mad](#)
[the full Monty](#)

complex

[cut and dried](#)
[open and shut](#)
[too deep for me](#)

complexion

[peaches-and-cream](#)

complicated

[too deep for me](#)

compliment

[fish for a compliment](#)
[kiss the blarney stone](#)
[lay it on](#)

[pat on the back](#)[pour it on](#)[send a bouquet](#)[tip of the hat](#)

compose

[come up with](#)[pen those words/lines](#)

comprehend

[get your mind around](#)[wrap your mind around](#)

compromise

[give an inch](#)[middle ground](#)

computer

[backup](#)[boot up](#)[courseware](#)[electronic superhighway](#)[hack/hacker](#)[hardware](#)[Internet](#)[liveware](#)[log off](#)[log on](#)[Netwar](#)[power user](#)[shareware](#)[software](#)[software piracy](#)[surf the Net](#)[virtual reality](#)[World Wide Web \(www\)](#)

concede

[give an inch](#)[give no quarter](#)

concentrate

[at loose ends](#)[psych out](#)

concept

[a mental block](#)

concern

[give a hoot](#)

[give a shit \[B\]](#)
[let off steam](#)

concerned

[anal retentive](#)
[brush it off](#)
[in a stew](#)
[sweat bullets](#)

concert

[do a gig](#)

conclude

[bring to a close](#)
[chalk it up to](#)
[play out](#)
[wind up](#)
[wrap up](#)

conclusion

[a foregone conclusion](#)
[as sure as shit](#)
[bottom line](#)
[jump to conclusions](#)
[lead pipe cinch](#)
[sure as shit](#)
[the bottom line](#)
[the handwriting is on the wall](#)
[the proof of the pudding is in the eating](#)
[wait for the other shoe to drop](#)
[wrap-up](#)

condition

[as new](#)
[beater](#)
[better off](#)
[clunker](#)
[damaged goods](#)
[fit as a fiddle](#)
[garage kept](#)
[get the lay of the land](#)
[gone to pot](#)
[gone to the dogs](#)
[in mint condition](#)
[lousy](#)
[mint condition](#)
[none the worse for wear](#)

[run down](#)
[seen better days](#)
[there's a catch to it](#)

conduct

[hold a meeting](#)

conducting

[strike up the band](#)

confidence

[candy-ass](#)
[get off to a good start](#)
[psych out](#)
[shake him](#)

confident

[anchor you](#)
[give you a boost](#)
[stroke your ego](#)

confidential

[deep, dark secret](#)

confinement

[in the hole](#)

confirmed

[dyed in the wool](#)

conform

[keep in line](#)

confront

[get in my face](#)

confuse

[boggle your mind](#)
[faze me out](#)
[make your head spin](#)
[mix you up](#)
[throw a curve](#)
[throw me for a loop](#)

confused

[at sixes and sevens](#)
[don't know whether you're coming or going](#)
[don't know which end is up](#)
[head is spinning](#)
[mix up](#)
[scratch your head](#)
[shit or wind my watch](#)
[wonky](#)

confusing

| | |
|---------------|---|
| | bafflegab clear as mud double-talk |
| confusion | |
| | at sixes and sevens go in circles |
| conk | |
| | flake out give out |
| connect | |
| | tie in |
| conniption | |
| | have a fit |
| consarned | |
| | dingbusted flipping |
| consciousness | |
| | come to the living daylights |
| consensus | |
| | meeting of minds |
| consent | |
| | come across [B] |
| consequences | |
| | chickens come home to roost |
| consider | |
| | after all call into account mull over think over toss it around try that on for size |
| considerate | |
| | go soft |
| considering | |
| | all in all food for thought have a mind to on the whole |
| constable | |
| | flatfoot |
| constructed | |

[out of whack](#)

contact

[reach me](#)

[touch base](#)

container

[a doggy bag](#)

contains

[an offer I couldn't refuse](#)

[old wives' tale](#)

contemplating

[navel-gazing](#)

contented

[happy as a pig in shit \[B\]](#)

contents

[you can't tell a book by its cover](#)

contest

[a blowout](#)

[circles around you](#)

[cut you to ribbons](#)

[down for the count](#)

[hands down](#)

[it's all over but the crying](#)

[it's all over but the shouting](#)

[showdown](#)

continue

[beat a dead horse](#)

[carry on](#)

[carry the conversation](#)

[die hard](#)

[eat up](#)

[forget it](#)

[get on with it](#)

[go hungry](#)

[go under](#)

[hang in there](#)

[hang tough](#)

[hold up](#)

[it's all over but the shouting](#)

[keep it up](#)

[keep on](#)

[keep on trucking](#)

[keep the ball rolling](#)

[keep up the good work](#)
[keep your nose to the grindstone](#)
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[hit the ceiling](#)
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[spinork/spinorky](#)
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[tube head](#)[vegetate \(veg out\)](#)

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couldn't

[scared out of my wits](#)

count

[bank on](#)[cash up/cash out](#)[give your word](#)[keep track](#)[lose track](#)[mind boggling](#)[rest assured](#)[word is good](#)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| | you bet your boots |
| countdown | |
| | one for the money, two for the show... |
| counted | |
| | lose count |
| counter | |
| | check-out |
| counterfeit | |
| | funny money |
| country | |
| | in the boonies |
| | in these parts |
| | neck of the woods |
| | these parts |
| couple | |
| | a hot number |
| | DINKS |
| | had a belt |
| | in two shakes (of a lamb's tail) |
| courage | |
| | candy-ass |
| | got guts |
| | got the balls [B] |
| | pussyfoot around |
| | take heart |
| | wimpy |
| | yellow |
| courageous | |
| | discretion is the better part of valor |
| | faint of heart |
| course | |
| | a crash course |
| | a quick study |
| | course you can |
| | courseware |
| | flunk out |
| | go the distance |
| | run its course |
| courseware | |
| | software |
| court | |
| | on the stand |
| | on trial |

[rob the cradle](#)[take out](#)[under oath](#)

courteous

[mind your manners](#)

courtroom

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cover

[gloss over](#)[sweep under the carpet](#)[you can't tell a book by its cover](#)

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cowboy

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[kill me](#)
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[split a gut](#)

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[out of your mind](#)
[plumb loco](#)

crackpot

[a nut case](#)

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crappy

[cheesy](#)
[shitty \[B\]](#)

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[catch some z's](#)
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[sack out](#)
[turn in](#)

crashed

[Black Friday](#)

craving

[a sweet tooth](#)
[sweet tooth](#)

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| crawl | bar hop worship the ground she walks on |
| crawling | on all fours |
| crazy | a little off a nut case a screw loose all hell broke loose around the bend as all get-out bananas bonkers climb the walls cracked crackers drive me batty drive me crazy drive you nuts funny in the head go bananas go berserk go bonkers go like crazy go mad go nuts hairbrain head over heels it's a zoo in there kooky like nobody's business mad about nut nuts nuts about off your rocker out of my head out of your mind out of your tree plumb loco soft in the head |

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[stark raving mad](#)
[to beat the band](#)
[touched in the head](#)
[wacko](#)
[wild about](#)
[wingnut](#)
[wingy](#)
[you have to be good to be lucky](#)

cream

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[drive you](#)

create

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[fake it](#)
[fudge it](#)
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[make up](#)
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creatively

[blow snakes \(music\)](#)

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[the acid test](#)

credit

[a feather in your cap](#)
[a major](#)
[charge it](#)
[cold, hard cash](#)
[deserve credit](#)
[have to hand it to you](#)
[plastic](#)
[rain check](#)

| | |
|-----------|---|
| creek | down the tubes in the drink |
| creep | motherfucker [B] weirdo |
| crew | spin crew |
| crickets | jumping Jehoshaphat |
| cries | reduce to tears |
| crime | break the law/rules brush with the law burned caught in the act crack this case hood live on the edge name is cleared off the hook partners in crime press charges tell on |
| criminal | a marked man go straight ring leader |
| crises | havoc strikes pre-menstrual syndrome |
| crisis | a tower of strength cool under pressure heaven help us weather the storm |
| critical | don't look a gift horse in the mouth pernickety/persnickety |
| criticism | a piece of my mind put-down |

criticize

[badmouth](#)
[dis/diss](#)
[dish it out](#)
[fair game](#)
[find fault](#)
[fire away](#)
[give you a hard time](#)
[give you flack](#)
[give you static](#)
[have at me](#)
[knock](#)
[mudsling](#)
[people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones](#)
[pick holes in](#)
[pick on](#)
[put down](#)
[run down](#)
[slam](#)
[take a shot](#)
[tear a strip off](#)
[tear me apart](#)

criticized

[open to criticism](#)

criticizing

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[get off my case](#)
[on my back](#)
[on my case](#)
[pull in your horns](#)

crocodile

[cry me a river](#)

crop

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cross

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[play to the crowd](#)

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[make a fuss](#)
[make strange](#)
[rant and rave](#)
[read them and weep](#)
[shed a tear](#)
[sob story](#)

crying

[for crying out loud](#)

crystal

| | |
|----------|---|
| | as plain as the nose on your face it's as plain as the nose on your face plain as the nose on your face |
| cuff | |
| | ad lib (ad libitum) off the top of my head offhand |
| cultures | |
| | a redneck expand your horizons the best of both worlds |
| cup | |
| | a spot of tea go all the way (sports) hole in one (golf) |
| cupboard | |
| | Fibber McGee's closet |
| curious | |
| | curiosity killed the cat dying to know |
| curling | |
| | skins game |
| curls | |
| | kiss curls (hair style) |
| current | |
| | stay abreast up to date |
| curse | |
| | cuss put a hex on me |
| curt | |
| | short with me |
| custom | |
| | as American as apple pie in keeping with stand on ceremony |
| customer | |
| | a slow day call tabs close a deal/sale cold call drum up |

[hard sell](#)
[leg work](#)
[loss leader](#)
[mind the store](#)
[one born every minute](#)
[slow day](#)
[soft sell](#)
[the customer is always right](#)
[wait on customers](#)

customize

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cut

[cut the mustard](#)
[dig your own grave](#)
[fast track](#)
[have my ears lowered](#)
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[pussy whipped](#)
[quick and dirty](#)
[shape up or ship out](#)
[shoot yourself in the foot](#)
[short with me](#)
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[tick over](#)

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| dad | |
| | a chip off the old block my old man |
| dad-blamed | |
| | blasted gol dang/gol darn |
| daily | |
| | break a habit day in, day out |
| daisies | |
| | deep six |
| damage | |
| | lay waste ratch wreak havoc |
| damaged | |
| | deadhead none the worse for wear |
| damn | |
| | bloody well darn dingbusted don't give a crap [B] four-letter words friggin give a damn / give a shit / give a fuck [B] give a shit [B] |
| damned | |
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| | bump and grind do a gig have a blast |

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| darn | blasted consarned dad-blamed damn it [B] damn the luck [B] darn tooting dingbusted fiddlesticks flipping friggin gee whiz geez gol dang/gol darn gosh darn (gol darn) nuts oh my gosh phooey rats ruddy scrut sheesh |
| date | break up chat her up drop her/him go out with go steady on schedule on target play the field rob the cradle roll around see take out you're on |
| dated | passé |
| dawn | at first light click in |
| day | |

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| | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| deke | |
| | stickhandle |
| delay | |
| | get to it |
| | hold you up |
| | quick like a bunny |
| | take it in stride |
| | waste no time |
| delayed | |
| | make good time |
| delete | |
| | turf it |
| | weed out |
| deliberate | |
| | a bare-faced lie |
| | take action |
| deliberately | |
| | throw a game |
| delicious | |
| | out of this world |
| | yummy |
| deliver | |
| | drop off |
| | run an errand |
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| | cash and carry |
| demanding | |
| | heavy duty |
| | hound |
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| | pinko |
| demolish | |
| | make mincemeat of |
| denmark | |
| | something smells |
| dense | |
| | character density |
| depart | |
| | head out |
| | split |
| | take off |
| departed | |

[flew the coop](#)[long gone](#)[tail lights](#)

departing

[on my way](#)

departure

[exit stage left](#)

depend

[bank on](#)[count on](#)[count your chickens before they hatch](#)[rest on your laurels](#)[ride his coattails](#)[trickle-down economics](#)

dependable

[a brick](#)

dependent

[messed up](#)[tied to your mother's apron strings](#)

depending

[all your eggs in one basket](#)

deposit

[up the ante](#)

depressed

[blue](#)[cabin fever](#)[down](#)[down in the dumps](#)[hit rock bottom](#)[low](#)[messed up](#)

derived

[props](#)

describe

[bam](#)[paint a picture](#)[pow](#)

desert

[comeuppance](#)[duck out](#)

deserve

[ask for it](#)

[comeuppance](#)
[damn you \[B\]](#)
[deserve credit](#)
[got it coming](#)
[have it coming](#)
[more power to you](#)
[no rest for the wicked](#)
[serve them right](#)
[take that](#)

designed

[grunge \(fashion\)](#)
[neat](#)
[out of step](#)
[shagging wagon](#)

desire

[deadbeat](#)
[go for](#)
[got the hots for](#)
[lose your appetite](#)
[no use for](#)
[the apple of his eye](#)
[the grass is greener on the other side of the fence](#)

desk

[take your seat](#)

despair

[sinking feeling](#)

desperate

[last-ditch](#)

destiny

[fate is sealed](#)

destroy

[blow to kingdom come](#)
[kill the goose that lays the golden eggs](#)
[wreak havoc](#)

destroyed

[go up in smoke](#)
[up in smoke](#)

detail

[a fine-toothed comb](#)
[anal retentive](#)
[eagle eyes](#)
[fill me in](#)

[fly in the ointment](#)
[go into detail](#)
[in brief](#)
[letter-perfect](#)
[nitpick](#)
[paint a picture](#)
[pernickety/persnickety](#)
[put the finishing touches on](#)
[tie up loose ends](#)
[to the nth degree](#)
[touch up](#)

detention

[cool your heels](#)

determine

[get a fix on](#)
[pinpoint](#)
[shoot-out \(sports\)](#)

determined

[fate is sealed](#)
[hang on like grim death](#)
[hang tough](#)
[hell bent for election](#)
[mean business](#)
[tough customer](#)
[where there's a will, there's a way](#)

develop

[come of](#)
[show promise](#)
[take its course](#)
[the makings of](#)
[turn out](#)
[up and coming](#)

developed

[half-baked](#)

developing

[in the making](#)

developments

[stay abreast](#)

device

[a double-edged sword](#)
[a fifth wheel](#)
[bag of tricks](#)

[every trick in the book](#)
[loaded](#)
[necessity is the mother of invention](#)
[sleeper](#)

devil

[behind the eight ball](#)
[better the devil you know...](#)
[damned if you do and damned if you don't](#)
[like the wind](#)
[wekabi](#)

devil-may-care

[footloose and fancy free](#)

diagonally

[kitty-corner](#)

dice

[no chancy](#)

dick

[diddly-squat](#)
[dork \[B\]](#)

dickens

[a hell of a time](#)

did

[a piece of my mind](#)
[all hell broke loose](#)
[beg your pardon](#)
[broken dreams](#)
[come again](#)
[did good](#)
[did yourself proud](#)
[done good](#)
[eat humble pie](#)
[face up](#)
[give you flack](#)
[give you static](#)
[good on you](#)
[how's that again](#)
[huh](#)
[make a clean breast of it](#)
[my eye](#)
[no rest for the wicked](#)
[pardon me](#)
[pay a compliment](#)

[pay him back](#)
[say what](#)
[see you/see your](#)
[she peed](#)
[sour grapes](#)
[straight from the horse's mouth](#)
[turn yourself in](#)
[what the dickens](#)
[what was I thinking of](#)
[what's the poop](#)

diddly

[fuck all](#)

diddly-squat

[bugger all \[B\]](#)

[zilch](#)

die

[bite the dust](#)
[brush with death](#)
[buy the farm](#)
[cross over Jordan](#)
[cross over to the other side](#)
[death wish](#)
[die off](#)
[go down for the third time](#)
[go the way of the dodo](#)
[if you're born to hang, you won't drown](#)
[it ain't over till it's over](#)
[it's a matter of life and death](#)
[kick the bucket](#)
[lay down your life for](#)
[not long for this world](#)
[pass away](#)
[pass on](#)
[slip away](#)
[there's no tomorrow](#)
[want it so bad I can taste it](#)
[wouldn't be caught dead](#)
[you can't teach an old dog new tricks](#)
[your number is up](#)

died

[broken dreams](#)

difference

[a fine line](#)
[geezer gap](#)
[keep them straight](#)
[meet you half way](#)
[so what](#)
[split hairs](#)
[split second](#)
[split the difference](#)

different

[a different kettle of fish](#)
[a far cry](#)
[a fresh pair of eyes](#)
[a horse of a different color](#)
[beauty is in the eye of the beholder](#)
[beg to differ](#)
[change your mind](#)
[different strokes for different folks](#)
[it's a whole nother world out there](#)
[it's a whole other world out there](#)
[new blood](#)
[off-beat](#)
[one and the same](#)
[one man's garbage is another man's art](#)
[part company](#)
[stand out](#)
[take on a new light](#)
[there are two sides to every story](#)
[to each his own](#)
[twist your words](#)
[worlds apart](#)

difficult

[a dickens of a time](#)
[a handful](#)
[a hard row to hoe](#)
[a hell of a time](#)
[a tough call](#)
[behind the eight ball](#)
[between a rock and a hard place](#)
[between the devil and the deep blue sea](#)
[dirty work](#)
[got you cornered](#)
[hard to believe](#)

[hard to take](#)
[have my work cut out](#)
[heavy duty](#)
[heavy going](#)
[in a jam](#)
[in a pickle](#)
[in a pinch](#)
[in a tight spot](#)
[in tough](#)
[leave you holding the bag](#)
[one hell of a time](#)
[over the hump](#)
[rocky road](#)
[rough going](#)
[the bitter end](#)
[the crunch](#)
[the hard way](#)
[under fire](#)
[uphill battle](#)
[when the going gets tough](#)
[work cut out for](#)

difficulties

[in deep doo-doo \[B\]](#)
[this mortal coil](#)

difficulty

[out of the woods](#)
[snag](#)
[up the creek](#)

dig

[dig deep](#)
[dig it up](#)
[eat up](#)
[freeze wages](#)
[get in deeper](#)
[get my drift](#)
[help yourself](#)
[pad](#)

digest

[Fletcherize your food](#)

dilute

[water down](#)

diluted

[full strength](#)

diminish

[die down](#)[drop off](#)

diminishing

[no let-up](#)[on the wane](#)

dimwit

[dipstick](#)[numbskull](#)

dingbusted

[consarned](#)[dad-blamed](#)

dingle

[call up](#)

dink

[dick \[B\]](#)

diplomatic

[put the right spin on it](#)

dipstick

[ass](#)[dork \[B\]](#)[dumbo](#)[jerk](#)[lamebrain](#)[numbskull](#)[pinhead](#)[shithead \[B\]](#)[twit](#)[yoyo](#)

direct

[pin down/pin him down](#)

direction

[do a 180](#)[I smell where you're stepping](#)[left, right and center](#)[on track](#)[part company](#)[tunnel vision](#)[U-turn](#)[yonder over there](#)

directly

[due north](#)

[head on](#)
[smack dab in the middle](#)
[straight from the horse's mouth](#)
[straight from the shoulder](#)

directors

[too many chiefs and not enough Indians](#)

dirt

[a dime a dozen](#)
[as clean as a whistle](#)
[grunge](#)

dirty

[blood money](#)
[dirty thirties](#)
[dump on](#)
[in the gutter](#)
[off color](#)
[play hardball](#)
[rotter](#)
[scum/scumbag](#)
[short cut](#)
[snotty-nosed kid](#)

disabled

[three slices short \(of a full loaf\)](#)

disadvantages

[the downside](#)

disagree

[beg to differ](#)

disagreed

[to a man](#)

disagreement

[a falling out](#)
[bone of contention](#)

disappear

[drop out of sight](#)

disappearing

[into thin air](#)

disappoint

[let down](#)

disapproval

[catcall](#)
[put-down](#)
[raised eyebrows](#)

[roll their eyes](#)

disaster

[save your bacon](#)

disbelief

[double take](#)[eyes glaze over](#)[freak/freak out](#)

discard

[get rid of](#)[leave out](#)[throw out](#)[throw the baby out with the bath water](#)

discipline

[a firm hand](#)[in hot water](#)[open up a big can of whoop-ass](#)[scot-free](#)

disciplined

[ears pinned back](#)[haul up on the carpet](#)[out of hand](#)

discombobulated

[shit or wind my watch](#)

discount

[clear out](#)

discourage

[throw cold water on](#)

discover

[come across](#)[crack this case](#)[expand your horizons](#)[figure out](#)[find out](#)[find your voice](#)[put out feelers](#)[run across](#)[take the pulse](#)

discovered

[found out](#)

discuss

[a bone to pick](#)[an axe to grind](#)[clear up](#)

[hash it over](#)
[have a word with you](#)
[talk about](#)
[talk it over](#)
[talk turkey](#)
[time out](#)
[toss it around](#)
[work things out](#)

discussed

[straw horse](#)

discussion

[the last word](#)

disease

[have a case of](#)
[have an attack](#)
[live on the edge](#)
[too far gone](#)

disgust

[curl your hair](#)

disgusted

[fed up](#)

dishes

[put on the dog](#)

dishonest

[fly-by-night](#)

disk

[backup](#)
[motormouth](#)

dislike

[cut off your nose to spite your face](#)
[familiarity breeds contempt](#)
[got it in for](#)
[haven't got the stomach for it](#)
[motherfucker \[B\]](#)
[one man's garbage is another man's art](#)
[so and so](#)

dismiss

[can](#)
[fire](#)
[give you the axe](#)
[give you the boot](#)

dismissal

| | |
|--------------|---|
| | save your skin/neck |
| dismissed | |
| | down the road |
| | get axed |
| | heads will roll |
| | history |
| disorganized | |
| | at loose ends |
| | come undone |
| | harum-scarum |
| dispatch | |
| | put down |
| display | |
| | a hotshot |
| | draw attention to |
| | razzle-dazzle |
| | show-off |
| | showboat |
| displaying | |
| | on parade |
| dispose | |
| | do away with |
| disrespect | |
| | dis/diss |
| distance | |
| | a stone's throw |
| | as the crow flies |
| | at bay |
| | by a country mile |
| | the grass is greener on the other side of the fence |
| | to hell and gone |
| distant | |
| | a faraway look |
| distinct | |
| | dasein |
| distorted | |
| | grunge (music) |
| distress | |
| | mayday (m'aidez) |
| | SOS |
| district | |
| | Cabbagetown |
| | the burbs |

[toney neighborhood](#)

disturb

[raise hell \[B\]](#)

[rock the boat](#)

disturbance

[raise Cain](#)

disturbed

[discombobulated](#)

ditch

[give him the slip](#)

[lose him](#)

ditto

[back at ya](#)

[same to you](#)

dive

[throw a game](#)

divide

[split the difference](#)

diving

[binner](#)

divorce

[breakup](#)

dizzy

[on queer street](#)

[wonky](#)

do

[a chip off the old block](#)

[a doggy bag](#)

[a full plate](#)

[a party to that](#)

[a piece of cake](#)

[a piece of piss](#)

[act up](#)

[all wet](#)

[all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy](#)

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)

[at ease](#)

[back off](#)

[back out](#)

[bark is worse than his bite](#)

[bark up the wrong tree](#)

[basta la musica](#)

[be there or be square](#)

[beauty is only skin deep](#)

[beg your pardon](#)

[bend over backwards](#)

[better than a kick in the ass \[B\]](#)

[big hairy deal](#)

[bigger fish to fry](#)

[bite your tongue](#)

[blow me down](#)

[Bob's your uncle](#)

[botch it](#)

[break a promise](#)

[break the record](#)

[breathe down my neck](#)

[button your lip](#)

[by all means](#)

[call it square](#)

[carry out](#)

[carry your weight](#)

[cat got your tongue](#)

[catch on](#)

[catch the wave](#)

[catch up on](#)

[catch you off guard](#)

[choke](#)

[clean up your act](#)

[come off it](#)

[come on](#)

[come on strong](#)

[come through](#)

[cool under pressure](#)

[cotton to that](#)

[couldn't care less](#)

[course you can](#)

[cover for me](#)

[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)

[cross that bridge when I come to it](#)

[cut a wide swath](#)

[cut it](#)

[cut it out](#)

[cut off](#)

[cut the mustard](#)

[damned if you do and damned if you don't](#)
[dance with the one who brought you](#)
[dig yourself in](#)
[do a dime](#)
[do a favor](#)
[do the honors](#)
[do without](#)
[do you follow](#)
[do you mind](#)
[do your own thing](#)
[do your part](#)
[do your utmost](#)
[do yourself proud](#)
[don't borrow trouble](#)
[don't count your chickens before they hatch](#)
[don't eat that](#)
[don't get mad; get even](#)
[don't get me wrong](#)
[don't get smart with me](#)
[don't give a crap \[B\]](#)
[don't give a damn \[B\]](#)
[don't give me any of your lip](#)
[don't give me that line/story etc.](#)
[don't go away mad; just go away](#)
[don't have a cow](#)
[don't knock it](#)
[don't know him from Adam](#)
[don't know the first thing about it](#)
[don't know the half of it](#)
[don't know whether you're coming or going](#)
[don't know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[don't look a gift horse in the mouth](#)
[don't make a mountain out of a molehill](#)
[don't make me laugh](#)
[don't make waves](#)
[don't push your luck](#)
[don't put all your eggs in one basket](#)
[don't rock the boat](#)
[don't sweat it](#)
[don't teach your grandmother how to suck eggs](#)
[don't think so](#)
[don't want to go there](#)

[down with](#)
[draw the line](#)
[drop it](#)
[drop the ball](#)
[duh](#)
[duty calls](#)
[easy as pie](#)
[easy come, easy go](#)
[easy time of it](#)
[eat out of the palm of your hand](#)
[egg me on](#)
[even](#)
[fall in line](#)
[fall short](#)
[familiarity breeds contempt](#)
[feel free](#)
[fill his shoes](#)
[fill in for me](#)
[fill the bill](#)
[fill the gap](#)
[first crack at](#)
[first off](#)
[first up](#)
[fish or cut bait](#)
[flatliner](#)
[follow the rules](#)
[follow through](#)
[forget it](#)
[fresh out](#)
[get a grip on yourself](#)
[get along](#)
[get around to](#)
[get at it](#)
[get blood from a stone](#)
[get busy](#)
[get by/scrape by](#)
[get caught up](#)
[get even](#)
[get into trouble](#)
[get it over with](#)
[get off on](#)
[get off your high horse](#)

[get off your soap box](#)
[get on it](#)
[get out](#)
[get out of](#)
[get out of the road](#)
[get out of town](#)
[get rid of](#)
[get serious](#)
[get the hang of](#)
[get this show on the road](#)
[get to first base](#)
[get to it](#)
[get your feet wet](#)
[get your way](#)
[gimme a break](#)
[give 110%](#)
[give a damn / give a shit / give a fuck \[B\]](#)
[give a little](#)
[give a shit \[B\]](#)
[give him a taste of his own medicine](#)
[give it a rest](#)
[give it a whirl](#)
[give it all you've got](#)
[give it the once-over](#)
[give it to me straight](#)
[give it your best shot](#)
[go against the grain](#)
[go all-out](#)
[go along with](#)
[go easy on](#)
[go jump in the lake](#)
[go off the deep end](#)
[go one better](#)
[go out of your way](#)
[go overboard](#)
[go places](#)
[go to great lengths/ go to any lengths](#)
[go with the flow](#)
[go without](#)
[goof up](#)
[got no business](#)
[had a bellyful](#)

[hang loose](#)
[hard done by](#)
[haul ass \[B\]](#)
[have a go](#)
[have a heart](#)
[have a mind to](#)
[have it your way](#)
[have my work cut out](#)
[have to hand it to you](#)
[haven't got a hope](#)
[haven't got the stomach for it](#)
[haven't the foggiest](#)
[hear me out](#)
[heaven forbid](#)
[hidden talent](#)
[hit speeds of](#)
[hold a candle](#)
[hold on](#)
[hold your mouth the right way](#)
[hold your temper](#)
[hold your tongue](#)
[how about that](#)
[how are you fixed for](#)
[how are you getting along](#)
[how are you making out](#)
[how come](#)
[how do you like them apples](#)
[how does that grab you](#)
[howdy](#)
[hurry up](#)
[hush up](#)
[if you can't cut it, you can't stay](#)
[if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen](#)
[if you're born to hang, you won't drown](#)
[if you're not with us you're against us](#)
[in the mood](#)
[in your bad books](#)
[it ain't over till the fat lady sings](#)
[it takes two to tango](#)
[it's a matter of life and death](#)
[it's a snap](#)
[it's beyond me](#)

[it's now or never](#)
[je ne sais quoi](#)
[joe-job](#)
[jog your memory](#)
[jump through hoops](#)
[keep a promise](#)
[keep a stiff upper lip](#)
[keep it down](#)
[keep it quiet](#)
[keep it to yourself](#)
[keep on](#)
[keep out](#)
[keep quiet](#)
[keep the faith](#)
[keep up the good work](#)
[keep you on track](#)
[keep your distance](#)
[keep your hair on](#)
[keep your head](#)
[keep your shirt on](#)
[keep your word](#)
[kill an elephant](#)
[kill for](#)
[kill two birds \(with one stone\)](#)
[King Shit on Turd Island](#)
[knock it off](#)
[know better](#)
[know which end is up](#)
[kowitz](#)
[last me](#)
[leave well enough alone](#)
[leave you holding the bag](#)
[let down](#)
[let George do it](#)
[let it be](#)
[let me have it](#)
[let off](#)
[let sleeping dogs lie](#)
[let the chips fall where they may](#)
[let up](#)
[lift a finger](#)
[lighten up](#)

[like it or lump it](#)
[look up a dead horse's ass \[B\]](#)
[love is blind](#)
[make a point of](#)
[make every effort](#)
[make good](#)
[make me do it](#)
[make my day](#)
[make out](#)
[make the grade](#)
[make the most of it](#)
[make trouble](#)
[make yourself scarce](#)
[measure up](#)
[mess up](#)
[mind over matter](#)
[mind your own business](#)
[mind your P's and Q's](#)
[miss your chance](#)
[mum's the word](#)
[my eye](#)
[never mind](#)
[no can do](#)
[no offense, but...](#)
[no problem \(no prob\)](#)
[no rest for the wicked](#)
[no rush](#)
[no way](#)
[none of your lip](#)
[not at all](#)
[not long for this world](#)
[not to worry](#)
[nothing to sneeze at](#)
[of course you can](#)
[on drugs](#)
[on the run](#)
[out of circulation](#)
[out of sight, out of mind](#)
[outdo yourself](#)
[over my dead body](#)
[over my head](#)
[pass up](#)

[pave the way](#)
[pay him back](#)
[pick yourself up](#)
[pipe down](#)
[plate is full](#)
[play a big part](#)
[play dumb](#)
[play hard to get](#)
[play into his hand](#)
[play it cool](#)
[play it safe](#)
[play my cards right](#)
[play with fire](#)
[pony up](#)
[practice what you preach](#)
[pride goeth before a fall](#)
[pull that](#)
[pull up your socks](#)
[pull your weight](#)
[push the right buttons](#)
[put a lid on it](#)
[put my foot down](#)
[put off](#)
[put out](#)
[put up or shut up](#)
[put your best foot forward](#)
[put your foot in it](#)
[put your heart into it](#)
[quit while you're ahead](#)
[rise to the occasion](#)
[rock the boat](#)
[scoop them](#)
[search me](#)
[second guess](#)
[serve notice](#)
[serve the purpose](#)
[set the world on fire](#)
[set up shop](#)
[shit or get off the pot](#)
[shoot up](#)
[show your stuff](#)
[shut up](#)

[skip out](#)
[sluff off](#)
[smarten up](#)
[so help me](#)
[spare me](#)
[spell you off](#)
[spend holidays](#)
[stay put](#)
[step aside](#)
[step out of line](#)
[step up to the plate](#)
[stop at nothing](#)
[straight from the shoulder](#)
[strike while the iron is hot](#)
[suck it up](#)
[swallow your pride](#)
[take care of business](#)
[take drugs](#)
[take it easy](#)
[take it like a man](#)
[take it with a grain of salt](#)
[take me seriously](#)
[take on](#)
[take over](#)
[take the trouble](#)
[take up the slack](#)
[take your time](#)
[talk shop](#)
[teach you the tricks of the trade](#)
[tempt fate](#)
[that'll be the frosty Friday](#)
[the best-laid plans of mice and men go oft astray](#)
[the buck stops here](#)
[the devil makes work for idle hands](#)
[the devil you say](#)
[The Golden Rule](#)
[the hell you say](#)
[the jig's up](#)
[the Peter Principle](#)
[the proof of the pudding is in the eating](#)
[there's more than one way to skin a cat](#)
[there's no love lost](#)

[there's no tomorrow](#)
[there's nothing to it](#)
[think better of it](#)
[time on your hands](#)
[to go](#)
[toe the line](#)
[top that](#)
[try it](#)
[try that](#)
[try your hand at](#)
[turn on a dime](#)
[U-turn](#)
[under pressure](#)
[up to it](#)
[up your alley](#)
[vegetate \(veg out\)](#)
[walk the talk](#)
[want to make something of it](#)
[waste no time](#)
[waste not, want not](#)
[watch your every move](#)
[watch your language](#)
[well off](#)
[what-cha-ma-call-it](#)
[what the dickens](#)
[what was I thinking of](#)
[what you don't know won't hurt you](#)
[what's the big idea](#)
[what's your poison](#)
[when in Rome, do as the Romans do](#)
[where do they get off](#)
[who do you think you are](#)
[wipe that smile off your face](#)
[work cut out for](#)
[work to rule](#)
[wouldn't be caught dead](#)
[yellow belly](#)
[you can't teach an old dog new tricks](#)
[you don't miss the water till the well runs dry](#)
[you're only as good as your last shift](#)

do-funny

[do-dad](#)

doctor

[a checkup](#)
[a clean bill of health](#)
[checkup](#)
[doctor it/doctor it up](#)
[get a shot](#)
[put the right spin on it](#)

documents

[cover your ass \[B\]](#)

dodo

[go the way of the dodo](#)

does

[a blank look](#)
[a flash in the pan](#)
[all talk and no action](#)
[black sheep](#)
[bozo](#)
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| | |
|----------|--|
| downbeat | |
|----------|--|

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| | strike up the band |
|--|------------------------------------|

| | |
|-------------|--|
| downhearted | |
|-------------|--|

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| | in a bad way |
|--|------------------------------|

| | |
|----------|--|
| downhill | |
|----------|--|

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| | hit the skids |
|--|-------------------------------|

| | |
|----------|--|
| downplay | |
|----------|--|

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| | soft pedal |
|--|----------------------------|

| | |
|----------|--|
| downtown | |
|----------|--|

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| | paint the town red |
|--|------------------------------------|

| | |
|------|--|
| doze | |
|------|--|

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| | drop off |
|--|--------------------------|

| | |
|-------|--|
| draft | |
|-------|--|

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| | straw horse |
|--|-----------------------------|

| | |
|------|--|
| drag | |
|------|--|

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| | have a drag |
|--|-----------------------------|

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| | lay rubber |
|--|----------------------------|

| | |
|-----------|---|
| drain | kiss that one goodbye |
| dramatize | play it for all it's worth |
| draw | call attention to get the jump on have a drag work to rule |
| dream | hopes dashed keep your fingers crossed pipe dream |
| dreaming | head in the clouds I'll be a monkey's uncle |
| dress | bundle up dolled up dress down dress up dressed fit to kill glad rags rug up |
| dressed | all spruced up drag queen dressed fit to kill dressed to the nines drugstore cowboy gussied up look sharp |
| dresses | dude |
| dressings | greasy kid's stuff putting on the ritz |
| drift | dig me follow me I smell where you're stepping |
| drink | a bar star |

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| | |
|----------|--|
| | dubs |
| duties | |
| | all in a day's work on my plate |
| duty | |
| | beg off big time duty calls lay a trip ride me the call of duty |
| dying | |
| | at death's door drop like flies |
| dynamite | |
| | blow up |

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| | |
|-----------|--|
| ever | if that doesn't beat all |
| every | a chicken in every pot bat a thousand by heart day in, day out done it all drink like a fish every cloud has a silver lining every trick in the book every walk of life from hand to mouth full blown hang on every word kill off know like the back of your hand left, right and center letter-perfect the whole shebang the whole shooting match to a man watch me like a hawk whole hog work my buns off |
| everybody | a hit all hell broke loose blab chip in dog eat dog for Pete's sake go with the flow King Shit on Turd Island pay the shot public property spread the word the laughing stock the talk of the town |
| everyone | a hot number a household name |

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exempt

| | |
|------------|---|
| | grandfather |
| exercise | get in shape health nut keep fit look up a dead horse's ass [B] natural high no pain, no gain warm up work off work out work up a sweat |
| exercising | |
| | workout |
| exhausted | all in blotto dog tired play out zonked |
| existence | navel-gazing |
| exit | log off |
| expand | branch out stretch the envelope |
| expect | anything goes bark up the wrong tree beggars can't be choosers catch you off guard don't count your chickens before they hatch get out of town knock your socks off prima donna stand on ceremony take for granted |
| expected | above and beyond the call of duty come through go the extra mile |

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| fame | set the world on fire |
| familiar | mainstream on the fringe plug into puppy |
| family | a chicken in every pot born with a silver spoon in his mouth bring home the bacon cut from the same cloth hand me down knock up [B] lose a family member |

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[lay the blame](#)
[love is blind](#)
[people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones](#)
[pick holes in](#)
[tear me apart](#)
[the knock against](#)
[to blame](#)

favorable

[sitting pretty](#)

favored

[the odds-on favorite](#)

favorite

[chestnut](#)
[cup of tea](#)
[fair-haired boy](#)
[steal the show](#)
[the apple of his eye](#)

favours

[kiss ass \[B\]](#)

faze

[psych out](#)

fear

[hang-up](#)
[tail between his legs](#)
[where angels fear to tread](#)
[with his tail between his legs](#)
[without turning a hair](#)

feast

[boom or bust](#)
[get a load of that](#)
[it never rains but it pours](#)
[take a gander](#)
[when it rains it pours](#)

feather

[good hands](#)

feature

[all the bells and whistles](#)
[beauty is only skin deep](#)
[know like the back of your hand](#)
[selling point](#)

feces

[doggy doo](#)

fed

[had enough](#)
[had it](#)
[keep the wolf from the door](#)
[sick to death](#)

federal

[make a big to-do](#)
[The Rock](#)

fee

[the going rate](#)

feed

[a paltry sum](#)
[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[peanuts](#)

feedback

[splashback](#)

feeding

[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)

feel

[all thumbs](#)
[anchor you](#)
[break your heart](#)
[breathe a sigh of relief](#)

[burn a hole in your pocket](#)
[catch a buzz](#)
[climb the walls](#)
[cocoon](#)
[come back to haunt you](#)
[cut me to the quick](#)
[cut you down to size](#)
[do your own thing](#)
[drive me crazy](#)
[drive me up the wall](#)
[drive you nuts](#)
[eat humble pie](#)
[fall in love](#)
[falling in love](#)
[feel a draft](#)
[feel blue](#)
[feel for](#)
[feel free](#)
[feel the pinch](#)
[fucked by the fickle finger of fate \[B\]](#)
[get high](#)
[get me down](#)
[get worked up](#)
[get you down](#)
[give a shit \[B\]](#)
[give me a lift](#)
[give me the creeps](#)
[got a crush on](#)
[got it bad](#)
[got the blues](#)
[got the hots for](#)
[have a soft spot for](#)
[have an attack](#)
[hit rock bottom](#)
[how does that grab you](#)
[hurt my feelings](#)
[it phased me out](#)
[leave the door open](#)
[lose your appetite](#)
[make a pass](#)
[make me sick/mad etc.](#)
[make yourself at home](#)

[miss you](#)
[more than welcome](#)
[move you to tears](#)
[pick you up](#)
[play on my heart strings](#)
[pluck at the heart strings](#)
[pop your buttons](#)
[put the heat on](#)
[put to shame](#)
[put you in a bad mood](#)
[quake in his boots](#)
[raise your spirits](#)
[reach me](#)
[run you ragged](#)
[same here](#)
[scratch your head](#)
[sleep it off](#)
[speak your mind](#)
[stroke your ego](#)
[take it the wrong way](#)
[take it to heart](#)
[take offense](#)
[take umbrage](#)
[the sweet spot](#)
[to be perfectly honest](#)
[touch you](#)
[turn you on](#)
[turn your stomach](#)

feeling

[a bad taste in my mouth](#)
[a crush on](#)
[a lift](#)
[a new lease on life](#)
[a royal pain](#)
[at heart](#)
[at peace](#)
[baby blues](#)
[back on your feet](#)
[bad blood](#)
[birds of a feather flock together](#)
[body language](#)
[cabin fever](#)

[cup runneth over](#)
[ego trip](#)
[feeling bum](#)
[feeling his oats](#)
[from the bottom of my heart](#)
[get high](#)
[give me a lift](#)
[go to hell in a handbasket](#)
[half-corked](#)
[hangover](#)
[hard feelings](#)
[have a heart](#)
[have a soft spot for](#)
[high](#)
[how are you doing](#)
[in a bad way](#)
[in agreement](#)
[in bad shape](#)
[in cold blood](#)
[in love](#)
[in seventh heaven](#)
[in the mood](#)
[in the pink](#)
[light at the end of the tunnel](#)
[mind games](#)
[mixed feelings](#)
[natural high](#)
[no hard feelings](#)
[not feeling myself](#)
[not with it](#)
[of two minds](#)
[on the edge of your seat](#)
[open up](#)
[out of it](#)
[out of sorts](#)
[pissing into the wind \[B\]](#)
[pour out your soul](#)
[read you](#)
[riding high](#)
[same here](#)
[second wind](#)
[sinking feeling](#)

[sour grapes](#)
[sour puss](#)
[spaced out](#)
[swelled head](#)
[take the pulse](#)
[test the water](#)
[the call of duty](#)
[things are looking up](#)
[trifle with me](#)
[under my skin](#)
[under pressure](#)
[under the weather](#)
[up to speed](#)
[wear your heart on your sleeve](#)
[what a rush](#)
[white knuckles](#)
[with all my heart](#)
[woozy](#)
[young at heart](#)

feet

[grab a chair](#)
[kick back](#)
[point-blank range](#)

fellatio

[a blow job \[B\]](#)
[give head \[B\]](#)

fellow

[hail-fellow-well-met](#)

felt

[used to](#)

fend

[leave you in the lurch](#)

fever

[fever breaks](#)

few

[a chunk of change](#)
[a man of few words](#)
[a pocket of resistance](#)
[a rolling stone gathers no moss](#)
[and then some](#)
[bend your elbow](#)
[bevy of beauties](#)

[down the road](#)
[feeling good](#)
[few and far between](#)
[get off a few good ones](#)
[in dribs and drabs](#)
[point-blank range](#)
[pop over](#)
[scarce as hen's teeth](#)
[scratch the surface](#)
[slow day](#)
[soft market](#)
[sound bite](#)
[take a break](#)
[the dying seconds](#)
[the in-crowd](#)
[the odd one](#)
[tide me over](#)
[tip a few](#)
[zinger](#)

fib

[white lie](#)

fibber

[a duke's mixture](#)

fickle

[stroke of good luck](#)

fiddle

[take a back seat](#)
[the picture of health](#)

fiddlesticks

[fuddle duddle*](#)

field

[a level playing field](#)
[level the playing field](#)
[out of bounds](#)
[the naked eye](#)

fierce

[give him the evil eye](#)

fifth

[fifth column](#)

fight

[a dust-up](#)
[a free-for-all](#)

[armed to the teeth](#)

[beat up on](#)

[blood is up](#)

[chip on his shoulder](#)

[come of age](#)

[come to a head](#)

[cruising for a bruising](#)

[Donnybrook](#)

[drop your gloves \(hockey\)](#)

[duke it out](#)

[fight fire with fire](#)

[fight tooth and nail](#)

[gang up on](#)

[guard is down](#)

[hair off the dog that bit you](#)

[hammer and tongs](#)

[have it out](#)

[it takes two to tango](#)

[make trouble](#)

[make war](#)

[mess with](#)

[mix it up](#)

[pick a fight](#)

[run-in](#)

[set-to](#)

[shake hands](#)

[shop-floor struggle](#)

[showdown](#)

[spoil for a fight](#)

[square off](#)

[take a round out of](#)

[take on](#)

[tangle with](#)

[the gloves are off](#)

[the shit hit the fan](#)

[the underground](#)

[throw you to the dogs](#)

[touch off](#)

[tough customer](#)

[turn the other cheek](#)

[two-fisted attack](#)

[up in arms](#)

[want to make something of it](#)
[when push comes to shove](#)
[when the dust settles](#)
[whup you](#)

fighting

[all hell broke loose](#)
[at the hands of](#)
[brouhaha](#)
[bury the hatchet](#)
[chip on his shoulder](#)
[knock them down, drag them out](#)
[lay down your arms](#)
[patch things up](#)
[the fat hit the fire](#)
[throw down your arms](#)
[throw in the towel](#)
[turn ugly](#)
[when push comes to shove](#)

figure

[a ball-park figure](#)
[duh](#)
[get a fix on](#)
[get it straight](#)

file

[circular file](#)
[one by one](#)

fill

[a fill-up](#)
[carry the day](#)
[do the honors](#)
[fill her up](#)
[fill out](#)
[fill the bill](#)
[fill the gap](#)
[fill up](#)
[nosebag](#)
[pig out](#)
[run a tub](#)
[take up the slack](#)
[top it up](#)

fill-up

[fill her up](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| film | chick flick |
| filthy | deep pockets money to burn rolling in it |
| final | and that's that bottom line don't count your chickens before they hatch finish off finishing touch go all the way (sports) have the final say it ain't over till the fat lady sings rubber match showdown the bottom line wait for the other shoe to drop written in stone |
| finalize | nail it down |
| finance | put up the money |
| financial | cut losses in the black in the red write it off |
| find | a bar star at your fingertips bed down belly up to the bar bottle man catch me doing that check it out check out come across come by come into your own curiosity killed the cat |

[drum up](#)
[Dumpster diving](#)
[fall into my lap](#)
[find a way around](#)
[find your way](#)
[gear up](#)
[get a handle on](#)
[get around it](#)
[get to the bottom of](#)
[get to the root of the problem](#)
[get wind of](#)
[go figure](#)
[hole up](#)
[look into](#)
[look up/look it up](#)
[make do](#)
[meet you half way](#)
[musical chairs](#)
[nail down](#)
[nitpick](#)
[open a window](#)
[pair off/pair up](#)
[pound the pavement](#)
[price out](#)
[read between the lines](#)
[send him up](#)
[strike a bargain](#)
[strike it rich](#)
[take a poll](#)
[take cover](#)
[take solace](#)
[tear me apart](#)
[try me](#)
[where there's a will, there's a way](#)
[work things out](#)

fine

[a jim dandy](#)
[A-OK](#)
[bonzer](#)
[check up on](#)
[class act](#)
[cool](#)

[copacetic](#)
[ducky](#)
[how are you doing](#)
[just ducky](#)
[melt in your mouth](#)
[neat](#)
[okay, OK](#)
[pay the penalty](#)
[peachy](#)
[so far, so good](#)
[the end justifies the means](#)
[walk](#)
[work](#)

finest

[cream of the crop](#)
[put on the dog](#)
[the lap of luxury](#)

finger

[a pinch of salt](#)
[all thumbs](#)
[bust my butt](#)
[cement hands](#)
[fingers the size of bananas](#)
[get the finger \[B\] \(get the bird\)](#)
[on a string](#)
[peek-a-boo](#)
[stroke of good luck](#)

finish

[a score to settle](#)
[bottoms up](#)
[bring to a close](#)
[clean up your plate](#)
[cook your goose](#)
[drag it out](#)
[eat it up](#)
[end up](#)
[get it over with](#)
[go the distance](#)
[holding the bag](#)
[leave you holding the bag](#)
[make out](#)
[nip and tuck](#)

[see it through](#)
[stick it out](#)
[tie up loose ends](#)
[to top it off](#)
[top it off](#)
[wind up](#)
[wrap it up](#)

finished

[ahead of the game](#)
[caught up](#)
[dead meat](#)
[done with it](#)
[down to the short strokes](#)
[game over](#)
[home free](#)
[it ain't over till it's over](#)
[it ain't over till the fat lady sings](#)
[it's all over but the crying](#)
[it's all over but the shouting](#)
[it's over/ it's over with](#)
[light at the end of the tunnel](#)
[over with](#)
[school's out](#)
[the proof of the pudding is in the eating](#)
[under my belt](#)
[when the dust settles](#)

finishes

[a dead heat](#)

finishing

[tie up loose ends](#)

fink

[jerk](#)
[rat fink](#)

fire

[can](#)
[give you the axe](#)
[give you the boot](#)
[go up in smoke](#)
[hair off the dog that bit you](#)
[in the pipe five by five](#)
[make your mark](#)
[set fire](#)

[shoot](#)
[take chances](#)
[up in smoke](#)
[world beater](#)

fired

[down the road](#)
[get axed](#)
[heads will roll](#)
[history](#)
[on fire](#)

firing

[hatchet man](#)
[in the pipe five by five](#)

firm

[give a little](#)
[hard nosed](#)
[seller's market](#)
[stick to your guns](#)
[take the bull by the horns](#)

firmly

[drive a hard bargain](#)
[won't see you stuck](#)

first

[a dead heat](#)
[a flash in the pan](#)
[a leg up](#)
[a new broom sweeps clean](#)
[age before beauty](#)
[at first glance](#)
[at the crack of dawn](#)
[back to square one](#)
[bottom rung](#)
[break a story](#)
[charity begins at home](#)
[class act](#)
[double or nothing](#)
[draw first blood](#)
[first and foremost](#)
[first come, first served](#)
[first crack at](#)
[first dibs](#)
[first down/first and ten](#)

[first off](#)
[first up](#)
[for openers](#)
[from day one](#)
[get in on the ground floor](#)
[get off the ground](#)
[get the hang of](#)
[get to first base](#)
[in person](#)
[learn the ropes](#)
[look out for number one](#)
[love at first sight](#)
[right off the bat](#)
[scoop them](#)
[show you the ropes](#)
[spade work](#)
[the early bird gets the worm](#)
[the first leg](#)
[the first pancake is always spoiled](#)
[top drawer](#)
[top notch](#)

| | |
|---------|---|
| firstly | |
| | first and foremost |
| fish | |
| | fall between two stools fish and company stink after three days the one that got away |
| fishy | |
| | something smells there's something rotten in the state of Denmark |
| fist | |
| | drop your gloves (hockey) duke it out take a poke at |
| fisted | |
| | tight-ass [B] |
| fit | |
| | fit as a fiddle get in shape have a bird have a conniption keep in good shape |

[stick out like a sore thumb](#)
[the picture of health](#)
[try it on](#)
[whip you into shape](#)
[work out](#)

fitness

[into fitness/dancing etc.](#)
[whip you into shape](#)

fitting

[potato sack](#)

five

[power play \(hockey\)](#)
[take five](#)

fix

[have a fix](#)
[up shit creek \[B\]](#)

flack

[give you static](#)

flag

[hail a cab](#)

flap

[gab](#)
[in a tizzy](#)

flash

[in a split second](#)
[like a bolt from the blue](#)
[like a chicken on a June bug](#)

flat

[a blowout](#)
[cream you](#)
[full out](#)
[full tilt](#)
[have a flat](#)
[in full flight](#)
[in tune \(music\)](#)
[kiss curls \(hair style\)](#)
[pedal to the metal](#)
[strapped](#)

flatfoot

[pig](#)

flattery

[kiss the blarney stone](#)

flavor

| | |
|----------|---|
| | spice up |
| flaw | |
| | nitpick seconds to perfection |
| flesh | |
| | cheesecake |
| flew | |
| | take a powder |
| flexible | |
| | give a little roll with the punches |
| flies | |
| | time flies when you're having fun |
| flight | |
| | on the wing take a flight |
| flinch | |
| | bat an eye |
| fling | |
| | live it up |
| flip | |
| | flip you for it freak/freak out tump |
| flipping | |
| | cotton-picking friggin |
| floating | |
| | a pine float piss like a race horse [B] |
| flock | |
| | a gaggle of geese |
| floor | |
| | drop like flies dust bunny full throttle gun it put the hammer down |
| flourish | |
| | make an entrance |
| flow | |
| | cascade (business) |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| flustered | |
| | in a tizzy |
| fly | |
| | a fly on the wall fly low |
| flying | |
| | on the wing |
| focused | |
| | put your mind to it stuck on |
| fold | |
| | camel toes [B] cave in |
| folk | |
| | raisins stubblejumper |
| follow | |
| | according to Hoyle breathe down my neck chaser dog me drop the ball get your shit together [B] I smell where you're stepping live by make good see it through toe the line |
| followed | |
| | seven come eleven |
| following | |
| | hot on the trail hot on your heels in keeping with look over your shoulder on his tail on the heels Roaring Twenties |
| food | |
| | a chicken in every pot a doggy bag a handout |

[bag lady](#)
[chow](#)
[clean up your plate](#)
[dubs](#)
[eat it up](#)
[eat you out of house and home](#)
[everything from soup to nuts](#)
[fill your face](#)
[Fletcherize your food](#)
[freeload](#)
[greasy spoon](#)
[have a bite](#)
[health nut](#)
[junk food](#)
[keep you going](#)
[leftovers](#)
[live on](#)
[melt in your mouth](#)
[natural high](#)
[nosebag](#)
[on a full stomach](#)
[on an empty stomach](#)
[seconds](#)
[take-out restaurant](#)
[take you in](#)
[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)

fool

[a fool and his money are soon parted](#)
[a horse's ass \[B\]](#)
[an airhead](#)
[ass](#)
[crazy like a fox](#)
[deke you](#)
[ding-a-ling](#)
[ditz](#)
[do a number on](#)
[dumbo](#)
[fink](#)
[give you the gears](#)
[goof off](#)
[have an affair](#)
[horse around](#)

[jerk](#)
[joke around](#)
[josh](#)
[kid](#)
[nitwit](#)
[play a joke on](#)
[play the fool](#)
[pull the wool over your eyes](#)
[pull your leg](#)
[snow them](#)
[sucker you](#)
[take leave of your senses](#)
[tool around](#)
[turkey](#)
[twit](#)
[yoyo](#)

fooled

[taken in](#)

fooling

[horseplay](#)
[putting me on](#)
[tongue in cheek](#)

foolish

[a bimbo](#)
[a lot of folderol](#)
[crazy like a fox](#)
[dork \[B\]](#)
[hold your drinks](#)
[lamebrain](#)
[numbskull](#)
[nut](#)
[penny wise, dollar dumb](#)
[play the fool](#)
[prick \[B\]](#)
[shithead \[B\]](#)
[soft in the head](#)
[wacky](#)

foolishness

[monkey business](#)

foot

[add insult to injury](#)
[ride the clutch](#)

[step on your dick](#)
[your own worst enemy](#)

football

[a good arm](#)
[first down/first and ten](#)

for

[a chicken in every pot](#)
[a dead heat](#)
[a doggy bag](#)
[a feather in your cap](#)
[a fine-toothed comb](#)
[a hollow leg](#)
[a hotdog](#)
[a keeper](#)
[a lost cause](#)
[a marked man](#)
[a steal](#)
[a sweet tooth](#)
[all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy](#)
[an apple a day keeps the doctor away](#)
[ask for the moon](#)
[ass on the line](#)
[at heart](#)
[at your beck and call](#)
[bag lady](#)
[bang for your buck](#)
[be there](#)
[becomes you](#)
[bet on a lame rooster](#)
[bite me \[B\]](#)
[bite the hand that feeds you](#)
[bleeding heart](#)
[bomb around](#)
[bottle drive](#)
[brownie points](#)
[bully for you](#)
[buy a round](#)
[buy time](#)
[call for](#)
[call into account](#)
[cash in](#)
[catch a glimpse](#)

[check-out](#)
[check over](#)
[cheerio](#)
[cherrypicker \(hockey\)](#)
[chick flick](#)
[chimo](#)
[chip in](#)
[chip on his shoulder](#)
[collecting dust](#)
[cool your heels](#)
[cover for me](#)
[cramp your style](#)
[cruise](#)
[cruising for a bruising](#)
[cut out for](#)
[cut rate](#)
[dead meat](#)
[deal me in](#)
[do a dime](#)
[do a favor](#)
[do a gig](#)
[do the honors](#)
[dog eat dog](#)
[don't look a gift horse in the mouth](#)
[don't push your luck](#)
[drag it out](#)
[drag on](#)
[drop out of sight](#)
[dubs](#)
[dust](#)
[Dutch treat](#)
[eat you for breakfast](#)
[even up](#)
[faze me out](#)
[feel for](#)
[fend for yourself](#)
[find fault](#)
[flash a smile](#)
[flat](#)
[for a song](#)
[for crying out loud](#)
[for goodness sake](#)

[for gosh sake](#)
[for heaven's sake](#)
[for kicks](#)
[for laughs](#)
[for long](#)
[for love nor money](#)
[for Pete's sake](#)
[for the fun of it](#)
[forever and a day](#)
[front me](#)
[fuss over](#)
[get your tits in a wringer](#)
[give a black eye](#)
[give him a taste of his own medicine](#)
[go for a spin](#)
[go to bat for](#)
[gofer](#)
[good on you](#)
[got the hots for](#)
[grunge \(fashion\)](#)
[guard is down](#)
[gussied up](#)
[handout](#)
[hands up](#)
[have a looksee](#)
[have a soft spot for](#)
[have it coming](#)
[have one on me](#)
[headhunter](#)
[high hopes](#)
[hit me for a loan](#)
[hold a grudge](#)
[hook, line and sinker](#)
[horny \[B\]](#)
[hot on the trail](#)
[if the shoe fits, wear it](#)
[in a coon's age](#)
[in a long time](#)
[in a slump](#)
[in charge](#)
[in good hands](#)
[in heaven's name](#)

[in my care](#)

[in the long haul](#)

[in the long run](#)

[in the meantime](#)

[in the running](#)

[it has your name on it](#)

[it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all](#)

[it's all over but the crying](#)

[jam session](#)

[jump queue](#)

[jump ship](#)

[keep an eye on](#)

[keep an eye out](#)

[keep in good shape](#)

[keep your ear to the ground](#)

[keep your eyes peeled](#)

[killer instinct](#)

[laid bare](#)

[land on your feet](#)

[last call](#)

[last hurrah](#)

[last me](#)

[last resort](#)

[lay down your life for](#)

[leave you in the lurch](#)

[let George do it](#)

[level the playing field](#)

[lickety-split](#)

[long for](#)

[long time no see](#)

[look after](#)

[look out for number one](#)

[low-ball him](#)

[make a false move](#)

[make amends](#)

[make an offer](#)

[make money](#)

[make something of yourself](#)

[make your mark](#)

[mayday \(m'aidez\)](#)

[nest egg](#)

[no use for](#)

[not worth a plugged nickel](#)
[nothing ventured, nothing gained](#)
[old money](#)
[on behalf of](#)
[on my case](#)
[on our last legs](#)
[on purpose](#)
[on side](#)
[on the books](#)
[on the make](#)
[on the market](#)
[one false move](#)
[out of his element](#)
[out of luck](#)
[out of my hair](#)
[out of step](#)
[out to get you](#)
[over my head](#)
[own medicine](#)
[pay my respects](#)
[pay the shot](#)
[pay through the nose](#)
[pay your dues](#)
[pick holes in](#)
[picky](#)
[piggy bank](#)
[pin your hopes on](#)
[Plan B](#)
[play a prank on](#)
[play a trick on](#)
[play the ham](#)
[play to the crowd](#)
[pop over](#)
[pound of flesh](#)
[pound the pavement](#)
[power play \(business\)](#)
[prepare like crazy](#)
[props](#)
[psyched/psyched up](#)
[pull for](#)
[pull out all the stops](#)
[pull your chain](#)

[puppy](#)
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| | |
|--------|---|
| fresh | a new lease on life fish and company stink after three days make advances |
| friday | blue moon TGIF |
| fried | over easy |
| friend | a bar star a brick a faraway look a little bird told me absence makes the heart grow fonder Bob's your uncle boozing buddies bosom buddy break off call off the dogs cruise cry the blues dance with the one who brought you draw their fire fair-weather friend familiarity breeds contempt fast friends fine-feathered friend friends with get around go around with hit it off hobnob in good hands in the doghouse it takes two to tango knock around with make friends make up name-dropper on my good side patch things up |

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| | |
|--------|---|
| fuss | don't make a mountain out of a molehill make a scene |
| fussy | pernickety/persnickety picky split hairs |
| futile | beat your head against a stone wall pissing into the wind [B] |
| future | down the line down the road feather your nest future looks bright in store for in the long run roll around the family jewels |
| fuzz | cop pig |

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| gab | a way with words flap your gums talk the leg off the lamb of God |
| gadzooks | the dickens you say |
| gain | at stake chill out first down/first and ten nothing ventured, nothing gained seize the opportunity suck up to |
| gamble | a pig in a poke bet on risky business take a chance |
| gambling | a hot hand blow a bundle drop a bundle high roller in the hole skins game |
| game | a barnburner a cliff-hanger a hot hand a nail-biter a quickie a whale of a game Donnybrook game for anything goose is cooked |

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[give a damn / give a shit / give a fuck \[B\]](#)

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[give head \[B\]](#)

[give her](#)

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[give it to me straight](#)

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[serve them right](#)
[set you straight](#)
[sock it to me](#)
[stand away](#)
[strike up the band](#)
[take a strip off](#)
[take oath](#)
[take you in](#)
[tear a strip off](#)
[throw in the towel](#)
[throw some light on](#)
[tie into](#)
[turn about is fair play](#)
[turn in](#)
[what goes around comes around](#)

given

[courtesy of](#)
[led to believe](#)
[parachute](#)

giving

[a blow job \[B\]](#)
[half-hearted](#)
[in brief](#)
[own medicine](#)

glad

[dress up](#)
[Sunday best](#)
[TGIF](#)
[threads](#)

glance

[a fleeting glance](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| glass | a pine float piggy bank |
| glasses | shades the naked eye |
| glitch | snag |
| global | surf the Net |
| gloves | drop your gloves (hockey) |
| glowing | sing his praises |
| go | a fool and his money are soon parted a.k.a. (aka) above and beyond the call of duty a.k.a. (aka) all-out back to the grind back up be off beat it bend over backwards between the devil and the deep blue sea boogie bottom out break a promise break away butt out buzz off can catch a plane/bus/train chomping at the bit clear out climb the walls come across [B] come of age copacetic crash crash a party |

[cross someone](#)

[damn you \[B\]](#)

[darken a church door](#)

[date](#)

[dilly-dally](#)

[do a 180](#)

[do it the hard way](#)

[don't know whether you're coming or going](#)

[drag on](#)

[draw a blank](#)

[drive me up the wall](#)

[drop dead](#)

[drop in](#)

[drop off](#)

[duh](#)

[fever breaks](#)

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[fuck off \[B\]](#)

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[gang up on](#)

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[get along](#)

[get carried away](#)

[get going](#)

[get lost](#)

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[get over](#)

[get rolling](#)

[get the green light](#)

[git](#)

[give her shit \[B\]](#)

[go ape](#)

[go bananas](#)

[go berserk](#)

[go bonkers](#)

[go bust](#)

[go crazy](#)

[go down](#)

[go downtown \[B\]](#)

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[go like stink](#)
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[go off the deep end](#)
[go overboard](#)
[go pound salt](#)
[go steady](#)
[go tell your mother she wants you](#)
[go to hell \[B\]](#)
[go to hell in a handbasket](#)
[go under](#)
[gofer](#)
[good going](#)
[good to go](#)
[ground me](#)
[grounded](#)
[have a boo](#)
[have a whiz](#)
[have it both ways](#)
[head down there](#)
[head up there](#)
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[hit the bricks](#)
[hit the hay](#)
[hit the skids](#)
[hold up](#)
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[jump ship](#)
[keep a low profile](#)
[keep on trucking](#)
[keep pace](#)
[keep up](#)
[kick at the cat](#)
[kick up your heels](#)
[killer instinct](#)
[kiss off](#)
[landlubber](#)

[lay off](#)
[let her rip](#)
[like a bat out of hell](#)
[like hell \[B\]](#)
[live it up](#)
[lose your mind](#)
[make a beeline](#)
[make it](#)
[move it](#)
[Murphy's Law](#)
[nature calls](#)
[nothing ventured, nothing gained](#)
[off with you](#)
[on the run](#)
[on the wing](#)
[one for the money, two for the show...](#)
[paint the town red](#)
[pan out](#)
[part company](#)
[part with](#)
[pay a visit](#)
[pick up the pace](#)
[piss off \[B\]](#)
[pit stop](#)
[play along](#)
[play the field](#)
[pound salt](#)
[powder my nose](#)
[power to burn](#)
[pull out all the stops](#)
[pull up stakes](#)
[push the boat out](#)
[put the hammer down](#)
[put yourself out](#)
[quit this place](#)
[read it over](#)
[run a red light](#)
[run amuck](#)
[run an errand](#)
[run down](#)
[run its course](#)
[run rampant](#)

[run the gauntlet](#)
[run through](#)
[run up](#)
[see](#)
[see a man about a dog](#)
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[show up](#)
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[stay up](#)
[steer clear](#)
[step on it](#)
[stick-in-the-mud](#)
[string along](#)
[suck eggs](#)
[swelled head](#)
[take a drive/trip](#)
[take a flight](#)
[take a hike](#)
[take it easy on](#)
[take its course](#)
[take off, eh](#)
[take out](#)
[take the stage](#)
[tear around](#)
[tell him where to go](#)
[that's the spirit](#)
[the breaking point](#)
[the hell you say](#)
[the turning point](#)
[tip the scales at](#)

[to a fault](#)
[try your darndest](#)
[turn in](#)
[U-turn](#)
[vamoose](#)
[wait up for](#)
[walk](#)
[what the dickens](#)
[when the dust settles](#)
[where angels fear to tread](#)
[whiz](#)
[with wings](#)
[work out](#)
[you and the horse you rode in on](#)
[you don't miss the water till the well runs dry](#)
[zip](#)

go-getter

[self-starter](#)

goal

[a lost cause](#)
[blank](#)
[chasing rainbows](#)
[expand your horizons](#)
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[pull the goalie \(hockey\)](#)

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god

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god-damn

[doggone](#)

godwin

[The Group of Five/The Regina Five](#)

goes

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[a bar star](#)

[drown your sorrow](#)

[front man](#)

[good riddance](#)

[needless to say](#)

[that's life](#)

[time flies when you're having fun](#)

[turn about is fair play](#)

[turncoat](#)

goesblank

[lose your tongue](#)

goeth

[give a black eye](#)

gofer

[joe-job](#)

[low on the totem pole](#)

going

[a going concern.](#)

[away to the races](#)

[blind date](#)

[bottle drive](#)

[don't hold your breath](#)

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[down the pike](#)

[frazzled](#)

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[got him covered](#)

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[heavy going](#)

[hell bent for election](#)

[in full flight](#)

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[move it](#)

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[offside \(hockey\)](#)
[on the move](#)
[on the road](#)
[out of here \(outa here\)](#)
[press on](#)
[rocky road](#)
[stop you in your tracks](#)
[tough sledding](#)
[uphill battle](#)
[vamoose](#)
[way to go](#)
[what gives](#)
[what in the name of heaven](#)
[what's cooking](#)
[what's going down](#)
[what's going on](#)
[what's the poop](#)
[when push comes to shove](#)
[where there's a will, there's a way](#)
[win going away](#)

gold

[strike it rich](#)
[you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear](#)

golden

[a window of opportunity](#)
[sunset years](#)
[twilight years](#)

golf

[all teed up](#)
[skins game](#)

golly

[by gosh](#)
[gee willickers](#)
[gee whiz](#)
[gosh](#)

gone

[cry the blues](#)
[down the tubes](#)
[game over](#)
[gonzo](#)
[goose is cooked](#)

[history](#)
[see hide nor hair](#)
[tail lights](#)

goner

[too far gone](#)

gonzo

[exit stage left](#)

good

['at a boy \(that a boy\)](#)
['at a girl \(that a girl\)](#)
[a clean bill of health](#)
[a fighting chance](#)
[a golden opportunity](#)
[a good egg](#)
[a good head](#)
[a hoot](#)
[a lucky break](#)
[a new broom sweeps clean](#)
[a notch below](#)
[a regular guy](#)
[a riot](#)
[a sure bet](#)
[ain't half-bad](#)
[all goes well](#)
[all it's cracked up to be](#)
[an apple a day keeps the doctor away](#)
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[as luck would have it](#)
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[did good](#)
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[done good](#)
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[good show](#)
[good time](#)
[great Scot](#)
[green thumb](#)
[hail-fellow-well-met](#)
[half-bad](#)
[happy motoring](#)
[have fun](#)
[haven't got a hope](#)
[hell's bells](#)
[hit the nail on the head](#)
[how are you doing](#)
[how do you do](#)
[how goes it](#)
[howdy](#)
[if my memory serves me correctly](#)

[in his good books](#)
[in my good books](#)
[in seventh heaven](#)
[it works](#)
[jolly good fellow](#)
[keep up the good work](#)
[lay it on the line](#)
[lead you on](#)
[level with you](#)
[live up to](#)
[look down your nose at](#)
[luck out](#)
[lucky streak](#)
[make a life for yourself](#)
[make hay while the sun shines](#)
[mean well](#)
[music to my ears](#)
[natural high](#)
[no news is good news](#)
[none the worse for wear](#)
[not](#)
[not half bad](#)
[not too shabby](#)
[not worth a plugged nickel](#)
[nothing to sneeze at](#)
[off to a bad start](#)
[off to the races](#)
[okay, OK](#)
[on a roll](#)
[on good terms](#)
[on my good side](#)
[pale by comparison](#)
[pay a compliment](#)
[put in a good word for](#)
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[right as rain](#)
[right on](#)
[rock](#)
[rocks socks](#)
[see fit](#)
[seen better days](#)
[seller's market](#)

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[shit fire and apple butter](#)
[sitting pretty](#)
[so far, so good](#)
[so-so](#)
[start with a bang](#)
[straight talk](#)
[suck the hind tit \[B\]](#)
[suits you](#)
[swear by](#)
[sweeten the pot](#)
[take a back seat](#)
[take a joke](#)
[that a boy/that a girl](#)
[that's the spirit](#)
[the end justifies the means](#)
[the life of Riley](#)
[the luck of the Irish](#)
[the old college try](#)
[the pits](#)
[the road to hell is paved with good intentions](#)
[the sweet spot](#)
[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)
[there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so](#)
[through thick and thin](#)
[throw the baby out with the bath water](#)
[to hell with that \[B\]](#)
[top notch](#)
[top of the morning](#)
[touch wood](#)
[turn up your nose at](#)
[up to par](#)
[up to scratch](#)
[up to snuff](#)
[up with](#)
[upside](#)
[way to go](#)
[what's what](#)
[wheeler-dealer](#)
[work ethic](#)
[you have to be good to be lucky](#)
[yum](#)

[zinger](#)

good-for-nothing

[deadbeat](#)

good-natured

[a good egg](#)

goodbye

[bye](#)[bye for now](#)[cheerio](#)[cheers](#)[cheery-bye](#)[ciao](#)[sign off](#)[so long](#)[toodles/toodle-oo](#)

goodfineok

[that's cool](#)

goodies

[all the bells and whistles](#)

goodness

[for gosh sake](#)[for heaven's sake](#)[heavens](#)[TGIF](#)[thank heavens](#)[whew](#)

goof

[fart around \[B\]](#)[fool around](#)[horse around](#)[tool around](#)

goose

[all around Robin Hood's barn](#)[cook your goose](#)[gun it](#)[skunk](#)

goosed

[Canada goose](#)

gorgeous

[hunk](#)

gosh

[by golly](#)[for crying out loud](#)

[gee](#)
[gee willickers](#)
[gee whiz](#)
[geez](#)
[golly](#)
[good golly](#)
[good gravy](#)
[goodness gracious](#)
[great Scot](#)
[heavens](#)
[hokey Dinah](#)
[holy cow](#)
[holy Moses](#)
[jeepers](#)
[jimminy crickets](#)
[yikes](#)

gospel

[scout's honor](#)
[the gospel truth](#)
[without a word of a lie](#)

gossip

[bush telegraph](#)
[keep your ear to the ground](#)
[muckrake](#)
[through the grapevine](#)
[water-cooler talk](#)

got

[dead in the water](#)
[give her](#)
[go all-out](#)
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[got a light](#)
[got the balls \[B\]](#)
[got what it takes](#)
[got you by the balls \[B\]](#)
[have your period \[B\]](#)
[lose your tongue](#)
[own medicine](#)
[sweet on](#)
[the fat hit the fire](#)
[the one that got away](#)
[you betcha](#)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| gotcha | got you by the short hairs |
| government | granola red tape trickle-down economics |
| grab | glom onto power play (business) take a load off your feet |
| grade | ahead of the curve The Grim Reaper |
| gradually | cold turkey die down grow on you peter out |
| grain | a grain of truth breadbasket do it the hard way stubblejumper |
| grand | a chunk of change home run (baseball) life is just a bowl of cherries |
| grandfather | grandfather |
| grapevine | bush telegraph by word of mouth put out feelers rumor has it |
| grass | twerp |
| grateful | don't look a gift horse in the mouth much obliged |
| grave | deep six |
| graveyard | pushing up daisies |

| | |
|---------|---|
| gravy | gravy train great Scot icing on the cake |
| grease | grunge money talks |
| greased | faster than a speeding bullet lightning fast |
| greasy | greaser greasy spoon |
| great | a blast a going concern, a hell of a time awesome be-all, end-all blow snakes (music) blue sky bravo cool beans drop like flies ducky gas have a blast it's the duck's guts not so hot nothing to write home about peachy pocket Hercules riding high right on rock set the world on fire she peed some chick speak highly of swell twinkle toes unsung hero |

[what a rush](#)

greatest

[the be-all, end-all](#)[the living end](#)[the most](#)[to the max](#)

greatly

[think the world of](#)

greenback

[buck](#)

greeting

[cheers](#)

gretzky

[The Great One](#)

grew

[bosom buddy](#)[cut my teeth on](#)

grief

[have a bird](#)[hell's bells](#)[hold up](#)[shit fire and apple butter](#)

grime

[grunge](#)

grin

[grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads](#)

grind

[stop you cold](#)

grinning

[grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads](#)

grip

[face facts](#)[pull yourself together](#)

groaty

[to the max](#)

groceries

[everything from soup to nuts](#)

groom

[let yourself go](#)

groomed

[clean cut](#)[gussied up](#)[look sharp](#)

[spiffy](#)

groovy

[cool](#)

[hip](#)

[spinork/spinorky](#)

[that's cool](#)

gross

[yuk](#)

grouchy

[get up on the wrong side of bed](#)

ground

[baptism by fire](#)

[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)

[drop behind](#)

[fence sitter](#)

[freeze-up](#)

[land on your feet](#)

[slip](#)

[think the world of](#)

group

[a pocket of resistance](#)

[a slug](#)

[bevy of beauties](#)

[cream of the crop](#)

[dasein](#)

[fifth column](#)

[Gang of Four](#)

[have the floor](#)

[jam](#)

[of the lot](#)

[Old Boys' Club](#)

[on behalf of](#)

[on side](#)

[on the whole](#)

[one of the boys](#)

[out in the cold](#)

[paint with the same brush](#)

[piss parade \[B\]](#)

[ride herd](#)

[single out](#)

[take sides](#)

[The Group of Seven](#)

[the runt of the litter](#)

[turnout](#)

[vote of thanks](#)

grouse

[bitch](#)

grow

[a pinch to grow an inch](#)

[eke out a living](#)

[leaf out](#)

[nip it in the bud](#)

[snowball](#)

[toughen up](#)

growing

[in leaf](#)

[in the making](#)

[on the rise](#)

grown-up

[smelling yourself](#)

growth

[five o'clock shadow](#)

grudge

[no hard feelings](#)

[there's no love lost](#)

grunge

[grunge \(fashion\)](#)

guarantee

[stand behind](#)

guaranteed

[the best-laid plans of mice and men go oft astray](#)

guess

[a shot in the dark](#)

[hazard a guess](#)

[second guess](#)

[take a guess](#)

guests

[a pinch to grow an inch](#)

[fish and company stink after three days](#)

guidance

[under my wing](#)

guide

[all's fair in love and war](#)

[live by](#)

[show you around](#)

| | |
|-----------|---|
| guideline | rule of thumb |
| guilt | bat an eye lay a trip peace of mind |
| guilty | come back to haunt you crack this case frame point a finger at pot calling the kettle black sentence to death set you up to blame |
| gullible | sucker |
| gums | gab |
| gun | a going concern. cross that bridge when I come to it got him covered gun down hold up jump to conclusions make a false move pack a rod shoot up shoot-up sometimes life is a bucket of shit and the handle is inside [B] take a shot |
| gunbattle | shoot-out |
| gung | a go-getter all fired up fired up game for anything on fire whole hog |
| guru | |

[hack/hacker](#)

gussied

[dolloed up](#)[dressed fit to kill](#)[dressed to the nines](#)

gut

[crack me up](#)[hoot](#)[kill ourselves laughing](#)[laugh yourself sick](#)[spill the beans](#)

guy

[a regular guy](#)[dude](#)[hoser](#)[one of the boys](#)[play the heavy](#)[the bigger they are the harder they fall](#)[throw you to the dogs](#)[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

[Idiom Home](#)

Legend:

[B] bad language

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Idiom Definition Index H

| | |
|---------|--|
| habit | back at it by its very nature fall off the wagon force of habit get this monkey off my back kick a habit kick the weed ride me set in her ways shake a habit |
| habitof | kick the weed |
| had | cost a pretty penny done it all eat your heart out fed up feeling good had a bellyful had a belt had a couple had it had it up to here shot skin virgin what was I thinking of |
| hail | flag a cab |
| hair | dolloed up greaser greasy kid's stuff have my ears lowered pony tail |

[put too fine a point on](#)

hairbrain

[kooky](#)[nitwit](#)[pie in the sky](#)

haircut

[brush cut](#)[have my ears lowered](#)[skinhead](#)

hairstyle

[hairdo](#)

half

[all the way to Egery and back](#)[bat five hundred](#)[feeling no pain](#)[half-assed \[B\]](#)[half-corked](#)[half-hearted](#)[half-pint](#)[half the battle](#)[no slouch](#)[yin yang](#)

half-bad

[half-bad](#)

half-baked

[pie in the sky](#)

half-corked

[feeling no pain](#)

half-there

[nitwit](#)

hallucinate

[seeing things](#)

halt

[stop you cold](#)

ham

[ham it up](#)[over the top](#)[play it for all it's worth](#)[play the ham](#)

hammered

[bombed](#)[pie-eyed](#)[pissed \[B\]](#)

[plastered](#)[smashed](#)

hand

[a helping hand](#)[a love tap](#)[blow a kiss](#)[butter fingers](#)[cement hands](#)[freshen up](#)[get your feet wet](#)[give it a whirl](#)[give me a hand](#)[give them a hand](#)[give you a line](#)[good hands](#)[hail a cab](#)[ham hands](#)[hands are tied](#)[hands on](#)[hands up](#)[help out](#)[high five](#)[in person](#)[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)[lend a hand](#)[no contest](#)[on all fours](#)[pack a rod](#)[pass around](#)[peek-a-boo](#)[put 'em up](#)[put 'er there](#)[put her there](#)[put them up](#)[reach for the sky](#)[read them and weep](#)[shake on it](#)[stick them up](#)[throw a kiss](#)[tip the scales](#)[try it](#)[turn in](#)

[worship the ground she walks on](#)

handout

[freeload](#)

handsome

[a lady-killer](#)

hang

[do your own thing](#)

[fart around \[B\]](#)

[go around with](#)

[hang around](#)

[hang ten \(surfing\)](#)

[knock around with](#)

[let yourself go](#)

[put in time](#)

[see](#)

[spend time](#)

[stick it out](#)

[stick to it](#)

[wait around](#)

hang-up

[get this monkey off my back](#)

hanged

[put to death](#)

hanging

[a necktie party](#)

[clotheslined \(hockey\)](#)

[know where we stand](#)

[wait for the other shoe to drop](#)

[with bated breath](#)

hangover

[hungover](#)

happen

[a ghost of a chance](#)

[a slim chance](#)

[a sure thing](#)

[against all odds](#)

[anything goes](#)

[as sure as shit](#)

[become of](#)

[being there](#)

[break out](#)

[call the shots](#)

[carry it off](#)
[come hell or high water](#)
[come of](#)
[come off](#)
[come true](#)
[come up](#)
[crop up](#)
[don't hold your breath](#)
[double whammy](#)
[fall through](#)
[famous last words](#)
[find yourself](#)
[go on](#)
[havoc strikes](#)
[how it plays out](#)
[if a mussel doesn't open don't eat it](#)
[in order](#)
[in store for](#)
[in the offing](#)
[it never fails](#)
[let the chips fall where they may](#)
[love is where you find it](#)
[my eye](#)
[play out](#)
[pull it off](#)
[run across](#)
[see it coming](#)
[sure as shit](#)
[take place](#)
[that'll be the day](#)
[that's the way the cookie crumbles](#)
[turn out](#)
[twist of fate](#)
[wait around](#)
[wait with bated breath](#)
[what's going down](#)

happened

[by jove](#)
[it appears to me](#)
[leave me hanging](#)
[make sense of it](#)
[should be so lucky](#)

[what came over me](#)[what the Sam Hill](#)

happening

[big deal](#)[blue moon](#)[get real](#)[know the score](#)[what gives](#)[what in the world](#)[what's cooking](#)[what's going down](#)[what's going on](#)[what's new](#)[what's up](#)[where it's at](#)

happier

[two's company, three's a crowd](#)

happiness

[cup runneth over](#)

happy

[a sight for sore eyes](#)[all's well that ends well](#)[down in the dumps](#)[down on his luck](#)[get it together](#)[give me a lift](#)[got it made](#)[happy as a box of birds](#)[happy as a clam/lark](#)[happy as a peacock](#)[happy as a pig in shit \[B\]](#)[happy camper](#)[have a good time](#)[high](#)[in seventh heaven](#)[in the pink](#)[jump for joy](#)[lift my spirits](#)[mixed feelings](#)[music to my ears](#)[on a lark](#)[on cloud nine](#)

[pick you up](#)
[pleased as punch](#)
[raise your spirits](#)
[rise and shine](#)
[something borrowed, something blue](#)
[take it and run](#)
[tickled pink](#)
[together](#)
[with bells on](#)

harass

[browbeat](#)
[hound](#)

harassing

[call off the dogs](#)

hard

[a dog's life](#)
[a go-getter](#)
[a hard day](#)
[a hard-on \[B\]](#)
[a heavy day](#)
[a new broom sweeps clean](#)
[a tough call](#)
[burn it in](#)
[bust my butt](#)
[cash on the barrelhead](#)
[chaser](#)
[come down hard](#)
[crack me up](#)
[cry your eyes out](#)
[fight tooth and nail](#)
[get good wood on](#)
[give her shit \[B\]](#)
[give it all you've got](#)
[give no quarter](#)
[give you a ribbing](#)
[go against the grain](#)
[go easy on](#)
[go like crazy](#)
[going to town](#)
[had his bell rung](#)
[hard at it](#)
[hard on me](#)

[hard pressed](#)
[hard sell](#)
[hard to swallow](#)
[hard to take](#)
[heavy going](#)
[hit me with your best shot](#)
[hold out for](#)
[in stitches](#)
[keep your nose to the grindstone](#)
[kill ourselves laughing](#)
[lean times](#)
[overdo it](#)
[pack a punch](#)
[pay the price](#)
[pay your dues](#)
[pull out all the stops](#)
[put in a hard day](#)
[put you through the mill](#)
[put your heart into it](#)
[rack my brain](#)
[raining cats and dogs](#)
[roll over and play dead](#)
[rolling in the aisles](#)
[soft sell](#)
[split a gut](#)
[take it easy](#)
[take pains](#)
[the old college try](#)
[the school of hard knocks](#)
[thrash](#)
[throw the book at](#)
[throw yourself at him](#)
[tight spot](#)
[times were hard](#)
[tough customer](#)
[tough on me](#)
[tough sledding](#)
[tough times](#)
[try your darndest](#)
[up against it](#)
[work cut out for](#)
[work my buns off](#)

[work my fingers to the bone](#)
[work up a sweat](#)
[work your ass off \[B\]](#)
[work your buns off](#)
[you can't teach an old dog new tricks](#)

hard-working

[the salt of the earth](#)

hardball

[play dirty](#)
[the gloves are off](#)

harder

[bear down](#)
[bite the bullet](#)
[buckle down](#)
[dig a little deeper](#)
[give 110%](#)
[go one better](#)
[go the extra mile](#)
[have to go some](#)
[knuckle down](#)
[push the boat out](#)
[the bigger they are the harder they fall](#)
[the going gets rough](#)

hardest

[give it your best shot](#)
[go for broke](#)

hardship

[dirty thirties](#)

harm

[keep an eye on](#)

harmful

[another nail in your coffin](#)
[fall-out](#)

harsh

[baptism by fire](#)
[snap at](#)
[tone down](#)

harshly

[come down on like a ton of bricks](#)

harum-scarum

[pell-mell](#)

has

[a crash course](#)

[a cut-up](#)
[a fart in a windstorm](#)
[a fresh pair of eyes](#)
[a level playing field](#)
[a play on words](#)
[a rolling stone gathers no moss](#)
[beauty is in the eye of the beholder](#)
[business as usual](#)
[butter wouldn't melt in his mouth](#)
[catch a ride](#)
[clouds on the horizon](#)
[come to think of it](#)
[cry the blues](#)
[deadhead](#)
[every cloud has a silver lining](#)
[go by the name of](#)
[goose is cooked](#)
[got it bad](#)
[got you by the short hairs](#)
[has-been](#)
[has the makings](#)
[hot off the press](#)
[it ain't over till it's over](#)
[it's been a slice \(of life\)](#)
[jack of all trades](#)
[Johnny-come-lately](#)
[kill a penalty \(hockey\)](#)
[laundered money](#)
[lifer](#)
[lucky dog](#)
[mean well](#)
[no fair](#)
[old money](#)
[one man's garbage is another man's art](#)
[play catch-up](#)
[popcorn brain](#)
[see hide nor hair](#)
[skin virgin](#)
[smooth sailing](#)
[speak of the devil](#)
[the cat's out of the bag](#)
[the inside track](#)

[there's more than meets the eye](#)

[toney neighborhood](#)

[unsung hero](#)

[word is out](#)

[your number is up](#)

hash

[talk it over](#)

hassle

[give you a hard time](#)

[give you a rough time](#)

[nag](#)

[needle](#)

[what a rigmarole](#)

hasty

[a lick and a promise](#)

[give it the once-over](#)

hat

[passé](#)

[pat on the back](#)

[vote of thanks](#)

hatchet

[lay down your arms](#)

[throw down your arms](#)

hate

[can't stand](#)

[one man's meat is another man's poison](#)

hateful

[if looks could kill](#)

[look daggers](#)

hatter

[nutty as a fruit cake](#)

haul

[give me the third degree](#)

[take you to task](#)

haunt

[catch up with](#)

have

[a contract out on](#)

[a perfect stranger](#)

[a total stranger](#)

[all goes well](#)

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)

[back teeth are floating](#)

[back yourself into a corner](#)

[bag some rays](#)

[ball her \[B\]](#)

[bang \[B\]](#)

[bawl me out](#)

[be my guest](#)

[beat the rap](#)

[beg to differ](#)

[bite me \[B\]](#)

[bite your tongue](#)

[bitten by the same bug](#)

[bleeding heart](#)

[blind date](#)

[Bob's your uncle](#)

[break a leg](#)

[break out in a rash](#)

[built like a brick shithouse \[B\]](#)

[burn a hole in your pocket](#)

[cabin fever](#)

[can't have it both ways](#)

[can't see for looking](#)

[carry weight](#)

[catch some rays](#)

[catch up on](#)

[caught looking](#)

[chalk one up for you](#)

[change horses in mid stream](#)

[chew the fat/ chew the rag](#)

[chow down](#)

[claim to fame](#)

[clean me out](#)

[come \[B\]](#)

[come across \[B\]](#)

[come naturally](#)

[corner the market](#)

[count your chickens before they hatch](#)

[cut him off \[B\]](#)

[cut it a little fine](#)

[cut out for](#)

[damned if you do and damned if you don't](#)

[dead in the water](#)

[different strokes for different folks](#)

[DINKS](#)

[do lunch](#)

[do without](#)

[don't borrow trouble](#)

[don't know him from Adam](#)

[don't know the half of it](#)

[don't know which side your bread is buttered on](#)

[drop a log \[B\]](#)

[eat you for breakfast](#)

[fair-weather friend](#)

[feast or famine](#)

[fool around](#)

[fresh out](#)

[full steam ahead](#)

[gas](#)

[get a bang out of](#)

[get by/scrape by](#)

[get her way](#)

[get high](#)

[get into her pants \[B\]](#)

[get laid \[B\]](#)

[get my kicks](#)

[get off](#)

[get out of](#)

[get together](#)

[get your kicks](#)

[get your way](#)

[give off an odor](#)

[go all the way \(sex\)](#)

[go downtown \[B\]](#)

[go hog wild](#)

[go hungry](#)

[go without](#)

[got a light](#)

[got guts](#)

[got no business](#)

[got rocks in your head](#)

[got the rags on \[B\]](#)

[grab a bite to eat](#)

[grab a chair](#)

[green with envy](#)

[happy motoring](#)

[have a ball](#)
[have a bird](#)
[have a blast](#)
[have a boo](#)
[have a case of](#)
[have a chair](#)
[have a conniption](#)
[have a drag](#)
[have a fit](#)
[have a flat](#)
[have a good time](#)
[have a heart](#)
[have a seat](#)
[have a shot at](#)
[have a sip](#)
[have a smash](#)
[have a soft spot for](#)
[have an inkling](#)
[have deep pockets](#)
[have fun](#)
[have it both ways](#)
[have it in hand](#)
[have it made](#)
[have my ears lowered](#)
[have my work cut out](#)
[have nookie](#)
[have one on me](#)
[have sex](#)
[have to go](#)
[have to go some](#)
[have your cake and eat it, too](#)
[haven't got a hope](#)
[haven't got a hope in hell](#)
[haven't seen hide nor hair](#)
[haven't the foggiest](#)
[hear me out](#)
[hit me \(card games\)](#)
[horny \[B\]](#)
[how are you fixed for](#)
[how are you making out](#)
[if my memory serves me correctly](#)
[if that doesn't beat all](#)

[if you can't cut it, you can't stay](#)
[if you're not with us you're against us](#)
[ignorance is bliss](#)
[it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all](#)
[it takes two to tango](#)
[joyride](#)
[jump \[B\]](#)
[jump at the chance](#)
[jump to conclusions](#)
[keep a straight face](#)
[keep your head above water](#)
[kick at the cat](#)
[kick up your heels](#)
[know the ropes](#)
[know where we stand](#)
[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[know your stuff](#)
[lay \[B\]](#)
[lead a life](#)
[let it go to your head](#)
[let off](#)
[live it up](#)
[live on](#)
[long time no see](#)
[lose track](#)
[love is where you find it](#)
[luck out](#)
[make a life for yourself](#)
[make amends](#)
[make ends meet](#)
[make hay while the sun shines](#)
[make love](#)
[nature calls](#)
[not long for this world](#)
[out of](#)
[pack a punch](#)
[pack a rod](#)
[pack Uzis](#)
[paint the town red](#)
[people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones](#)
[photo op](#)
[pinch off a loaf \[B\]](#)

[piss like a race horse \[B\]](#)
[play around](#)
[pussyfoot around](#)
[put stock in](#)
[relate to that](#)
[rest my case](#)
[run out](#)
[run short](#)
[same here](#)
[saw off a chunk \[B\]](#)
[scrape by](#)
[screw \[B\]](#)
[search me](#)
[see eye to eye](#)
[set for life](#)
[shit out of luck \[B\]](#)
[shoot the shit \[B\]](#)
[shoot your wad](#)
[square off](#)
[suck eggs](#)
[take a load off your feet](#)
[take a shit \[B\]](#)
[take after](#)
[take effect](#)
[take heart](#)
[take on a new light](#)
[take that](#)
[take your time](#)
[talk the leg off the lamb of God](#)
[tangle with](#)
[the call of duty](#)
[the crunch](#)
[The Golden Rule](#)
[the more the merrier](#)
[the past is slipping by without a trace](#)
[there's no tomorrow](#)
[there's no two ways about it](#)
[throw a party](#)
[top of the morning](#)
[touch a drop](#)
[up to it](#)
[up to my ears](#)

[up yours \[B\]](#)

[use up](#)

[walk](#)

[want a piece of me](#)

[wear off](#)

[wet your whistle](#)

[whiz](#)

[with bells on](#)

[word is out](#)

[work to rule](#)

[you can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody](#)

[you got it](#)

[you had to be there](#)

[you need money to make money](#)

[you're on](#)

having

[a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush](#)

[a nail-biter](#)

[a roll in the hay \[B\]](#)

[ahead of the curve](#)

[all show](#)

[armed to the teeth](#)

[as poor as a church mouse](#)

[as useless as tits on a boar](#)

[back at it](#)

[behind the curve](#)

[coffee talk](#)

[coming out of our ears](#)

[coming out of your yin yang](#)

[cover your ass \[B\]](#)

[crawling with](#)

[dead even](#)

[down in the mouth](#)

[flat broke](#)

[frazzled](#)

[grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads](#)

[high on the hog](#)

[horseplay](#)

[hungover](#)

[in dire straits](#)

[in hock](#)

[in leaf](#)

[in the doghouse](#)
[in the gutter](#)
[in the hole](#)
[in the poorhouse](#)
[liquored up](#)
[loaded](#)
[mean streak](#)
[natural high](#)
[nip and tuck](#)
[of two minds](#)
[on a roll](#)
[on even terms](#)
[on the run](#)
[on vacation](#)
[out of hock](#)
[out of my depth](#)
[out of patience](#)
[set in her ways](#)
[shagging wagon](#)
[smelling yourself](#)
[stacked](#)
[strapped](#)
[under my wing](#)
[used to](#)
[well hung \[B\]](#)
[worldly wise](#)

| | |
|------|--|
| hawk | |
|------|--|

[watch your every move](#)

| | |
|-----|--|
| hay | |
|-----|--|

[time is of the essence](#)

[too little too late](#)

[turn in](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| haywire | |
|---------|--|

[run amuck](#)

[something is haywire](#)

| | |
|--------|--|
| hazard | |
|--------|--|

[a shot in the dark](#)

[take a guess](#)

| | |
|------|--|
| head | |
|------|--|

[a good egg](#)

[a three-bagger](#)

[ass over teakettle](#)

[big cheese](#)
[boggle your mind](#)
[come down to earth](#)
[dream on](#)
[fall in love](#)
[from stem to stern](#)
[get blood from a stone](#)
[hail-fellow-well-met](#)
[hands up](#)
[head down there](#)
[head up there](#)
[hoot](#)
[keep your head](#)
[laugh yourself silly](#)
[let it go to your head](#)
[mad about](#)
[out of my depth](#)
[out of touch](#)
[stick them up](#)
[swelled head](#)
[the best of both worlds](#)
[the big cheese](#)
[too big for his britches](#)
[top dog](#)
[touched in the head](#)

headache

[hungover](#)

healing

[on the mend](#)

health

[an apple a day keeps the doctor away](#)

[breakdown](#)

[cheers](#)

[health nut](#)

healthier

[better off](#)

healthy

[hale and hearty](#)

[health nut](#)

[in the pink](#)

[keep fit](#)

[lick your wounds](#)

[on the mend](#)
[the picture of health](#)
[up to speed](#)

hear

[a fly on the wall](#)
[a word to the wise is sufficient](#)
[all ears](#)
[can't believe my ears](#)
[clear as a bell](#)
[ears are burning](#)
[first hand](#)
[get wind of](#)
[hard of hearing](#)
[out loud](#)
[read me \(CB radio\)](#)
[really deaf](#)
[ten-four \(CB radio\)](#)
[under my breath](#)
[what's the poop](#)
[within earshot](#)
[yo](#)

heard

[compare notes](#)
[don't know the half of it](#)
[eyes glaze over](#)
[word is out](#)

hearing

[in one ear and out the other](#)
[read my lips](#)

heart

[cry your eyes out](#)
[eat out of the palm of your hand](#)
[steal your heart](#)
[take your pulse](#)
[under oath](#)
[you can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody](#)

heat

[dead even](#)
[nuke](#)
[take the flack](#)
[zap](#)

heaven

[great Scot](#)
[heavens to Betsy](#)
[in heaven's name](#)
[like a bolt from the blue](#)
[thank goodness](#)

heavily

[count your chickens before they hatch](#)
[like a ton of bricks](#)
[raining cats and dogs](#)

heavy

[a heavyweight](#)
[a sack of hammers](#)
[big time](#)
[greasy kid's stuff](#)
[heavy going](#)
[rush hour](#)
[tough sledding](#)

heavyweight

[a heavy hitter](#)
[a shogun](#)
[The Great White Hope](#)

heck

[shucks](#)
[what the hell \[B\]](#)

heckling

[catcall](#)

hedge

[all your eggs in one basket](#)

heel

[ass over teakettle](#)
[be my undoing](#)
[fall in love](#)
[freeze wages](#)
[mad about](#)
[the sin bin \(hockey\)](#)

held

[a pinch of salt](#)
[mugged](#)

hell

[a dickens of a time](#)
[all the way to Egery and back](#)
[catch it](#)

[chew him out](#)
[damn you \[B\]](#)
[drop dead](#)
[four-letter words](#)
[get after](#)
[get hell \[B\]](#)
[get it](#)
[get shit \[B\]](#)
[get your knuckles rapped](#)
[give them what for](#)
[give you shit \[B\]](#)
[give you what for](#)
[go to hell in a handbasket](#)
[got it coming](#)
[have at me](#)
[heck](#)
[in deep trouble](#)
[kick ass \[B\]](#)
[lickety-split](#)
[like the devil](#)
[one hell of a time](#)
[ream out](#)
[road to hell is paved...](#)
[shit fire and apple butter](#)
[take a strip off](#)
[tear a strip off](#)
[tell him where to go](#)
[tie into](#)
[toast](#)
[what in tarnation](#)
[what the Sam Hill](#)
[yin yang](#)

hello

[good afternoon](#)
[good day](#)
[good morning](#)
[hi](#)
[hi there](#)
[how do you do](#)
[howdy](#)
[hyah](#)
[on speaking terms](#)

[yo](#)

help

[a brick](#)

[a double-edged sword](#)

[a goner](#)

[a helping hand](#)

[a party to that](#)

[a pinch to grow an inch](#)

[a tower of strength](#)

[bail me out](#)

[be my guest](#)

[be there for me](#)

[bend over backwards](#)

[bend the rules](#)

[bridge the gap](#)

[charity begins at home](#)

[chip in](#)

[choose sides](#)

[dig in](#)

[do a favor](#)

[do the trick](#)

[fill the gap](#)

[flattery will get you nowhere](#)

[give me a hand](#)

[give me a hint](#)

[give you the shirt off his back](#)

[go out of your way](#)

[go to bat for](#)

[go with the flow](#)

[have a say](#)

[heart is in the right place](#)

[heaven help us](#)

[help out](#)

[hold your hand](#)

[in order](#)

[jog your memory](#)

[Johnny on the spot](#)

[lend a hand](#)

[lift a finger](#)

[look out for number one](#)

[make it better](#)

[make my day](#)

[mayday \(m'aidez\)](#)
[mean well](#)
[one false move](#)
[open some doors](#)
[out of the goodness of my heart](#)
[play a big part](#)
[press into service](#)
[pull a few strings](#)
[pull the rug out](#)
[raise your spirits](#)
[reach out](#)
[repay in kind](#)
[rest on your laurels](#)
[rope into](#)
[scrape me off the ceiling](#)
[see you through](#)
[set your mind at ease](#)
[shed a little light on](#)
[slap my afro / slap my fro](#)
[so help me](#)
[SOS](#)
[stick my neck out](#)
[the Lord helps those who help themselves](#)
[think nothing of it](#)
[tied to your mother's apron strings](#)
[tied up](#)
[trickle-down economics](#)
[turn you around](#)
[under his own steam](#)
[under my wing](#)
[wash it down](#)
[whip you into shape](#)
[won't see you stuck](#)
[work the room](#)

helped

[dance with the one who brought you](#)
[give her credit](#)
[repay in kind](#)

helper

[along for the ride](#)
[make hay while the sun shines](#)

helping

[in cahoots](#)
[on the bandwagon](#)
[rope into](#)
[seconds](#)

her

[a fill-up](#)
[at the top of her game](#)
[ball her \[B\]](#)
[chat her up](#)
[come-on](#)
[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)
[cry your eyes out](#)
[deserve credit](#)
[drop her/him](#)
[dump her/him](#)
[familiarity breeds contempt](#)
[full of herself](#)
[get fresh](#)
[get her way](#)
[get into her pants \[B\]](#)
[give her shit \[B\]](#)
[give her the eye](#)
[got your number](#)
[have to hand it to you](#)
[in her good graces](#)
[let George do it](#)
[worship the ground she walks on](#)

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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impulsively

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in

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[with his tail between his legs](#)
[with it](#)
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[work the room](#)
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[World Wide Web \(www\)](#)
[write up](#)
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[in the loop](#)

inappropriate

[way out of line \(away out of line\)](#)

inch

[pinch an inch](#)

incidentally

[by the way](#)

include

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included

[fall through the cracks](#)[on the bubble](#)[out in the cold](#)[out of the loop](#)[thrown in](#)

including

[bar none](#)[the whole nine yards](#)

income

[DINKS](#)[write it off](#)

incompetent

[the blind leading the blind](#)

incomplete

[half-assed \[B\]](#)

inconvenient

[catch you at a bad time](#)

increase

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[on the rise](#)

independent

[fend for yourself](#)[his own man](#)[mind of his own](#)[on your own](#)[paddle your own canoe](#)[strike out on your own](#)

indicate

[point out](#)

indirect

[all around Robin Hood's barn](#)[all the way to Egery and back](#)[the runaround](#)

indirectly

[put out feelers](#)

individual

[paddle your own canoe](#)

industry

[oilpatch](#)

inebriated

[loaded](#)

ineffectual

[lame duck](#)

| | |
|-------------|---|
| infected | |
| | fall ill |
| inferior | |
| | a notch below show you up |
| inflecting | |
| | uptalk |
| influence | |
| | carry weight come into play tip the scales |
| inform | |
| | keep you posted |
| informal | |
| | jam session |
| informally | |
| | dress down |
| information | |
| | backup brain traffic cascade (business) deep, dark secret flesh out handout in the loop it's not a state secret led to believe mouth off no truth to it onto something public property sell out throw some light on top secret |
| informed | |
| | clueless in the dark in the know on top of the last word up on with it |
| | |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| ingredients | has the makings |
| inhale | wolf down |
| inherit | come into |
| inheritance | old money |
| inherited | new money |
| initiation | baptism by fire |
| inject | shoot up |
| injure | beat up beat up on pull a muscle |
| injured | a fat lip fat lip get yours laid up suffer a setback wasted |
| injuries | take your lumps |
| injury | a close shave black eye break your fall dodge a bullet on the limp rub salt in the wound take a bullet |
| innocence | butter wouldn't melt in his mouth |
| innocent | a wolf in sheep's clothing squeaky clean take it out on |
| innovate | push the envelope |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| inquire | check it out |
| insane | around the bend bonkers drive me batty drive me to the edge go berserk go mad go nuts |
| inside | cabin fever cocoon fifth column hotdog inside information inside joke |
| insignificant | small potatoes |
| insist | corner you |
| inspect | spotcheck walk-through |
| inspection | shipshape |
| inspiration | cook |
| inspire | turn your crank |
| instant | quick and dirty |
| instead | cry over spilt milk fart around [B] fish or cut bait put up or shut up zig when you should zag |
| instinct | go for the jugular |
| instrument | idiot lights |
| insufficient | |

| | |
|---------------|--|
| | a sick building |
| insult | |
| | catcall |
| | cross someone |
| | dis/diss |
| | get back at |
| | laugh it off |
| | mudsling |
| | rub salt in the wound |
| | slam |
| | take a shot |
| | throw insults |
| | trade insults |
| insulted | |
| | no offense, but... |
| insurance | |
| | pogey |
| intelligence | |
| | grey matter |
| | sharpen up |
| | smarts |
| intelligent | |
| | a budding genius |
| | a lot on the ball |
| | brain drain |
| | bright |
| | more money than brains |
| | nobody's fool |
| | on the ball |
| | sharp |
| | stroke of genius |
| | swift |
| | what a brain |
| intentional | |
| | on purpose |
| intentionally | |
| | weasel word |
| intentions | |
| | mean well |
| | the road to hell is paved with good intentions |
| intercourse | |
| | a piece of ass [B] |

[go all the way \(sex\)](#)

[go downtown \[B\]](#)

[have nookie](#)

[have sex](#)

[make love](#)

[nookie \[B\]](#)

[poontang \[B\]](#)

[saw off a chunk \[B\]](#)

interest

[bitten by the same bug](#)

[dampen your spirits](#)

[drum up](#)

[float your boat](#)

[give a hoot](#)

[give a shit \[B\]](#)

[give her the eye](#)

[jazz up](#)

[perk up](#)

[second nature](#)

[strike your fancy](#)

[take a shine to](#)

[throw cold water on](#)

[turn your crank](#)

[up your alley](#)

interested

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[gung ho](#)

[on the edge of your seat](#)

[sick of](#)

[talk to the hand](#)

[tired of](#)

interesting

[a yawner](#)

[by gosh](#)

[food for thought](#)

[how about that](#)

[it's been a slice \(of life\)](#)

[variety is the spice of life](#)

interfere

[horn in](#)

[play havoc with](#)

internet

[electronic superhighway](#)

[Net surfer](#)

[Netwar](#)

[surf the Net](#)

[World Wide Web \(www\)](#)

interrupt

[butt in](#)

[cut off](#)

[hear me out](#)

intersection

[kitty-corner](#)

[run a red light](#)

intimate

[lovelife](#)

intimately

[pet](#)

intimidate

[buffalo](#)

[Gang of Four](#)

into

[account for](#)

[boarding \(hockey\)](#)

[born with a silver spoon in his mouth](#)

[bump into](#)

[come onside](#)

[cut off](#)

[dasein](#)

[down the hatch](#)

[get burned](#)

[get laid \[B\]](#)

[get your tits in a wringer](#)

[give you hell \[B\]](#)

[go off half-cocked](#)

[hole in one \(golf\)](#)

[into the tank](#)

[look up a dead horse's ass \[B\]](#)

[Lovers' Leap](#)

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[play into his hand](#)
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[run into](#)
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intolerant

[a redneck](#)

intoxicated

[buzzed](#)
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introduce

[bring up](#)

introduction

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[out of nowhere](#)

intrude

[butt in](#)
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inuit

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invaluable

[worth their weight in gold](#)

invent

[necessity is the mother of invention](#)

invention

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inventory

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invest

[don't put all your eggs in one basket](#)
[get in on the ground floor](#)
[sell the farm](#)

invested

[laundered money](#)
[lose your shirt](#)

| | |
|-------------|---|
| investigate | look into |
| investing | in the hole |
| investment | a golden opportunity all your eggs in one basket |
| investors | movers and shakers |
| invitation | come-on |
| invite | ask for it don't borrow trouble have you over leave out in the cold leave the door open more than welcome phone-in throw a party |
| invited | black-listed out in the cold wall flower |
| inviting | cruising for a bruising death wish |
| involved | burned caught up hood into fitness/dancing etc. jump in with both feet name is cleared wash your hands of it |
| involves | come to |
| involving | Donnybrook |
| irish | the luck of the Irish |
| irk | |

[set your teeth on edge](#)

iron

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irrational

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[hairbrain](#)

irrelevant

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irritate

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[burn your ass \[B\]](#)

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[set your teeth on edge](#)

[stick in my craw](#)

irritation

[a royal pain](#)

is

[ain't](#)

[clouds on the horizon](#)

island

[The Rock](#)

issue

[a horse of a different color](#)

[a question of](#)

[big hairy deal](#)

[can of worms](#)

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[red herring](#)

[the crux of the matter](#)

item

[a duke's mixture](#)

[a hot ticket](#)

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itself

[there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so](#)

itsy-bitsy

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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|--------|---|
| jack | faster than a minnow can swim a dipper jerk me around just like that like a chicken on a June bug quicker than you can say Jack Robinson |
| jacket | potato sack |
| jail | bail me out behind bars hit the bricks in the clink in the hole in the slammer in the tank pokey walk |
| jam | duck out get cold feet in a fix in a pickle in a pinch jam session play it by ear up the creek |
| jargon | bafflegab buzzword |
| jay | stark naked without a stitch of clothes on |
| jazz | blow snakes (music) |

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[the whole ball of wax](#)

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[claws are showing](#)

jeans

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| john | bad date biff/biffy have a whiz on the throne the can the loo |
| johnny | Canuck |
| join | black-listed catch the wave catch up hook up with take part in |
| joint | quit this place |
| joke | a cut-up crack a joke get off a few good ones get serious ham it up horse around inside joke joke around joker kid kid you not make light of play a trick on pull your leg sense of humor take a joke the joke is on you up to something you've got to be kidding |
| joker | a cut-up ham |

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| kiss | a little thick bite me [B] blow a kiss blow me [B] flattery will get you nowhere get it on make advances make out make whoopee neck one for the road pet spin the bottle throw a kiss |
| kit | lock, stock and barrel |
| kitchen | Fibber McGee's closet off the kitchen etc. |
| knee | on all fours the cat's ass [B] twerp |
| knob | tune in |
| knock | better than a kick in the ass [B] can it cool it cream you cut it out deck him do me in knock flat knock the wind out of his sails pop a cap [B] punch your lights out put down |

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| labeled | ticketed |
| lace | do up |
| lacking | feeling bum flat no truth to it weak-kneed wimpy yellow |
| ladies | a lady-killer lovelies powder my nose |
| lady | bag lady class act |
| laid | come across [B] lay [B] out of work |
| lakes | freeze-up |
| lamebrain | dork [B] |
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[blue sky](#)
[bright-eyed and bushy-tailed](#)
[c'est la vie](#)
[dead as a doornail](#)
[don't know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[easy street](#)
[easy time of it](#)
[for dear life](#)
[get it together](#)
[have a fling](#)
[how are you doing](#)
[how goes it](#)
[how goes the battle](#)
[how's tricks](#)
[it takes two to tango](#)
[it's a matter of life and death](#)
[larger than life](#)
[lead a life](#)
[life in the fast lane](#)
[life is just a bowl of cherries](#)
[life is not all guns and roses](#)
[life you lead](#)
[lifer](#)
[live and let live](#)
[lovelife](#)
[make a life for yourself](#)
[messed up](#)
[nest egg](#)
[not on your tintype](#)
[sometimes life is a bucket of shit and the handle is inside \[B\]](#)
[sow wild oats](#)
[square up](#)

[stone dead](#)
[street wise](#)
[that'll be the day](#)
[that's life](#)
[that's the way the ball bounces](#)
[the fickle finger of fate](#)
[the life of Riley](#)
[the living daylights](#)
[the school of hard knocks](#)
[the spice of life](#)
[things are looking up](#)
[this mortal coil](#)
[touch and go](#)
[turn you around](#)
[vale of tears \(valley of tears\)](#)
[variety is the spice of life](#)
[what's new](#)
[why in the world](#)

lifeless

[the lights are on but nobody's home](#)

lifestyle

[all walks of life](#)
[every walk of life](#)
[get a life](#)
[life you lead](#)
[the lap of luxury](#)
[walk of life](#)

lifetime

[set for life](#)

lift

[a shot in the arm](#)
[catch a ride](#)
[hunker down](#)
[lift my spirits](#)
[pick you up](#)

lifted

[clotheslined \(hockey\)](#)

light

[a blackout \(war\)](#)
[a blank look](#)
[a breath of wind](#)
[a love tap](#)

[at the crack of dawn](#)
[deck out](#)
[drag race](#)
[Florida green](#)
[idiot lights](#)
[light up](#)
[like a bolt from the blue](#)
[run a red light](#)
[see me for dust](#)
[set fire](#)
[throw some light on](#)
[when the dust settles](#)

lighter

[a shadow of his former self](#)
[got a light](#)

lightning

[faster than a speeding bullet](#)
[lightning fast](#)

like

[a chip off the old block](#)
[a dead ringer](#)
[a dildo \[B\]](#)
[a hit](#)
[absence makes the heart grow fonder](#)
[all thumbs](#)
[as all get-out](#)
[as American as apple pie](#)
[as new](#)
[bodacious](#)
[brush cut](#)
[can't stand](#)
[cauliflower ear](#)
[chain smoker](#)
[crazy about](#)
[deep sleep](#)
[dig/dig it](#)
[do unto others as you would have them do unto you](#)
[do with](#)
[drugstore cowboy](#)
[dude](#)
[dust bunny](#)
[fight tooth and nail](#)

[get off on](#)
[get off your high horse](#)
[go like crazy](#)
[go the way of the dodo](#)
[grow on you](#)
[hawk](#)
[hold your nose](#)
[how do you like them apples](#)
[if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen](#)
[in cahoots](#)
[in her good graces](#)
[in his good books](#)
[in my good books](#)
[in your bad books](#)
[into thin air](#)
[it was Greek to me](#)
[it's a dilly](#)
[joker](#)
[letter-perfect](#)
[life is not all guns and roses](#)
[like a bat out of hell](#)
[like a bolt from the blue](#)
[like a dirty shirt](#)
[like father, like son](#)
[like hell \[B\]](#)
[like it or lump it](#)
[like nobody's business](#)
[like the devil](#)
[like the wind](#)
[mad about](#)
[make a good impression](#)
[nuts about](#)
[on a silver platter](#)
[one man's garbage is another man's art](#)
[one man's meat is another man's poison](#)
[pass for](#)
[play it up](#)
[power to burn](#)
[salty](#)
[saw logs](#)
[shades of](#)
[six of one, half a dozen of the other](#)

[steal your heart](#)
[suit yourself](#)
[sweet on](#)
[take a bow](#)
[take a shine to](#)
[take leave of your senses](#)
[the air was blue](#)
[the apple doesn't fall far from the tree](#)
[the old college try](#)
[the spitting image](#)
[there's no love lost](#)
[to beat the band](#)
[to each his own](#)
[try that on for size](#)
[up your alley](#)
[watch your every move](#)
[what's your poison](#)
[wild about](#)
[wild and woolly](#)
[wimpy](#)
[win the hearts](#)
[with his tail between his legs](#)
[wouldn't be caught dead](#)
[written in blood](#)
[written in stone](#)
[you can't teach an old dog new tricks](#)
[you have to be good to be lucky](#)
[you need money to make money](#)
[yum](#)

liked

[go over](#)
[in her good graces](#)

likely

[a ghost of a chance](#)
[a slim chance](#)
[against all odds](#)
[fat chance](#)
[in deep shit \[B\]](#)
[like hell \[B\]](#)
[not by a long shot](#)
[underdog](#)

likeness

[a dead ringer](#)

lily-livered

[faint of heart](#)

limit

[beyond the pale](#)

[in time](#)

limp

[have a hitch in your getalong](#)

limping

[on the limp](#)

line

[brand new/ brand spanking new](#)

[chain of command](#)

[don't make me laugh](#)

[follow the rules](#)

[get off a few good ones](#)

[give you a line](#)

[hand you a line](#)

[in that vein](#)

[jump queue](#)

[keep in line](#)

[keep your nose clean](#)

[lead you down the garden path](#)

[line up](#)

[out of bounds](#)

[pecking order](#)

[pen those words/lines](#)

[put him in his place](#)

[rubberneck](#)

[stick my neck out](#)

[what it boils down to](#)

[work to rule](#)

lip

[a fat lip](#)

[cheek](#)

[chops](#)

[fat lip](#)

[read my lips](#)

[rented lips](#)

[talk back](#)

lippy

[cheeky](#)

[sassy](#)
[shirty](#)
[smartass \[B\]](#)

liquor

[a short one](#)
[a tall one](#)
[bend your elbow](#)
[booze](#)
[boozing buddies](#)
[bottle drive](#)
[drink like a fish](#)
[drink you under the table](#)
[hard liquor](#)
[have a smash](#)
[hit the bottle](#)
[hold your drinks](#)
[hooch](#)
[hungover](#)
[liquored up](#)
[moonshine](#)
[on the wagon](#)
[piss away \[B\]](#)
[rot gut](#)
[screech](#)
[tie one on](#)
[touch a drop](#)
[what's your poison](#)

list

[card-carrying member](#)
[eighty-six it](#)
[first off](#)
[first up](#)
[in his good books](#)
[in the loop](#)
[last but not least](#)
[on my plate](#)
[on the shit list \[B\]](#)
[out of the loop](#)
[scratch](#)
[sign up](#)
[thrown in](#)
[track record](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| listed | on the books |
| listen | bend your ear corner you fall on deaf ears hang on every word hear me out hey keep your ear to the ground listen up mark my words mend fences pay attention really deaf rubberneck sounding board take the flack take the heat two heads are better than one |
| listening | all ears in one ear and out the other shoot talk to the hand tune me out |
| listless | lollygag |
| litter | the pick of the litter |
| little | a hill of beans a little steep a man of few words a pinch of coon shit [B] a screw loose a slim chance a snowball's chance in hell a touch of all show all talk and no action as poor as a church mouse |

[at a moment's notice](#)

[at least](#)

[bit by bit](#)

[browned off](#)

[by the seat of your pants](#)

[by the skin of their teeth](#)

[chip in](#)

[cold comfort](#)

[cut it a little fine](#)

[dead-cat bounce](#)

[dig a little deeper](#)

[dig deep](#)

[fat chance](#)

[feast or famine](#)

[feel the pinch](#)

[feeling good](#)

[for a song](#)

[funny in the head](#)

[give an inch](#)

[give him an inch and he'll take a mile](#)

[had a few](#)

[hill of beans](#)

[in dribs and drabs](#)

[in the poorhouse](#)

[junk food](#)

[just a smidgeon](#)

[lay it on](#)

[little by little](#)

[motormouth](#)

[move over](#)

[neither fish nor fowl](#)

[not by a long shot](#)

[not likely](#)

[old wives' tale](#)

[pick up the pace](#)

[piddly](#)

[play catch-up](#)

[potlicker](#)

[put a bug in my ear](#)

[rough up](#)

[salt away](#)

[slow day](#)

[so much as](#)
[spinny](#)
[strapped](#)
[throw some light on](#)
[ticked off](#)
[tipsy](#)
[too bad](#)
[woozy](#)

live

[a kept woman](#)
[all it's cracked up to be](#)
[all things to all people](#)
[Cabbagetown](#)
[cut a wide swath](#)
[get along](#)
[grow up](#)
[hang your hat](#)
[have a fling](#)
[keep your head above water](#)
[life you lead](#)
[live and let live](#)
[live it up](#)
[live on the edge](#)
[make a go of it](#)
[make a life for yourself](#)
[make a living](#)
[make your way](#)
[not long for this world](#)
[play with fire](#)
[pull up stakes](#)
[put down roots](#)
[scrape by](#)
[settle down](#)
[shack up \[B\]](#)
[sow wild oats](#)
[take chances](#)
[throw caution to the wind](#)
[weather the storm](#)

lived

[Johnny-come-lately](#)

lively

[bright-eyed and bushy-tailed](#)

[come alive](#)
[full of piss and vinegar \[B\]](#)
[the life of the party](#)

living

[Bigfoot](#)
[granola](#)
[in the lap of luxury](#)
[lead a life](#)
[life in the fast lane](#)
[make your way](#)
[Sasquatch](#)
[turn over a new leaf](#)

livingworking

[rat race](#)

lo

[wonder of wonders](#)

load

[check that](#)
[feast your eyes on](#)
[grab a chair](#)

loaded

[all the bells and whistles](#)
[blasted](#)
[deep pockets](#)
[goodies](#)
[in the bag](#)
[in the money](#)
[loaded to the hilt](#)
[looped](#)
[moneybags](#)
[on board](#)
[polluted](#)
[rolling in it](#)
[sloshed to the gills](#)
[snapped](#)
[well to do](#)

loan

[hit me for a loan](#)
[sign out](#)

local

[hick](#)
[local yokel](#)

[oilpatch](#)[rube](#)

locate

[pinpoint](#)

location

[branch office](#)[go for the jugular](#)[in place](#)

lock

[break and enter](#)

lockhead

[The Group of Five/The Regina Five](#)

loco

[mad as a hatter](#)

log

[deep sleep](#)[grow a tail](#)[pinch off a loaf \[B\]](#)[saw logs](#)[take a dump \[B\]](#)

loggerheads

[at odds](#)[at sixes and sevens](#)

logic

[talk through your hat](#)

logical

[a few bricks short of a full load](#)[common sense](#)[doesn't add up](#)[doesn't wash](#)[hold water](#)[horse sense](#)[it figures](#)[make sense](#)[no rhyme or reason](#)[out in left field](#)[point is well taken](#)

logically

[out of your mind](#)

lonely

[break your heart](#)[miss you](#)

long

[a dog's age](#)
[a keeper](#)
[a month of Sundays](#)
[a wild goose chase](#)
[all the way to Eger and back](#)
[all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy](#)
[by a country mile](#)
[can't see for looking](#)
[cheerio](#)
[collecting dust](#)
[drag it out](#)
[drag on](#)
[fish and company stink after three days](#)
[for a dog's age](#)
[for long](#)
[forever and a day](#)
[give up the ghost](#)
[hold a grudge](#)
[hotdog](#)
[in a coon's age](#)
[in the long haul](#)
[Johnny-come-lately](#)
[laugh your head off](#)
[long johns](#)
[long time no see](#)
[no rest for the wicked](#)
[not long for this world](#)
[once in a blue moon](#)
[once upon a time](#)
[the bitter end](#)
[till the cows come home](#)
[to hell and gone](#)
[toodles/toodle-oo](#)
[wear out your welcome](#)

long-term

[you reap whatsoever you sow](#)

longer

[go the extra mile](#)

[lay off](#)

[lose patience](#)

[out of the way](#)

longing

[pluck at the heart strings](#)

loo

[biff/biffy](#)

[the can](#)

look

[a fleeting glance](#)

[a suicide pass \(hockey\)](#)

[a three-bagger](#)

[a wolf in sheep's clothing](#)

[at a glance](#)

[bag lady](#)

[bark up the wrong tree](#)

[becomes you](#)

[bend the rules](#)

[catch your eye](#)

[cauliflower ear](#)

[check over](#)

[check that](#)

[check this out](#)

[claws are showing](#)

[cut a fine figure](#)

[double take](#)

[dust bunny](#)

[eye candy](#)

[eyeball this](#)

[find fault](#)

[frame](#)

[future looks bright](#)

[get a load of that](#)

[give her the eye](#)

[give him the evil eye](#)

[give it the once-over](#)

[have a boo](#)

[have a looksee](#)

[head in the sand](#)

[headhunter](#)

[hold the fort](#)

[hold your nose](#)

[if looks could kill](#)

[it works](#)

[jive ass \[B\]](#)

[keep an eye out](#)

[keep fit](#)
[keep your eyes peeled](#)
[lay eyes on](#)
[leave no stone unturned](#)
[lo and behold](#)
[look daggers](#)
[look down on](#)
[look down your nose at](#)
[look high and low](#)
[look like death warmed over](#)
[look out for](#)
[look over](#)
[look over your shoulder](#)
[look sharp](#)
[no matter how you slice it](#)
[pass for](#)
[peep this](#)
[peer sneer](#)
[pick holes in](#)
[pound the pavement](#)
[read up on](#)
[run down](#)
[run the gamut](#)
[show you up](#)
[stick out like a sore thumb](#)
[suits you](#)
[take a boo](#)
[take a gander](#)
[take a look](#)
[take care of](#)
[the grass is greener on the other side of the fence](#)
[the spitting image](#)
[till you're blue in the face](#)
[turn a blind eye](#)
[turn the other way](#)
[under my care](#)
[watch out](#)
[watch over](#)
[x marks the spot](#)

looking

[can't see for looking](#)
[caught looking](#)

[chip on his shoulder](#)
[cruise](#)
[down in the mouth](#)
[even a blind pig can find an acorn](#)
[fall into my lap](#)
[feast your eyes on](#)
[hot on the trail](#)
[in the long run](#)
[in the pink](#)
[navel-gazing](#)
[on my case](#)
[on the make](#)
[open a window](#)
[picky](#)
[the picture of health](#)
[tunnel vision](#)
[without batting an eye](#)

loonie

[buck](#)
[shekel](#)

loony

[nut house](#)
[out of your tree](#)

loop

[faze me out](#)
[out of the loop](#)

looped

[plastered](#)
[snapped](#)

loose

[beside myself](#)
[come undone](#)
[odds and ends](#)
[potato sack](#)

loot

[a piece of the action](#)
[coin](#)

lose

[at stake](#)
[at the end of my rope/ at the end of my tether](#)
[bite the dust](#)
[blow a bundle](#)

[blow up](#)
[blow your lid/stack/top](#)
[buckle under](#)
[burn up](#)
[cat got your tongue](#)
[come undone](#)
[come unglued](#)
[dampen your spirits](#)
[ditch him](#)
[drive you to distraction](#)
[drop a bundle](#)
[drop behind](#)
[easy come, easy go](#)
[fly off the handle](#)
[get bageled](#)
[get mad](#)
[give and take](#)
[give you odds](#)
[go bonkers](#)
[go crazy](#)
[go downhill](#)
[hit the ceiling](#)
[hold up](#)
[hold your temper](#)
[hot tempered](#)
[keep your head](#)
[kill the goose that lays the golden eggs](#)
[lose count](#)
[lose favor](#)
[lose ground](#)
[lose it](#)
[lose out](#)
[lose track](#)
[lose your appetite](#)
[lose your cool](#)
[lose your head](#)
[lose your marbles](#)
[lose your mind](#)
[lose your shirt](#)
[lose your touch](#)
[make good time](#)
[mind go blank](#)

[out of patience](#)
[parachute](#)
[peter out](#)
[pride goeth before a fall](#)
[psych out](#)
[quit while you're ahead](#)
[shake him](#)
[slip](#)
[snatch victory from the jaws of defeat](#)
[stand to lose](#)
[suffer a setback](#)
[take a dive](#)
[the price you have to pay](#)
[there's no tomorrow](#)
[throw a game](#)
[throw cold water on](#)
[wipe out](#)
[you snooze, you lose](#)

loser

[bet on a lame rooster](#)
[it's all over but the crying](#)

losing

[a losing streak](#)
[at the end of my rope/ at the end of my tether](#)
[in the red](#)
[losing it](#)
[losing streak](#)
[mount a comeback](#)
[put to shame](#)

loss

[a bitter pill](#)
[a dead loss](#)
[bogof](#)
[dead-cat bounce](#)
[dodge a bullet](#)
[drawing card](#)
[give a black eye](#)
[in the red](#)
[kiss of death](#)
[peanuts](#)
[shortfall](#)
[write it off](#)

losses

[boom or bust](#)[cut losses](#)

lost

[a goner](#)[a wash-out](#)[beat it](#)[beyond help](#)[beyond repair](#)[butt out](#)[buzz off](#)[down the drain](#)[down the tubes](#)[fuck off \[B\]](#)[get going](#)[get out of your hair](#)[git](#)[go tell your mother she wants you](#)[hopes dashed](#)[in the drink](#)[in the hole](#)[it takes two to tango](#)[it's now or never](#)[kiss off](#)[kiss that one goodbye](#)[make yourself scarce](#)[pay up](#)[sob story](#)[take a hike](#)[take off, eh](#)[the one that got away](#)

lot

[a bad time](#)[a barrel of laughs](#)[a blast](#)[a bunch of malarkey](#)[a full plate](#)[a heavyweight](#)[a hollow leg](#)[a holy pile](#)[a lot of bunk](#)[a lot of folderol](#)

[a pain in the ass \[B\]](#)
[a pretty penny](#)
[a riot](#)
[a rough time](#)
[a shitload](#)
[a snootful](#)
[a tempest in a teapot](#)
[all talk and no action](#)
[all the bells and whistles](#)
[an old hand at](#)
[and then some](#)
[armed to the teeth](#)
[as all get-out](#)
[ask for the moon](#)
[big bucks](#)
[big time](#)
[blow a bundle](#)
[blow sky high](#)
[book worm](#)
[bring the house down](#)
[by leaps and bounds](#)
[cost a pretty penny](#)
[cost an arm and a leg](#)
[couch potato](#)
[crazy about](#)
[cry her heart out](#)
[cry me a river](#)
[cry your eyes out](#)
[done it all](#)
[drink like a fish](#)
[drive me crazy](#)
[easy street](#)
[eat like a horse](#)
[everything from soup to nuts](#)
[fill your face](#)
[fun and games](#)
[gas](#)
[give an arm and a leg](#)
[give him an inch and he'll take a mile](#)
[grill you](#)
[had enough](#)
[have deep pockets](#)

[heaven help us](#)
[high roller](#)
[hit paydirt](#)
[in a big way](#)
[in clover](#)
[in the worst way](#)
[kill me](#)
[kiss the blarney stone](#)
[know your stuff](#)
[like crazy/like mad](#)
[like nobody's business](#)
[live it up](#)
[mad about](#)
[make a big deal of it](#)
[make a bundle](#)
[megabucks](#)
[money to burn](#)
[more than you can shake a stick at](#)
[nuts about](#)
[one born every minute](#)
[oodles](#)
[pig out](#)
[piss pot full \[B\]](#)
[pot of gold](#)
[pour it on](#)
[power to burn](#)
[power user](#)
[praise him to the skies](#)
[put in time](#)
[put yourself out](#)
[raise a stink](#)
[rake in the dough](#)
[roll out the red carpet](#)
[run off at the mouth](#)
[save a bundle](#)
[scads](#)
[scare the life out of me](#)
[serious coin](#)
[sing his praises](#)
[smoke like a furnace](#)
[speak volumes](#)
[steamy](#)

[strike it rich](#)
[strip mall](#)
[talk big](#)
[talk the leg off the lamb of God](#)
[talk your head off](#)
[thanks a bunch](#)
[thanks a million](#)
[there's one born every minute](#)
[through the mill](#)
[through the wringer](#)
[tie one on](#)
[to beat the band](#)
[toast](#)
[tons](#)
[tube head](#)
[under pressure](#)
[up the wahoozey](#)
[whack](#)
[wild about](#)
[win big](#)
[windbag](#)
[work cut out for](#)
[worth their weight in gold](#)
[yak](#)

loud

[at the top of his voice](#)
[bigmouth](#)
[blabbermouth](#)
[full blast](#)
[laugh your head off](#)
[make a scene](#)
[out loud](#)
[sing up a storm](#)
[under my breath](#)

louder

[crank it up](#)
[don't get mad; get even](#)
[speak up](#)
[the road to hell is paved with good intentions](#)

loudest

[that takes the cake](#)
[the squeaky wheel gets the grease](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| loudly | at the top of his voice |
| lounges | a bar fly |
| lousy | crummy shabby |
| love | a crush on a roll in the hay [B] all's fair in love and war car buff cup runneth over cut a wide swath cut him off [B] do me fall for fall in love falling in love go all the way (sex) have nookie have sex head over heels in love is you is, or is you ain't my baby it takes two to tango life is not all guns and roses love at first sight love conquers all love is where you find it love them and leave them mad about make whoopee puppy love screw [B] sleep around [B] sob story steal your heart steamy sweep you off your feet sweet on the way to a man's heart is through his stomach |

[throw yourself at him](#)
[touch you](#)
[workaholic](#)
[worship the ground she walks on](#)
[you can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody](#)

loved

[it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all](#)
[it takes two to tango](#)
[love is where you find it](#)

lovelies

[bevy of beauties](#)
[gash](#)

lovely

[ducky](#)

lover

[break up](#)
[cry the blues](#)
[have an affair](#)
[love is blind](#)
[Lovers' Leap](#)
[old flame](#)

loving

[make love](#)

low

[a dime a dozen](#)
[a steal](#)
[behind the curve](#)
[blue](#)
[bottom out](#)
[buyer's market](#)
[clear out](#)
[down](#)
[drive a hard bargain](#)
[feel blue](#)
[for a song](#)
[keep a low profile](#)
[leave no stone unturned](#)
[lemon](#)
[low-ball him](#)
[on the lam](#)
[soft market](#)

low-priced

[loss leader](#)

lower

[behind the curve](#)

[hard nosed](#)

[play second fiddle](#)

[slip](#)

[take him down a peg](#)

lowest

[bottom rung](#)

loyal

[dance with the one who brought you](#)

[pay your dues](#)

[stand by me](#)

[true blue](#)

luck

[a bummer](#)

[a lucky break](#)

[a rough time of it](#)

[a tough time of it](#)

[all goes well](#)

[as luck would have it](#)

[break a leg](#)

[damn the luck \[B\]](#)

[darn my luck](#)

[every cloud has a silver lining](#)

[fucked by the fickle finger of fate \[B\]](#)

[luck out](#)

[lucky streak](#)

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| machine-printed | letter-perfect |
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| | |
|-------------|---|
| mayday | SOS |
| mccoy | honest-to-goodness |
| mcgee | a duke's mixture |
| mckay | The Group of Five/The Regina Five |
| meal | chow down grab a bite to eat leftovers on a full stomach square meal |
| mean | a black mark by hook or by crook come hell or high water feel free take it back what it boils down to |
| meaning | a play on words cheers chimo follow me get my drift get your wires crossed hit me read between the lines read into take on a new light there's no two ways about it twist your words wack |
| meaningful | hit home |
| meaningless | blow it out your ear |
| meant | take it to heart |
| meanwhile | in the meantime |

| | |
|----------|---|
| measure | hold a candle make the grade take your pulse up to snuff weigh in at |
| measured | hard skill |
| meat | square meal |
| media | cover-up leak the fifth column |
| mediate | bridge the gap |
| medical | a checkup checkup |
| meet | bigger fish to fry bump into cross paths how do you do join you love at first sight make a good impression meet up with run into stand up work the room |
| meeting | hidden agenda hold a meeting middle ground turn up |
| melee | brouhaha |
| melt | smooth talker |
| member | card-carrying member |

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|----------|--|
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| | a touch of brush with the law fender bender play a bit-part rob the cradle |
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| | |
|-----------------|---|
| moneybags | loaded more money than brains |
| monkey | funny stuff monkeywrenching |
| monkeywrenching | throw a monkey wrench into the works |
| monopoly | corner the market |
| month | in a long time salt away |
| montreal | The Big O |
| monty | strip |
| mood | chip on his shoulder frame of mind in a funk in seventh heaven state of mind |
| moola | dough green stuff lettuce scratch |
| moon | the Man in the Moon |
| moonshine | booze rot gut screech |
| morality | there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so |
| morals | lowlife |
| more | above and beyond the call of duty absence makes the heart grow fonder actions speak louder than words add fuel to the fire |

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| most | all's well that ends well bear the brunt by and large first and foremost golden age got a corner on happy camper lose your shirt play it for all it's worth seize the opportunity state of the art steal the show stretch the dollar the day of the family farm the key to success the last word the living end you're only as good as your last shift |
| mostly | by and large |
| mother | go pound salt the best things in life are free |
| motion | slo mo straw horse |
| motivate | spur on start a fire under him |
| motivated | fired up flat |
| motive | see through |
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Legend:

[B] bad language

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| oath | cross my heart and hope to die word of honor |
| obey | above the law break the law/rules eat out of the palm of your hand fall in line get away with keep in line stay in line |
| object | a fifth wheel a jim dandy a sack of hammers dig it up do-dad eye candy gild the lily pass off take exception to there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so white elephant |
| obligated | off the hook |
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[take a flight](#)

[take him down a peg](#)

[take leave of your senses](#)

[take off, eh](#)

[taken](#)

[talk back](#)

[teed off](#)

[tell him a thing or two](#)

[tell him where to get off](#)

[tell him where to go](#)

[the apple doesn't fall far from the tree](#)

[the bottom fell out](#)
[the end of the line](#)
[ticked off](#)
[time off](#)
[tool around](#)
[touch off](#)
[touched in the head](#)
[walk](#)
[wash it off](#)
[well heeled](#)
[work my buns off](#)
[work your ass off \[B\]](#)
[zinger](#)

offb

[mad about](#)

offend

[hurt my feelings](#)
[step on their toes](#)

offended

[beg your pardon](#)
[take offense](#)
[take umbrage](#)

offense

[take it the wrong way](#)
[take umbrage](#)

offer

[an offer I couldn't refuse](#)
[low-ball him](#)
[make an offer](#)
[pass off](#)
[reach out](#)
[take it and run](#)
[take it or leave it](#)

offered

[Hobson's choice](#)
[on the table](#)
[put your money where your mouth is](#)

offhand

[upon the words offhandedly spoken](#)

office

[branch office](#)
[girl Friday](#)

[moppie](#)
[new kid on the block](#)
[water-cooler talk](#)

officestore

[branch out](#)

official

[off the record](#)

often

[a bar fly](#)
[hidden talent](#)
[nine lives](#)
[nine times out of ten](#)
[swell](#)
[used to](#)

oh

[boy, oh boy](#)
[darn it](#)
[drat](#)
[fiddlesticks](#)
[gee](#)
[gee willickers](#)
[golly](#)
[golly gee](#)
[good golly](#)
[good gravy](#)
[good grief](#)
[goodness gracious](#)
[gosh](#)
[heavens](#)
[heavens to Betsy](#)
[jeepers](#)
[nuts](#)
[oh my gosh](#)
[phooey](#)
[rats](#)
[scrut](#)
[shucks](#)
[wow](#)
[yeow](#)

ohgee

[yikes](#)

oil

[greasy kid's stuff](#)[oilpatch](#)

ok

[copacetic](#)

okay

[ain't half-bad](#)[check out](#)[copacetic](#)[half-bad](#)[how are you getting along](#)[how goes the battle](#)[how's tricks](#)[it makes no difference](#)[none the worse for wear](#)[right on](#)[ten-four \(CB radio\)](#)[yo](#)

old

[an old warhorse](#)[at the ripe old age](#)[better the devil you know...](#)[bone dry](#)[boys will be boys](#)[can of worms](#)[chestnut](#)[come of age](#)[down home](#)[fine-feathered friend](#)[geezer](#)[last hurrah](#)[like father, like son](#)[long in the tooth](#)[Old Boys' Club](#)[old coot](#)[old flame](#)[old goat](#)[old hat](#)[old wives' tale](#)[on his last legs](#)[over the hill](#)[passé](#)[pushing fifty](#)

[raisins](#)
[set in her ways](#)
[skeleton in the closet](#)
[song and dance](#)
[the apple doesn't fall far from the tree](#)
[the old man](#)
[tin Lizzie](#)
[you can't teach an old dog new tricks](#)

older

[age before beauty](#)
[comeback kid](#)
[get on in years](#)
[golden years](#)
[grey power](#)
[hand me down](#)

olympic

[The Big O](#)

omitted

[go by the boards](#)

on

[a bee in her bonnet](#)
[a blank look](#)
[a cheap drunk](#)
[a clutch hitter \(baseball\)](#)
[a fat lip](#)
[a new broom sweeps clean](#)
[a pinch to grow an inch](#)
[a pine float](#)
[a pocket of resistance](#)
[a send-up](#)
[a sure bet](#)
[a takeoff on](#)
[air rage](#)
[all show](#)
[all teed up](#)
[all your eggs in one basket](#)
[along those lines](#)
[as far as I know](#)
[as sick as a parrot](#)
[at a moment's notice](#)
[backup](#)
[bang on](#)

[bank on](#)

[beat your head against a stone wall](#)

[becomes you](#)

[bet on a lame rooster](#)

[boot up](#)

[break a promise](#)

[break out in a rash](#)

[browbeat](#)

[brush cut](#)

[brush up on](#)

[brush with death](#)

[buckstop \(military\)](#)

[bundle up](#)

[button your lip](#)

[buy a round](#)

[card-carrying member](#)

[carry on](#)

[cash flow](#)

[catch a plane/bus/train](#)

[catch on](#)

[charge it](#)

[choose up sides](#)

[clean up your plate](#)

[click in](#)

[come onside](#)

[count on](#)

[count your chickens before they hatch](#)

[cowpoke](#)

[crack the line-up](#)

[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)

[dance with the one who brought you](#)

[dead on](#)

[deep, dark secret](#)

[devil-may-care](#)

[dimwit](#)

[dirty thirties](#)

[don't get mad; get even](#)

[double-cross](#)

[dress up](#)

[drive standard](#)

[drop like flies](#)

[dry out](#)

[dust bunny](#)
[ease up](#)
[fat lip](#)
[fink](#)
[first off](#)
[first up](#)
[float your boat](#)
[found money](#)
[from hand to mouth](#)
[front man](#)
[gathering dust](#)
[get it straight](#)
[get off my case](#)
[get on your horse](#)
[get the drop on](#)
[get the jump on](#)
[get your buns over here](#)
[get your hopes up](#)
[give me the third degree](#)
[give your word](#)
[go easy on](#)
[good bet](#)
[good for you](#)
[got a crush on](#)
[got it in for](#)
[got you by the short hairs](#)
[grand slam](#)
[gun it](#)
[hang in there](#)
[hang on](#)
[hard on me](#)
[have a chair](#)
[have one on me](#)
[have your period \[B\]](#)
[hedge your bets](#)
[high roller](#)
[hire on](#)
[hit the brakes](#)
[hold it](#)
[hold your horses](#)
[home run \(baseball\)](#)
[idiot lights](#)

[if looks could kill](#)
[in his good books](#)
[in my good books](#)
[in that vein](#)
[in the lap of luxury](#)
[in the loop](#)
[in tune](#)
[in your corner](#)
[jock](#)
[jungle mouth](#)
[keep it quiet](#)
[keep on trucking](#)
[keep your hair on](#)
[kill two birds \(with one stone\)](#)
[kiss curls \(hair style\)](#)
[last but not least](#)
[make a living](#)
[make out](#)
[make the bed](#)
[make whoopee](#)
[make your bum hum](#)
[make your mark](#)
[messed up](#)
[mothball](#)
[mum's the word](#)
[naked as a jay bird](#)
[Netwar](#)
[not on your tintype](#)
[off the beaten track](#)
[off topic](#)
[on a full stomach](#)
[on all fours](#)
[on an empty stomach](#)
[on board](#)
[on moral grounds](#)
[on my back](#)
[on my plate](#)
[on schedule](#)
[on tap](#)
[on target](#)
[on the bandwagon](#)
[on the beat](#)

[on the brink](#)
[on the button](#)
[on the clock](#)
[on the dot](#)
[on the mark](#)
[on the money](#)
[on the rails](#)
[on the road](#)
[on the run](#)
[on the shit list \[B\]](#)
[on the stand](#)
[on the throne](#)
[on top of](#)
[on track](#)
[on your way](#)
[out of the blue](#)
[out of the loop](#)
[over easy](#)
[over the hill](#)
[pack a rod](#)
[paint the town red](#)
[pass away](#)
[pick on](#)
[pick up](#)
[pick up the pace](#)
[piggyback](#)
[pin money](#)
[pinch an inch](#)
[pipe dream](#)
[piss away \[B\]](#)
[play a joke on](#)
[play a trick on](#)
[play along](#)
[play musical chairs](#)
[play the ponies](#)
[pointed questions](#)
[press on](#)
[proby](#)
[pull punches](#)
[pull the plug](#)
[pull yourself together](#)
[push me \(to the limit\)](#)

[quick on the draw](#)

[rad](#)

[rain on their parade](#)

[rat on](#)

[rest assured](#)

[rest on your laurels](#)

[ride his coattails](#)

[ride the clutch](#)

[riding high](#)

[right away](#)

[ritzy](#)

[rubberneck](#)

[rule out](#)

[run a tab](#)

[run a tub](#)

[run roughshod](#)

[saddle up](#)

[seconds](#)

[see eye to eye](#)

[set the table](#)

[shake on it](#)

[sharp](#)

[sign out](#)

[skins game](#)

[snitch](#)

[soldier on](#)

[speed up](#)

[spin doctor](#)

[spoil for a fight](#)

[spot on](#)

[square up](#)

[squeal](#)

[stark naked](#)

[start out](#)

[step on it](#)

[stick my neck out](#)

[stoned](#)

[stuck on](#)

[suits you](#)

[sweat it out](#)

[sweet on](#)

[tailgate](#)

[take a drive/trip](#)

[take a flight](#)

[take it easy on](#)

[take off](#)

[take on](#)

[take the bus/plane](#)

[take the stage](#)

[take you to task](#)

[that'll be the day](#)

[the breaking point](#)

[the hell you say](#)

[the odds-on favorite](#)

[The Rock](#)

[the short end of the stick](#)

[the sky isn't blue](#)

[the third degree](#)

[the upper hand](#)

[then and there](#)

[there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so](#)

[this mortal coil](#)

[throw good money after bad](#)

[throw some light on](#)

[throw yourself at him](#)

[tick over](#)

[tied to your mother's apron strings](#)

[top that](#)

[touch it with a ten-foot pole](#)

[tough on me](#)

[traffic jam](#)

[trickle-down economics](#)

[tune in](#)

[tuned in](#)

[twiggy](#)

[under the table](#)

[under wraps](#)

[up for sale](#)

[up on](#)

[vale of tears \(valley of tears\)](#)

[virtual reality](#)

[walk down](#)

[walk on eggshells](#)

[walk up](#)

[warmed over](#)
[watch me like a hawk](#)
[watch out for](#)
[watch over like a mother hawk](#)
[what gives](#)
[what goes around comes around](#)
[what in the name of heaven](#)
[when the dust settles](#)
[word is good](#)
[world beater](#)
[worship the ground she walks on](#)
[wrap around his finger](#)
[written all over your face](#)
[you bet your boots](#)
[you can bet your bottom dollar](#)
[you're only as good as your last shift](#)

once

[at one time](#)
[from time to time](#)
[in one fell swoop](#)

once-over

[a lick and a promise](#)

one

[a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush](#)
[a bit off/a bit mental](#)
[a cheap drunk](#)
[a feather in your cap](#)
[a fresh pair of eyes](#)
[a hotdog](#)
[a little bird told me](#)
[a little off](#)
[a loose cannon](#)
[a screw loose](#)
[a sucker for punishment](#)
[a thorn in my side](#)
[a total stranger](#)
[all your eggs in one basket](#)
[an apple a day keeps the doctor away](#)
[an easy mark](#)
[at a glance](#)
[back to the drawing board](#)
[bad apple](#)

[bag and baggage](#)
[bar hop](#)
[beauty is in the eye of the beholder](#)
[betwixt and between](#)
[birder](#)
[bite the hand that feeds you](#)
[black sheep](#)
[bleeding heart](#)
[bogof](#)
[book worm](#)
[buy a round](#)
[by word of mouth](#)
[can't have it both ways](#)
[chain reaction](#)
[chain smoker](#)
[chip in](#)
[chockablock](#)
[choose sides](#)
[cream of the crop](#)
[dimwit](#)
[don't put all your eggs in one basket](#)
[door to door](#)
[drop-in](#)
[dumbbell](#)
[eat your heart out](#)
[eighty-six it](#)
[fair-weather friend](#)
[fall between two stools](#)
[few and far between](#)
[from pillar to post](#)
[from the get-go](#)
[front man](#)
[front runner](#)
[game for anything](#)
[gang up on](#)
[get in on the ground floor](#)
[go steady](#)
[hand over fist](#)
[hat trick](#)
[have one on me](#)
[heads or tails](#)
[his own man](#)

[hit me \(card games\)](#)
[hold forth](#)
[hole in one \(golf\)](#)
[home run \(baseball\)](#)
[in one fell swoop](#)
[in your bad books](#)
[it has your name on it](#)
[it takes one to know one](#)
[jive ass \[B\]](#)
[kill off](#)
[kill two birds \(with one stone\)](#)
[klutz](#)
[knucklehead](#)
[last but not least](#)
[lesser of two evils](#)
[loud mouth](#)
[make it big](#)
[motormouth](#)
[name-dropper](#)
[no contest](#)
[no fair](#)
[not all there](#)
[nothing succeeds like success](#)
[on the bubble](#)
[once upon a time](#)
[one at a time](#)
[one by one](#)
[one false move](#)
[one for the road](#)
[one hell of a time](#)
[one man's meat is another man's poison](#)
[one on one](#)
[one-track mind](#)
[part and parcel](#)
[party-pooper](#)
[picky](#)
[pin your hopes on](#)
[pinhead](#)
[pinko](#)
[popcorn brain](#)
[prima donna](#)
[pub crawl](#)

[put down roots](#)
[rat fink](#)
[repay in kind](#)
[rob Peter to pay Paul](#)
[rotter](#)
[rough and ready](#)
[say jump...how high](#)
[scrape the bottom of the barrel](#)
[self-made man](#)
[settle down](#)
[shoot it out](#)
[should be so lucky](#)
[show-off](#)
[shutout \(sports\)](#)
[single file](#)
[single out](#)
[skunk](#)
[smooth talker](#)
[sour puss](#)
[spoilsport](#)
[square one](#)
[squealer](#)
[start from scratch](#)
[start over](#)
[stick-in-the-mud](#)
[take revenge](#)
[take sides](#)
[take your pick](#)
[the buck stops here](#)
[the cat's ass \[B\]](#)
[the early bird gets the worm](#)
[the joke is on you](#)
[the last straw](#)
[the odd one](#)
[the odds-on favorite](#)
[the real McCoy](#)
[the spitting image](#)
[there's no two ways about it](#)
[this one is on me](#)
[three slices short \(of a full loaf\)](#)
[to a man](#)
[to each his own](#)

[tough customer](#)
[traffic jam](#)
[turncoat](#)
[two for one](#)
[two heads are better than one](#)
[win by a nose](#)
[without a full deck](#)
[workaholic](#)
[zinger](#)

one-dollar

[loonie](#)

one-tenth

[the tip of the iceberg](#)

[tip of the iceberg](#)

only

[a hotdog](#)

[as slow as molasses in January](#)

[bare bones](#)

[catch a glimpse](#)

[flash a smile](#)

[go steady](#)

[inside joke](#)

[kitty bar the door](#)

[one-track mind](#)

[point-blank range](#)

[rest on your laurels](#)

[scratch the surface](#)

[straight cash](#)

[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)

[there's no two ways about it](#)

[winning isn't everything; it's the only thing](#)

[work to rule](#)

[you can't tell a book by its cover](#)

onside

[buy into](#)

[come around](#)

onto

[get fresh](#)

[hit on](#)

[make advances](#)

[take the stage](#)

[wise to us](#)

oodles

[crawling with more than you can shake a stick at](#)
[scads](#)

open

[branch out](#)
[cut and dried](#)
[fair game](#)
[laid bare](#)
[make a splash](#)
[the lights are on but nobody's home](#)
[won't see you stuck](#)

opened

[Fibber McGee's closet](#)

opening

[the eye of a needle](#)
[yin yang](#)

openly

[clear the air](#)
[make no bones about it](#)
[open up](#)

operate

[break down](#)
[break in](#)
[crash](#)
[do you follow](#)
[teed up](#)
[user friendly](#)
[wired for sound](#)

operating

[belly up](#)
[fold](#)
[give out](#)
[hit on all cylinders](#)
[on the fritz](#)
[on the rails](#)
[out of commission](#)
[out of order](#)
[shut down](#)
[tickety-boo](#)
[tits up \[B\]](#)
[up and running](#)

operation

[cash flow](#)
[play musical chairs](#)
[pull through](#)
[shut-down](#)
[smooth sailing](#)
[tune up](#)

opinion

[a redneck](#)
[beg to differ](#)
[flip-flop](#)
[get her way](#)
[it seems to me](#)
[keep an open mind](#)
[of two minds](#)
[point is well taken](#)
[point of view](#)
[pull your chain](#)
[say your piece](#)
[see eye to eye](#)
[soften your stance](#)
[take a poll](#)
[the way I see it](#)
[two cents' worth](#)
[two heads are better than one](#)

opponent

[a run for your money](#)
[down for the count](#)
[give up the blueline \(hockey\)](#)
[in tough](#)
[killer instinct](#)
[offside \(hockey\)](#)
[outplay](#)
[play catch-up](#)
[play hardball](#)
[smell blood](#)

opportunities

[open some doors](#)

opportunity

[a window of opportunity](#)
[blue sky](#)
[jump at the chance](#)

[let this chance go by](#)
[make the most of it](#)
[milk it](#)
[miss your chance](#)
[pass up](#)
[photo op](#)
[take advantage of](#)
[you snooze, you lose](#)

oppose

[go against the grain](#)

opposed

[at loggerheads](#)

[at odds](#)

[dead set against](#)

opposing

[turncoat](#)

opposite

[do a 180](#)

[famous last words](#)

[fly in the face of](#)

[kitty-corner](#)

[lollygag](#)

[U-turn](#)

optimistic

[on the bright side](#)

oral

[a blow job \[B\]](#)

[give head \[B\]](#)

[go down on \[B\]](#)

order

[break down](#)

[catch as catch can](#)

[chain of command](#)

[fall in line](#)

[line of authority](#)

[lose my train of thought](#)

[low on the totem pole](#)

[on deck](#)

[on the fritz](#)

[out of commission](#)

[the past is slipping by without a trace](#)

[under control](#)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| orderly | shipshape |
| ordinary | low on the totem pole sleeper |
| organization | give a black eye inside information |
| organize | collect my thoughts hold a meeting pair off/pair up set up shop start up |
| organized | apple-pie order ducks in a row (ducks in order) get it together get your act together get your shit together [B] |
| orgasm | come [B] |
| orientation | out of the closet |
| original | mint condition |
| originally | potlicker |
| ornaments | deck out |
| other | a common thread a head start a redneck a wash absence makes the heart grow fonder all that jazz and stuff at loggerheads bend the rules betwixt and between bump and grind (hockey) call it square |

[can't have it both ways](#)

[chain letter](#)

[charity begins at home](#)

[duke it out](#)

[even](#)

[fall between two stools](#)

[fall in line](#)

[fastball](#)

[flip-flop](#)

[get the jump on](#)

[go with the flow](#)

[hand over fist](#)

[hands are tied](#)

[heads or tails](#)

[high and mighty](#)

[high five](#)

[high handed](#)

[hold your nose](#)

[hold your own](#)

[in cahoots](#)

[jump ship](#)

[keep a lid on it](#)

[keep up](#)

[kick some ass](#)

[lesser of two evils](#)

[let on](#)

[live and let live](#)

[look the other way](#)

[misery loves company](#)

[mop up](#)

[mudsling](#)

[not speaking](#)

[on the same wavelength](#)

[out of step](#)

[pass the buck](#)

[people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones](#)

[piggyback](#)

[play around](#)

[plug the team](#)

[potlicker](#)

[shoot it out](#)

[slowpoke](#)

[snowball](#)
[spill the beans](#)
[square off](#)
[stand out](#)
[suck the hind tit \[B\]](#)
[team player](#)
[The Golden Rule](#)
[there's no love lost](#)
[trade insults](#)
[tunnel vision](#)
[turn a blind eye](#)
[turn the other way](#)

ought

[had better](#)

our

[chickens come home to roost](#)
[come onside](#)
[dark side](#)
[face the music](#)
[hands are tied](#)
[if you're born to hang, you won't drown](#)
[keep your fingers crossed](#)
[know where we stand](#)
[let the good times roll](#)
[money doesn't grow on trees](#)
[more than welcome](#)
[necessity is the mother of invention](#)
[on side](#)
[own worst enemy](#)
[SOS](#)
[tighten our belts](#)
[touch wood](#)
[up the wahoozey](#)
[up to my ears](#)
[what goes around comes around](#)

out

[a slip of the tongue](#)
[an earful](#)
[bail me out](#)
[beg off](#)
[behind the scenes](#)
[black out](#)

[blind date](#)
[blow me over](#)
[break curfew](#)
[break down](#)
[break out](#)
[bushed](#)
[bust out](#)
[cash and carry](#)
[check it out](#)
[check out](#)
[clear out](#)
[come down to earth](#)
[come out with](#)
[conk out](#)
[cool off](#)
[cry her heart out](#)
[cry your eyes out](#)
[date](#)
[deked out of his jock](#)
[do away with](#)
[do your own thing](#)
[don't have a cow](#)
[down for the count](#)
[dream on](#)
[drink you under the table](#)
[drop](#)
[duck out](#)
[eat it up](#)
[eat like a horse](#)
[eat you out of house and home](#)
[exit stage left](#)
[eyeball this](#)
[fall through](#)
[fall through the cracks](#)
[fart around \[B\]](#)
[Fibber McGee's closet](#)
[fido](#)
[fill your face](#)
[flake out](#)
[flat broke](#)
[flip](#)
[fuck off \[B\]](#)

[full blast](#)

[full out](#)

[full tilt](#)

[get a bang out of](#)

[get a fix on](#)

[get a handle on](#)

[get a kick out of](#)

[get a load of that](#)

[get cold feet](#)

[get in shape](#)

[get it on](#)

[get it straight](#)

[get off](#)

[get wind of](#)

[give out](#)

[go around with](#)

[go ballistic](#)

[go bonkers](#)

[go downhill](#)

[go out of your way](#)

[go steady](#)

[go to any trouble](#)

[gonzo](#)

[got you by the balls \[B\]](#)

[ground me](#)

[grounded](#)

[had his bell rung](#)

[had it](#)

[had the bird](#)

[hands are tied](#)

[hang around](#)

[how it plays out](#)

[if you can't cut it, you can't stay](#)

[in bad shape](#)

[in full flight](#)

[in the boonies](#)

[iron out](#)

[it's a zoo in there](#)

[jam/jam out](#)

[keep a low profile](#)

[keep an eye on](#)

[keep your nose clean](#)

[knock out](#)

[lay low](#)

[lay off](#)

[let the cat out of the bag](#)

[let yourself go](#)

[lo and behold](#)

[look like he was dragged through a knothole](#)

[lose patience](#)

[lose your mind](#)

[make room](#)

[miffed](#)

[nail down](#)

[neck](#)

[not with it](#)

[off kilter](#)

[off the beaten track](#)

[on loan](#)

[on the fritz](#)

[out cold](#)

[out of](#)

[out of breath](#)

[out of commission](#)

[out of context](#)

[out of harm's way](#)

[out of luck](#)

[out of my head](#)

[out of the woods](#)

[out of wind](#)

[out of your tree](#)

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[with wings](#)
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[workout](#)
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| | |
|------------|---|
| outa | |
| | exit stage left |
| outdo | |
| | go one better |
| outlook | |
| | an attitude |
| outlying | |
| | the burbs |
| outplay | |
| | deked out of his jock |
| outside | |
| | big-sky thinking fifth column keep out push the envelope shut-in take-out restaurant |
| outsmarted | |
| | egg on my face |
| oven | |
| | in a family way nuke up the stump [B] zap |
| over | |

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overdo

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overpower

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overwhelm

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owe

[call it square](#)
[double or nothing](#)
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owed

[pay up](#)

| | |
|-------|---|
| owing | a wash in hock out of hock |
| own | a man's home is his castle bag and baggage charity begins at home clean me out come clean cut your own throat different strokes for different folks dig your own grave do your own thing dubs Dutch treat face up float your boat full of herself give you the shirt off his back hip hop (generation) his own man make your way make yourself at home mind of his own navel-gazing no use for one man's garbage is another man's art one man's meat is another man's poison own worst enemy part with read into realize your potential self-made man shoot yourself in the foot stand corrected toot your own horn turn yourself in variety is the spice of life you have to be good to be lucky |
| owned | the day of the family farm |

owner

[cash on the barrelhead](#)

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oxygen

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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|----------|--|
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| | mind your manners |
| pace | |
| | hold your own |
| | keep up |
| | keep up with the Joneses |
| | rat race |
| | stay abreast |
| | take your sweet time |
| pacifist | |
| | dove |
| pack | |
| | a lot of bunk |
| | no truth to it |
| | pull the pin |
| packed | |
| | chockablock |
| | loaded to the hilt |
| pad | |
| | digs |
| page | |
| | handout |
| | hard copy |
| paid | |
| | a kept woman |
| | ahead of the game |
| | blood money |
| | hit man |
| | out of pocket |
| pain | |
| | a pain in the butt |
| | a royal pain |
| | act up |
| | half-corked |
| | have an attack |

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[shit myself \[B\]](#)

paper

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[hard copy](#)
[hot off the press](#)
[pass off](#)

| | |
|---------|---|
| par | up to scratch |
| parade | on parade |
| parcel | drop off one and the same |
| pardon | come again huh say what |
| parent | backpack (business) family tree the apple doesn't fall far from the tree |
| park | take my place |
| parked | get a ticket |
| parking | strip mall |
| parrot | as sick as a dog in sick bay sicker than a dog |
| part | a drop in the bucket all in a day's work cut to the chase dark side even up fake it give me a hint heavy going home stretch in his blood in the picture in these parts let go of lovelife neck of the woods one and the same |

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[the buck stops here](#)
[the runaround](#)
[up to par](#)

pass_html_eacute_

[old hat](#)

| | |
|------------|--|
| passed | what goes around comes around |
| passenger | air rage along for the ride |
| passes | how time flies roll around |
| passing | in the Monford lane |
| passion | got the hots for |
| passionate | nuts about |
| past | at one time back at it high time over the hump rest on your laurels run the gauntlet the past is slipping by without a trace water under the bridge you can run but you can't hide |
| pastry | melt in your mouth |
| pat | by heart canned down to a T |
| path | a slippery slope fast track find your way make way out of the way pave the way rocky road short cut slippery slope |
| patience | at the end of my rope/ at the end of my tether lose patience |

[out of patience](#)

patient

[hang in there](#)

[lose patience](#)

pause

[chill out](#)

[dilly-dally](#)

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[wait a minute](#)

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[without batting an eye](#)

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paved

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[just ducky](#)

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peek

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perfectionistic

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perfectly

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[buck fever](#)[choke](#)[cool under pressure](#)[front man](#)[give head \[B\]](#)[knock your socks off](#)[mop the floor with us](#)[outdo yourself](#)[put out](#)[screw up](#)[slip a notch](#)[stink the joint out](#)[walk through](#)

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performed

[done good](#)[good show](#)[picture-perfect](#)

performer

[all the world's a stage](#)[steal the show](#)[superstar](#)[take the stage](#)

performing

[in a slump](#)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| period | pumped/pumped up |
| perks | got the rags on [B] soft market |
| permanent | every cloud has a silver lining |
| permanently | fast friends on probation |
| permission | for good |
| permit | make off with |
| permitted | crack down on rule out stand for |
| persevere | heaven forbid |
| person | hang in there pick yourself up |
| | a babe in the woods a bar fly a barrel of laughs a basket case a big shot a big wheel a big wig a blank look a brick a bull in a china shop a bundle of nerves a caution a cheap drunk a cut-up a daredevil a firm hand a flash in the pan a game one a going concern. |

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[speak highly of](#)
[speak of the devil](#)
[square shooter](#)
[stiff](#)
[straight from the horse's mouth](#)
[string bean](#)
[suck](#)
[sucker](#)
[take it out on](#)
[take my hat off to](#)
[take sides](#)
[the butt of the joke](#)
[the devil makes work for idle hands](#)
[the goat](#)
[The Grim Reaper](#)
[the inside track](#)
[the laughing stock](#)
[the life of the party](#)
[the man in the middle](#)
[the middleman](#)
[the squeaky wheel gets the grease](#)
[tight-ass \[B\]](#)
[to a man](#)
[tough customer](#)
[tub of guts](#)
[tube head](#)
[turn the tables on](#)

[twerp](#)
[twiggy](#)
[twinkle toes](#)
[two's company, three's a crowd](#)
[unsung hero](#)
[VIP](#)
[weigh in at](#)
[weirdo](#)
[what a brain](#)
[wheeler-dealer](#)
[wimp](#)
[windbag](#)
[wingnut](#)
[world beater](#)
[wuss](#)
[yellow belly](#)
[yuppie](#)
[zipperhead](#)

personal

[a talking to](#)
[dirty laundry](#)
[find your voice](#)
[hang-up](#)
[out of pocket](#)
[outdo yourself](#)
[rock](#)
[suck up to](#)
[the inside story](#)
[through the wringer](#)
[wekabi](#)

personality

[in his blood](#)
[it takes one to know one](#)
[take after](#)

personally

[hit home](#)

persongroup

[lord it over](#)

personhorseteam

[a shoo-in](#)

perspective

[put a different slant on it](#)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| perspire | break a sweat work up a sweat |
| persuade | make a pitch sucker talk into twist my arm |
| persuaded | an easy mark |
| persuasively | talk the leg off the lamb of God |
| pervert | creep sicko weirdo |
| pet | potlicker |
| petite | cute as a bug's ear |
| petrified | make your hair stand on end scared shitless [B] scared stiff |
| phase | over the hump |
| phased | throw me for a loop |
| phobia | hang-up |
| phone | any word call up dingle you get a hold of give me a call give me a dingle give me a ring hold your horses in touch keep in touch keep you posted make a false move |

[no word](#)
[phone-in](#)
[reach me](#)
[ring me](#)
[ring off the hook](#)
[rubberneck](#)
[so small you had to back out to change your mind](#)
[take calls](#)

phony

[a snow job](#)
[crocodile tears](#)
[flake](#)
[jam tart](#)

phooney

[fuddle duddle*](#)

photo

[in the flesh](#)
[photo op](#)

photocopier

[run off](#)

photograph

[take a picture](#)

phrase

[a play on words](#)
[buzzword](#)
[catch phrase](#)
[chime in](#)
[crack a joke](#)
[to coin a phrase](#)

physical

[beauty is only skin deep](#)
[fit as a fiddle](#)
[smelling yourself](#)

physically

[get in shape](#)

pick

[a score to settle](#)
[clean up](#)
[give me a lift](#)
[roll with the punches](#)
[take up cudgels](#)
[take your sweet time](#)

pickles

[throw a monkey wrench into the works](#)

picture

[a picture is worth a thousand words](#)

[can't see the forest for the trees](#)

[get this straight](#)

[hard copy](#)

[in your mind's eye](#)

[take a picture](#)

picture-perfect

[letter-perfect](#)

pie

[airy-fairy](#)

[honey](#)

[like shit through a goose](#)

[pipe dream](#)

piece

[a dressing down](#)

[a drop in the bucket](#)

[a jim dandy](#)

[a piece of piss](#)

[bits and pieces](#)

[come undone](#)

[duck soup](#)

[easy as pie](#)

[easy pickings](#)

[even up](#)

[finish off](#)

[it was a lark](#)

[it's a snap](#)

[odds and ends](#)

[piss in the pickles \[B\]](#)

[the lion's share](#)

[tie up](#)

[top it off](#)

pig

[cop](#)

[eat like a horse](#)

[eat you out of house and home](#)

[fill your face](#)

[fuzz](#)

[piggy bank](#)

[put away](#)

pike

[what's going down](#)

[what's going on](#)

pile

[tons](#)

pill

[the pill](#)

pilot

[trial balloon](#)

pimple

[pimple pole](#)

[whore blossom](#)

[zit](#)

pin

[fall on your sword](#)

[get your hopes up](#)

[nail down](#)

[pack it in](#)

[spending money](#)

[sweat it out](#)

pinch

[a pinch to grow an inch](#)

[in a tight spot](#)

[pinch an inch](#)

[rabbit](#)

[scoff](#)

pink

[hale and hearty](#)

pipe

[carry a tune](#)

[keep it down](#)

piracy

[bootleg](#)

piss

[rain on their parade](#)

[throw a monkey wrench into the works](#)

pissb

[whiz](#)

pissed

[choked](#)

[hammered](#)

[hot](#)

[mad about](#)
[pissed off \[B\]](#)
[spitting mad](#)
[three sheets to the wind](#)

pissedb

[spitting nails](#)

pissing

[look up a dead horse's ass \[B\]](#)
[piss parade \[B\]](#)

pitch

[in tune \(music\)](#)
[off key \(music\)](#)
[out of tune \(music\)](#)

pitched

[fastball](#)

pitches

[fastball](#)

pits

[for the birds](#)
[from hunger](#)

pity

[feel for](#)

place

[a bed of roses](#)
[a beehive of activity](#)
[a faraway look](#)
[a level playing field](#)
[Achilles heel](#)
[all over hell's half acre](#)
[as the crow flies](#)
[bark up the wrong tree](#)
[bed down](#)
[being there](#)
[bet on](#)
[between the devil and the deep blue sea](#)
[blow my cover](#)
[blow this joint](#)
[blow this Popsicle stand](#)
[chockablock](#)
[come full circle](#)
[crack the line-up](#)
[curl up with a good book](#)

[feather your nest](#)
[get around](#)
[going to the mountains](#)
[hole up](#)
[it goes with the territory](#)
[it's a whole nother world out there](#)
[it's a whole other world out there](#)
[it's a zoo in there](#)
[knock you down a peg](#)
[lump together](#)
[more than welcome](#)
[on a pedestal](#)
[on the move](#)
[on the spot](#)
[out of harm's way](#)
[out of place](#)
[out of the woodwork](#)
[out on a limb](#)
[pinpoint](#)
[pull up stakes](#)
[put down roots](#)
[run for the hills](#)
[saddle up](#)
[set out](#)
[set up shop](#)
[settle down](#)
[squat](#)
[squirrel away](#)
[stand in](#)
[stick out like a sore thumb](#)
[take cover](#)
[take him down a peg](#)
[the end of the line](#)
[then and there](#)
[tight spot](#)
[vale of tears \(valley of tears\)](#)
[window on the world](#)
[wreak havoc](#)

placed

[buckstop \(military\)](#)
[in your face](#)

plain

[call a spade a spade](#)

[crystal clear](#)

[right before my eyes](#)

[under my nose](#)

plainly

[straight from the shoulder](#)

plan

[a lick and a promise](#)

[a slippery slope](#)

[all your eggs in one basket](#)

[bag of tricks](#)

[broken dreams](#)

[buy time](#)

[change your mind](#)

[count your chickens before they hatch](#)

[don't count your chickens before they hatch](#)

[down with](#)

[feedback](#)

[fuck that noise \[B\]](#)

[get cold feet](#)

[get your shit together \[B\]](#)

[goose is cooked](#)

[hanky-panky](#)

[hidden agenda](#)

[honesty is the best policy](#)

[hopes dashed](#)

[in the works](#)

[keep your fingers crossed](#)

[no rhyme or reason](#)

[on schedule](#)

[on the wing](#)

[partners in crime](#)

[Plan B](#)

[play it by ear](#)

[railroad](#)

[risky business](#)

[serve notice](#)

[set out to](#)

[set-up](#)

[sounding board](#)

[take a dive](#)

[the best-laid plans of mice and men go oft astray](#)

[the big picture](#)[time out](#)[tip your hand](#)[what-if](#)[wing it](#)

plane

[catch a plane/bus/train](#)[make war](#)[take a flight](#)[take off](#)[take the bus/plane](#)

planned

[a bare-faced lie](#)[a pat answer](#)[come off](#)[come to fruition](#)[ducks in a row \(ducks in order\)](#)[fall short](#)[half-baked](#)[love is where you find it](#)[on target](#)[pan out](#)[play into his hand](#)[stand up](#)[trial balloon](#)[work out](#)

planning

[by the seat of your pants](#)[in the long run](#)[pin your hopes on](#)[up to](#)[up to something](#)

plansmethods

[change horses in mid stream](#)

plants

[green thumb](#)

plastered

[blasted](#)[corked](#)[pissed to the gills \[B\]](#)[polluted](#)[shit-faced \[B\]](#)

[sloshed to the gills](#)
[three sheets to the wind](#)

plate

[clean up your plate](#)
[got my hands full](#)
[irons in the fire](#)
[seconds](#)
[set the table](#)

play

[a hotdog](#)
[a quickie](#)
[an ace up your sleeve](#)
[backroom boys](#)
[basta la musica](#)
[blow snakes \(music\)](#)
[chairman of the boards \(hockey\)](#)
[choose up sides](#)
[cook](#)
[crazy like a fox](#)
[cut a wide swath](#)
[deal me in](#)
[disk jockey \(DJ\)](#)
[do a gig](#)
[ease up](#)
[eat humble pie](#)
[fart around \[B\]](#)
[fool around](#)
[give her shit \[B\]](#)
[go along with](#)
[goof off](#)
[ham it up](#)
[hang out](#)
[hit and run \(baseball\)](#)
[hit the high notes](#)
[horse around](#)
[inside joke](#)
[it's your turn](#)
[jack me around](#)
[jam](#)
[jock](#)
[joke around](#)
[kitty bar the door](#)

[mind games](#)
[musical chairs](#)
[outplay](#)
[play a bit-part](#)
[play a joke on](#)
[play a mean game](#)
[play a trick on](#)
[play dirty](#)
[play dumb](#)
[play fair](#)
[play hardball](#)
[play it by ear](#)
[play to the crowd](#)
[political football](#)
[pumped/pumped up](#)
[put you off your game](#)
[shuffle the chairs on the deck](#)
[skip classes](#)
[spoilsport](#)
[stink the joint out](#)
[take a back seat](#)
[take chances](#)
[team up](#)
[the gloves are off](#)
[the joke is on you](#)
[tool around](#)
[up for it](#)
[wing it](#)
[work up a thirst](#)

player

[a game one](#)
[a suicide pass \(hockey\)](#)
[bump and grind \(hockey\)](#)
[chairman of the boards \(hockey\)](#)
[cherrypicker \(hockey\)](#)
[fifth business](#)
[fresh legs](#)
[hat trick](#)
[in over your head](#)
[kill a penalty \(hockey\)](#)
[musical chairs](#)
[new legs](#)

[no contest](#)
[one on one](#)
[plug the team](#)
[superstar](#)
[the bigger they are the harder they fall](#)
[underdog](#)

playing

[a level playing field](#)
[at the top of her game](#)
[level the playing field](#)
[out of bounds](#)
[out of the picture](#)
[time flies when you're having fun](#)

pleasant

[a bed of roses](#)
[don't want to go there](#)
[ear candy](#)
[like dog's breath](#)

please

[a man's home is his castle](#)
[beg your pardon](#)
[bend over backwards](#)
[brown nose \[B\]](#)
[by all means](#)
[crank it up](#)
[deal me in](#)
[for goodness sake](#)
[for Pete's sake](#)
[forget your manners](#)
[have a chair](#)
[have a seat](#)
[help yourself](#)
[make your bum hum](#)
[more than welcome](#)
[pardon me](#)
[spare me](#)

pleased

[happy as a peacock](#)
[miffed](#)
[nose is out of joint](#)
[pleased as punch](#)
[tickled pink](#)

| | |
|---------|---|
| plug | slug away |
| plumb | mad as a hatter |
| plumber | blue-collar worker |
| plump | chock full full as a tick |
| plunder | lay waste |
| plus | a full house (cards) and then some to boot |
| pms | pre-menstrual syndrome |
| pocket | loaded penny wise, dollar dumb |
| poems | wax poetic |
| poetic | wax poetic |
| point | an axe to grind beat around the bush bone of contention bottom out brownie points case in point chalk one up for you come to the point cut to the chase get to it get to the point got him covered mark a watershed miss the point mount a comeback pinpoint shellack take you to the cleaners |

[the breaking point](#)
[the crux of the matter](#)
[the downside](#)
[the straight dope](#)
[the tide turned](#)
[win by a nose](#)
[wipe you](#)

pointed

[grill you](#)

pointgame

[chalk one up for you](#)

pointing

[yonder over there](#)

pointless

[look up a dead horse's ass \[B\]](#)

poke

[make fun of](#)

[take a shot](#)

poker

[backroom boys](#)

[cash in](#)

[keep a straight face](#)

pokey

[so small you could barely swing a cat](#)

pole

[string bean](#)

police

[blow the whistle](#)

[busted](#)

[canary](#)

[Mounties](#)

[on the lam](#)

[on the run](#)

[pig](#)

[press charges](#)

[rat on](#)

[squeal](#)

[squealer](#)

[take the heat](#)

[the long arm of the law](#)

[turn yourself in](#)

[under arrest](#)

| | |
|------------|---|
| policeman | cop flatfoot |
| policemen | fuzz |
| policy | a blackout (war) hard line mete out trial balloon |
| polite | down and dirty forget your manners hold your tongue mind your manners mind your P's and Q's on my best behavior out of line watch your P's and Q's |
| political | a marked man bafflegab mend fences Old Boys' Club political football |
| politician | Joe Who political football spin doctor |
| poll | test the water |
| polluted | a sick building as drunk as a skunk shit-faced [B] tanked/tanked up |
| pompous | high-hat |
| poontang | nookie [B] |
| poop | doggy doo doo-doo |

poor

[a dog's life](#)
[a ghost of a chance](#)
[a long shot](#)
[a major](#)
[an attitude](#)
[as poor as a church mouse](#)
[beater](#)
[below the poverty line](#)
[boom or bust](#)
[cheesy](#)
[clunker](#)
[crappy](#)
[crummy](#)
[damaged goods](#)
[darn my luck](#)
[do it the hard way](#)
[down and out](#)
[for the birds](#)
[from hand to mouth](#)
[from hunger](#)
[gone to pot](#)
[gone to the dogs](#)
[hard up](#)
[in the poorhouse](#)
[lousy](#)
[off to a bad start](#)
[piss poor \[B\]](#)
[read them and weep](#)
[run down](#)
[suck](#)
[sucks](#)
[the pits](#)
[throw good money after bad](#)
[two left feet](#)
[up against it](#)

poorer

[feel the pinch](#)

poorhouse

[hard up](#)

poorly

[get your wires crossed](#)

[goof up](#)
[out of whack](#)
[put you off your game](#)
[screw up](#)
[stink the joint out](#)

pop

[bottle drive](#)
[spike a drink](#)

popular

[a hit](#)
[a hot ticket](#)
[a hot topic](#)
[catch phrase](#)
[catch the wave](#)
[hot stuff](#)
[like dog's breath](#)

porcelain

[piggy bank](#)

portable

[boom box](#)
[ghetto blaster](#)

portray

[paint a picture](#)

portraying

[steamy](#)

position

[back yourself into a corner](#)
[behind the eight ball](#)
[between a rock and a hard place](#)
[between the devil and the deep blue sea](#)
[bottom rung](#)
[deked out of his jock](#)
[dig in their heels](#)
[in a jam](#)
[in a tight spot](#)
[in place](#)
[in the black](#)
[in the pipe five by five](#)
[know where we stand](#)
[middle ground](#)
[on a pedestal](#)
[on thin ice](#)

[open to criticism](#)
[parachute](#)
[play second fiddle](#)
[sitting pretty](#)
[soften your stance](#)
[step down](#)
[take a stand](#)
[The Grim Reaper](#)
[tight spot](#)

positive

[a lift](#)
[buck up](#)
[change of heart](#)
[dead certain](#)
[down on his luck](#)
[mixed feelings](#)
[on the bright side](#)
[raise your spirits](#)
[things are looking up](#)
[upside](#)

possessions

[a rolling stone gathers no moss](#)
[bag and baggage](#)

possible

[by guess or by gosh](#)
[by hook or by crook](#)
[chances are](#)
[flat out](#)
[full blast](#)
[full tilt](#)
[hand over fist](#)
[in order](#)
[make every effort](#)
[no way](#)
[out of the question](#)
[pull out all the stops](#)
[time is of the essence](#)

possibly

[fifth column](#)

postcard

[drop a line](#)

posterior

[rear end](#)

postpone

[call off](#)[put off](#)

pot

[fish or cut bait](#)[reefer](#)[toke up](#)

potato

[tube head](#)[vegetate \(veg out\)](#)

potential

[come into your own](#)[has the makings](#)[the makings of](#)[up and coming](#)

potlicker

[pipsqueak](#)

pounds

[penny wise, pound foolish](#)

pour

[tell all](#)

poverty

[from rags to riches](#)[hard times](#)[lean times](#)[the wolf is at the door](#)[times were hard](#)

pow

[bam](#)

power

[a big wheel](#)[a heavyweight](#)[carry weight](#)[cast a spell](#)[chain of command](#)[full steam ahead](#)[get up a head of steam](#)[give her](#)[hop up](#)[juice](#)[let her rip](#)

[line of authority](#)
[lose ground](#)
[mind over matter](#)
[Old Boys' Club](#)
[peter out](#)
[power play \(business\)](#)
[power trip](#)
[put your mind to it](#)
[sleeper](#)
[supercharge](#)
[the inside track](#)
[the powers that be](#)
[throw your weight around](#)
[tweak](#)
[weak-kneed](#)
[XL](#)

powerful

[a shogun](#)
[big boys](#)
[Bob's your uncle](#)
[pack Uzis](#)
[power to burn](#)
[pull a few strings](#)
[super-duper](#)

powerless

[lame duck](#)

practical

[head in the clouds](#)
[pie in the sky](#)

practice

[actions speak louder than words](#)
[an old hand at](#)
[hands on](#)
[jam session](#)
[walk the talk](#)
[walk through](#)

practicing

[workout](#)

practise

[bone up on](#)
[brush up on](#)
[go over](#)

[jam](#)
[run through](#)

prairie

[dirty thirties](#)

praise

[a little thick](#)
[deserve credit](#)
[hats off](#)
[here's to](#)
[in glowing terms](#)
[lay it on](#)
[pat on the back](#)
[pour it on](#)
[praise him to the skies](#)
[sing his praises](#)
[speak highly of](#)
[take my hat off to](#)
[tip of the hat](#)

praised

[unsung hero](#)

prank

[funny stuff](#)
[play a joke on](#)

preach

[actions speak louder than words](#)
[rant and rave](#)
[walk the talk](#)

preaching

[get off your soap box](#)

precise

[put too fine a point on](#)

predicament

[behind the eight ball](#)
[up the creek](#)

predict

[see it coming](#)

predictable

[a foregone conclusion](#)
[a sure thing](#)
[as sure as shit](#)
[sure as shit](#)

prediction

[famous last words](#)

| | |
|-------------|---|
| prefer | just as soon take your pick |
| preferences | different strokes for different folks |
| pregnant | a bun in the oven baby blues in a family way knock up [B] the rabbit died up the stump [B] |
| prejudging | keep an open mind |
| premises | watering hole |
| preparation | spade work |
| prepare | feather your nest gear up hunker down one for the money, two for the show... pave the way prepare like crazy take up cudgels work out write up you have to be good to be lucky |
| prepared | all set armed to the teeth canned don't hold your breath on top of psyched/psyched up sharpen your pencils up for it wired for sound |
| preparing | fixing to rattle sabres |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| presence | a breath of fresh air |
| present | put your best foot forward roll around the past is slipping by without a trace |
| president | a big wig big wigs |
| press | drop charges goose it |
| pressure | ease up hard sell if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen presence of mind push me (to the limit) put the heat on running water the heat is on |
| pressuring | soft sell |
| pretend | drop a name / drop names go along with lead you on make believe play along play dead play hard to get play the fool put on airs string along |
| pretender | jam tart |
| pretending | all hat and no cattle |
| pretentious | highfalutin |
| prettier | larger than life |
| pretty | |

[cute as a bug's ear](#)

[phat](#)

[pretty as a picture](#)

prevent

[a stitch in time saves nine](#)

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)

[break your fall](#)

[can help it](#)

[can't help](#)

[cut off](#)

[drag your feet](#)

[drain the swamp](#)

[got him covered](#)

[keep an eye on](#)

[keep the wolf from the door](#)

[kill a penalty \(hockey\)](#)

[kitty bar the door](#)

[nip it in the bud](#)

[own worst enemy](#)

[put the kibosh on](#)

[save face](#)

[stonewall](#)

[stop you in your tracks](#)

preventing

[blank](#)

[in the road](#)

[piano tied to your ass \[B\]](#)

previous

[break the record](#)

[leftovers](#)

price

[a little steep](#)

[a pretty penny](#)

[a rip-off](#)

[a steal](#)

[asking price](#)

[big bucks](#)

[buyer's market](#)

[cash on the line](#)

[clear out](#)

[cost a pretty penny](#)

[cut rate](#)

[drive a hard bargain](#)
[for a song](#)
[hard nosed](#)
[hold out for](#)
[low-ball him](#)
[out of the ball park](#)
[price out](#)
[seller's market](#)
[set your price](#)
[shake on it](#)
[soft market](#)
[split the difference](#)
[strike a bargain](#)
[the going rate](#)
[two for one](#)

priced

[a dime a dozen](#)
[a rip-off](#)

priceless

[worth their weight in gold](#)

prick

[hoo-haw \[B\]](#)

pride

[give a black eye](#)
[pop your buttons](#)
[swallow your pride](#)

priest

[a man of the cloth](#)

prime

[hale and hearty](#)
[heyday](#)

principles

[true colors](#)

print

[put to bed \(print media\)](#)
[scoop them](#)

printed

[hard copy](#)
[hot off the press](#)

prison

[behind bars](#)
[do a dime](#)

[do time](#)
[in the clink](#)
[in the slammer](#)
[in the tank](#)
[lifer](#)
[lock you up](#)
[on parole](#)
[pokey](#)
[send him up](#)
[The Rock](#)

prisoners

[death row](#)

privacy

[familiarity breeds contempt](#)

private

[bare your soul](#)
[deep, dark secret](#)
[it's not a state secret](#)
[mouth off](#)
[pour out your soul](#)
[red-faced](#)
[top secret](#)

privilege

[grandfather clause](#)
[prima donna](#)

privileged

[above the law](#)

prize

[a piece of the action](#)
[all the marbles](#)
[eat your heart out](#)
[lucky dog](#)
[make a splash](#)
[win big](#)

prob

[no sweat](#)
[not at all](#)

probation

[proby](#)

problem

[a blessing in disguise](#)
[a dickens of a time](#)

[a hard row to hoe](#)

[a hassle](#)

[a mental block](#)

[a pain in the butt](#)

[a piece of cake](#)

[a slippery slope](#)

[a tempest in a teapot](#)

[act up](#)

[add fuel to the fire](#)

[all goes well](#)

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)

[at fault](#)

[away to the races](#)

[bad news](#)

[bail me out](#)

[Bob's your uncle](#)

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[upset the apple cart](#)
[what you don't know won't hurt you](#)
[when the going gets tough](#)
[without a hitch](#)
[work things out](#)
[you can run but you can't hide](#)

| | |
|---------------|---|
| proby | on probation |
| procedure | red tape trial run |
| process | in the throes take its course what a rigmarole |
| procrastinate | sluff off |
| produced | bootleg |
| producer | the middleman |
| produces | breadbasket grain belt |
| product | a hot ticket a humdinger bar none bread and butter build a better mousetrap buy up gravy train hot goods rain check seconds shoplifting soft sell stock in trade swear by the first pancake is always spoiled the proof of the pudding is in the eating throw good money after bad two for one |
| productive | a slow day |
| profanity | four-letter words |
| professional | headhunter |

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profit

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[under oath](#)

promote

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promoted

[the Peter Principle](#)

prone

[on shaky ground](#)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| pronounce | roll off the tongue |
| pronto | right away |
| proof | take your word for it |
| proper | on shaky ground |
| properly | cut the mustard go haywire |
| property | green with envy pirate |
| proposal | straw horse |
| proposed | on the table trial balloon |
| prosperity | golden age |
| prostitute | bad date broad fallen woman hooker pedal her ass [B] |
| prostitution | square up |
| protect | cover your ass [B] grandfather clause handle herself in my care leave yourself open look out for run interference stand up for take a bullet watch over watch over like a mother hawk |
| protected | sacred cow |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| protecting | guard is down |
| protection | under my wing |
| protestant | WASP |
| protesting | going to town |
| prototype | pilot project |
| proud | cocky do yourself proud down to earth full of herself high-hat highfalutin knock you down a peg let it go to your head pop your buttons stroke your ego swelled head too big for his britches |
| proven | tried and true |
| proves | kick ass |
| provide | account for bankroll carry the day keep you going last me lay on open some doors tide me over you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink |
| psychiatric | nut house |
| psychiatrist | shrink/head shrink |
| psycho | |

sicko

pub

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[B] bad language

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| | |
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| | sell yourself short |
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| | dead in the water |
| qualify | |
| | have a shot at |
| quality | |
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| | crummy |
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| | kick ass |
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| | lousy |
| | measure up |
| | nothing to sneeze at |
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| | super mint |
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| | go the distance |
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| | off to a good start |
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| | tune in |
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| | phone-in |
| ragged | |
| | shabby |
| | |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| rag | dress up have your period [B] Sunday best threads |
| ragtop | ragtop |
| rails | on track |
| rain | right as rain |
| raining | it's cold / it's hot raining cats and dogs |
| rainy | it's raining/snowing |
| raise | build up put 'em up put down roots raise hell [B] raise the bar reach for the sky |
| raised | high five |
| ralph | throw up |
| ramble | go on about rattle on |
| ranch | cowpoke |
| rancher | dude |
| range | point-blank range run the gamut |
| rap | a bum rap ass on the line shoulder the blame take the blame |
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| | |
|------------|---|
| | write up |
| recorded | |
| | disk jockey (DJ) under the table |
| recording | |
| | in the flesh |
| recover | |
| | bounce back lick your wounds make a comeback pull through scrape me off the ceiling |
| recovered | |
| | back on your feet |
| recovery | |
| | dead-cat bounce |
| recreation | |
| | all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy |
| recruit | |
| | drum up |
| red | |
| | fit to be tied jump through hoops pinko royal treatment run a red light |
| red-handed | |
| | smoking gun |
| reduce | |
| | dampen your spirits drop off ease up peter out slash and burn work off |
| reduced | |
| | straight up |
| redundant | |
| | as useless as a fifth wheel |
| reefer | |
| | pot |
| refer | |

| | |
|------------|--|
| | pass the buck |
| reference | |
| | it's not what you know, it's who you know that's his bible |
| refined | |
| | straw horse |
| reform | |
| | shape up |
| refusal | |
| | a blackout (TV) the brush-off |
| refuse | |
| | a soft touch don't give me any of your lip draw the line hard line know which side your bread is buttered on lie down on the job take it or leave it turn down won't see you stuck |
| refusing | |
| | hard nosed |
| regain | |
| | come to comeback kid |
| regardless | |
| | even so |
| region | |
| | grain belt |
| regret | |
| | cry in your beer eat your words grind to a halt if a mussel doesn't open don't eat it kick myself touch you |
| regular | |
| | card-carrying member one of the boys |
| rehearsal | |
| | dress rehearsal dry run |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| reheated | warmed over |
| reject | give him the brush-off reject out of hand turn up your nose at turn your back on |
| rejection | the brush-off |
| relate | cotton to that dig/dig it hit it off sit with you tie in |
| related | all that jazz beside the point hand in hand off topic the whole ball of wax |
| relationship | a fine line bad blood blood is thicker than water on good terms |
| relative | blood money Bob's your uncle next of kin |
| relax | a man's home is his castle at ease breathe easy clear your head/mind hang loose kick back let it all hang out let yourself go lighten up make yourself at home put you at ease |

[set your mind at ease](#)

[settle down](#)

[take time to smell the roses](#)

[time on your hands](#)

[time to kill](#)

relaxed

[laid back](#)

[on edge](#)

[uptight](#)

relaxes

[a downer \(drug\)](#)

relaxing

[shagging wagon](#)

relearn

[brush up on](#)

release

[let go of](#)

[let her rip](#)

reliable

[no truth to it](#)

[tried and true](#)

relief

[whew](#)

relieve

[break the ice](#)

relieved

[breathe a sigh of relief](#)

[thank goodness](#)

rely

[count on](#)

remain

[all things being equal](#)

remainder

[bottoms up](#)

[left over](#)

remaining

[finish off](#)

[the odd one](#)

[to go](#)

remedy

[hair off the dog that bit you](#)

remember

[can't put my finger on it](#)

[can't put my hands on it](#)
[come to think of it](#)
[do-dad](#)
[draw upon](#)
[if my memory serves me correctly](#)
[jog your memory](#)
[keep you in mind](#)
[lose sight of](#)
[losing it](#)
[make a point of](#)
[on the tip of my tongue](#)
[rack my brain](#)
[ring a bell](#)
[slip your mind](#)
[what's-his-face](#)

remembering

[in mind](#)

remind

[hold that over my head](#)
[keep you on track](#)
[ride me](#)
[ring a bell](#)

remove

[black out](#)
[drain the swamp](#)
[drop your drawers](#)
[drop your gloves \(hockey\)](#)
[knock off](#)
[off with](#)
[pull the goalie \(hockey\)](#)
[pull the rug out](#)
[scratch](#)
[strip](#)
[weed out](#)

removed

[beat the rap](#)

renege

[get cold feet](#)

rent

[freeload](#)
[live on](#)
[pay through the nose](#)

| | |
|------------|---|
| repair | a stitch in time saves nine car buff downtime stand behind throw good money after bad |
| repaired | beyond repair |
| repay | make up for pay back |
| repeat | beg your pardon ditto pardon me |
| repeated | everything old is new again |
| repeatedly | time and again |
| repeating | like a broken record |
| replace | stand behind stand in |
| replaced | lame duck |
| replies | your lip |
| reply | a sharp tongue any word at a loss for words blurt out cheek fall to pieces feedback find my tongue leave the door open no word talk back touch it with a ten-foot pole |
| report | a clean bill of health |

[a picture is worth a thousand words](#)

[all it's cracked up to be](#)

[go into detail](#)

[scoop](#)

reported

[off the record](#)

reporter

[go public](#)

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[stand for](#)

representing

[on behalf of](#)

reprove

[come down on like a ton of bricks](#)

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[character assassination](#)

request

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[buy time](#)

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[raise money](#)

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[give 110%](#)

[jump through hoops](#)

[press into service](#)

[something borrowed, something blue](#)

resentment

[claws are showing](#)

[hard feelings](#)

[no hard feelings](#)

resident

[local yokel](#)

| | |
|-------------|---|
| residential | the burbs |
| resign | bail out bow out burn your bridges fall on your sword pull the pin step aside step down |
| resisting | a pocket of resistance |
| resolute | hang on like grim death |
| resort | last-ditch |
| resource | cash cow |
| respect | bite me [B] don't get smart with me familiarity breeds contempt give a black eye keep your distance lip off no use for out of line pay my respects pay tribute props take my hat off to talk back |
| respect" | props |
| respected | make something of yourself name is mud |
| respond | caught flatfooted dimwit |
| response | feedback get a rise |

[leave the door open](#)[tit for tat](#)

responsibility

[bear the brunt](#)[grow up](#)[take on](#)

responsible

[carry the can](#)[face the music](#)[hold me responsible](#)[holding the bag](#)[in charge](#)[saddled with](#)[see to it/see to that](#)[the buck stops here](#)

rest

[catch some z's](#)[gravy train](#)[icing on the cake](#)[land up](#)[on the go](#)[rest his soul \(God rest his soul\)](#)[spell you off](#)[take a break](#)[take five](#)[the rest is gravy](#)[the rest is history](#)[time to kill](#)[what did I do to deserve this](#)[you're only as good as your last shift](#)

restaurant

[a doggy bag](#)[eat out](#)[take-out restaurant](#)[wait on customers](#)

rested

[fresh legs](#)[new legs](#)

restful

[deep sleep](#)

restore

[car buff](#)

| | |
|------------|--|
| restored | under control |
| restraint | at will |
| result | a foregone conclusion a sure thing a wild goose chase by dint of come of come to a head don't count your chickens before they hatch face the music kiss of death lead pipe cinch out of our hands play a part the end justifies the means wind up |
| retarded | not all there |
| retirement | nest egg |
| retreating | tail between his legs with his tail between his legs |
| return | back to the grind burn your bridges fall off the wagon get back at go jump in the lake hold the fort pay back shortchange what goes around comes around |
| returned | back at it under control |
| returning | going to the mountains second wind |
| | |

| | |
|----------|--|
| reveal | an ace up your sleeve blow my cover blow the lid off let on speak volumes steal your thunder tip your hand wear your heart on your sleeve you can't tell a book by its cover |
| revealed | camel toes [B] catch up with see the light of day |
| revenge | an eye for an eye (a tooth for a tooth) don't get mad; get even fix your wagon get back at get him back out for blood out to get you pay him back pound of flesh want a piece of me |
| reverse | back up go back on |
| review | brush up on saw sawdust |
| revise | get the wrinkles out |
| revived | everything old is new again |
| reward | pay off pay-off the early bird gets the worm |
| ribbons | have you for breakfast |
| rich | |

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[boom or bust](#)
[born with a silver spoon in his mouth](#)
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[fat cat](#)
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[rolling in it](#)
[well heeled](#)
[well to do](#)

richer

[put on airs](#)

rid

[get this monkey off my back](#)

[weed out](#)

ride

[catch a ride](#)

[get a lift](#)

[give me a lift](#)

[go for a spin](#)

[go-round](#)

[on my back](#)

[pick you up](#)

[take the bus/plane](#)

[taken in](#)

ridiculous

[don't make me laugh](#)

riding

[on board](#)

[on cloud nine](#)

[piggyback](#)

rifle

[pack Uzis](#)

[take a shot](#)

| | |
|-------|--|
| right | |
|-------|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| | a sharp wit act up bang on becomes you being there darn right darn tooting down pat fishy give my eye teeth got no business grandfather clause hit and miss hit the nail on the head hit the spot hold your mouth the right way in your face it works not with it off key (music) on moral grounds on track out of it out of the corner of my eye play my cards right pronto push the right buttons see fit spin doctor spot on the right stuff when the chips are down where do they get off work you betcha you got it you're not kidding/ you aren't kidding zig when you should zag |
|--|--|

| | |
|-----------|--|
| rigmarole | |
|-----------|--|

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| | the runaround |
|--|-------------------------------|

| | |
|----------|--|
| rigorous | |
|----------|--|

[baptism by fire](#)

riker

[The Rock](#)

ring

[call up](#)

[dingle you](#)

[give me a call](#)

[give me a dingle](#)

[give me a ring](#)

[ring me](#)

ringer

[the spitting image](#)

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[a hoot](#)

[blow sky high](#)

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[a snow job](#)

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[shortchange](#)

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[run the risk](#)

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[stick my neck out](#)

[take chances](#)

risky

[a slippery slope](#)

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ritz

[ritzzy](#)

road

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[find your way](#)

[give you the boot](#)

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[on your way](#)

[out of the way](#)

[road apple](#)

[road to hell is paved...](#)

[the going gets rough](#)

[the hard way](#)

[traffic jam](#)

[vamoose](#)

roadster

[it's a Duesey](#)

roasted

[the pope's nose](#)

rob

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robbed

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robbers

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rocker

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[the in's and out's](#)
[the tricks of the trade](#)
[tie up](#)

roses

[sometimes life is a bucket of shit and the handle is inside \[B\]](#)

rotten

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[something smells](#)

rough

[a bad time](#)
[a game one](#)
[a tough time of it](#)
[boys will be boys](#)
[give me a bad time](#)
[play dirty](#)
[rocky road](#)
[tough sledding](#)
[uphill battle](#)

roundabout

[all around Robin Hood's barn](#)

| | |
|----------------|--|
| rouse | wake up |
| route | all around Robin Hood's barn fast track milk run |
| routine | joe-job song and dance |
| row | single file strip mall work cut out for |
| royal | his nibs Mounties |
| rub | against the grain shmooze |
| rubber | showdown |
| rube | hick square |
| ruddy | cotton-picking darn |
| rude | cheeky down and dirty hold your drinks lippy none of your lip sassy shirty throw insults trade insults |
| rudeness | lip |
| rug | bundle up |
| rugged-looking | the strong, silent type |

ruin

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[botch it](#)
[character assassination](#)
[cook your goose](#)
[mess up](#)
[monkeywrenching](#)
[piss in the pickles \[B\]](#)
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ruined

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rum

[hard liquor](#)

rumor

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[with his tail between his legs](#)
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[hick](#)[local yokel](#)[rube](#)

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rusty

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Please note: Due to shortcomings of our index generator, all index keywords are lowercase.

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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| | monkeywrenching |
| sack | |
| | down in the mouth |
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| | put yourself out |
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| | a crying shame |
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| | blue |
| | break your heart |
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[trade insults](#)
[try me](#)
[turn up your nose at](#)
[twist your words](#)
[wouldn't say shit if her mouth was full of it \[B\]](#)
[write it off](#)

saying

[by the way](#)
[character assassination](#)
[death wish](#)
[flattery will get you nowhere](#)
[follow me](#)
[hemming and hahing](#)
[like a broken record](#)
[needless to say](#)
[on speaking terms](#)
[read my lips](#)
[stretching it](#)
[talk is cheap](#)
[wishy-washy](#)
[word is out](#)

scads

[crawling with](#)
[oodles](#)

| | |
|--------------|--|
| scale | make a difference the balance of power the turning point tip the scales at weigh in at |
| scandal | a scandal is brewing blow sky high dirty laundry name is cleared scandal is brewing skeleton in the closet |
| scandinavian | skoal |
| scare | scare the life out of me shoot up throw your weight around |
| scared | chicken frightened to death give me the creeps hair stand on end in a cold sweat jump out of your skin make your hair stand on end petrified piss your pants [B] press the panic button quake in his boots scare the life out of me scared out of my wits scared shitless [B] scared spitless scared to death shit myself [B] shitting bricks [B] |
| scary | a three-bagger |
| scavenges | binner |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| scene | capture the imagination hit and run (traffic) in the picture kick up a fuss raise a stink steamy throw a tantrum unsung hero |
| scenery | take time to smell the roses |
| schedule | a full plate on my plate on target rat race |
| scheduled | on time take a flight |
| scheme | set-up |
| scholar | geek |
| school | flunk out jock on vacation play hooky school's out |
| scoff | rabbit |
| scold | bawl me out blast you chew him out get after give them what for give you hell [B] have at me kick ass [B] let you have it rake you over the coals |

ream out
[take a strip off](#)
[tear a strip off](#)
[tie into](#)

scolded

[get it](#)

scolding

[a bawling out](#)
[a dressing down](#)
[a talking to](#)
[a tongue-lashing](#)
[an earful](#)
[catch hell \[B\]](#)
[catch it](#)
[get hell \[B\]](#)
[get shit \[B\]](#)

score

[a blowout](#)
[beat the pants off](#)
[behind the curve](#)
[dead even](#)
[goose egg](#)
[grand slam](#)
[home run \(baseball\)](#)
[mount a comeback](#)
[play catch-up](#)
[saw-off](#)
[skunk](#)

scored

[play catch-up](#)
[shutout \(sports\)](#)

scoring

[get bageled](#)
[hat trick](#)

scratch

[back to square one](#)
[moola](#)

scratching

[God bless the Duke of Argyle](#)

screech

[hooch](#)
[moonshine](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| screw | blow it fuck up [B] goof up jump [B] make a booboo mess up shaft step on his dick up yours [B] you and the horse you rode in on |
| screwed | screw |
| screwedb | shaft |
| scrut | drat |
| scum | dirty dog/dirty rat motherfucker [B] |
| scumbag | sicko slimebucket [B] |
| sea | landlubber salty |
| search | a fine-toothed comb |
| searching | Dumpster diving |
| season | fair game |
| seat | buckle up grab a chair have a chair play second fiddle rodchester take a load off your feet |
| seated | have a seat take your seat |
| sec | |

[in a jiffy](#)
[in no time](#)
[in two shakes \(of a lamb's tail\)](#)

second

[before you can say Jack Robinson](#)
[branch out](#)
[catch a glimpse](#)
[cut rate](#)
[flash a smile](#)
[in a sec](#)
[in a split second](#)
[in the wink of an eye](#)
[in two shakes \(of a lamb's tail\)](#)
[lemon](#)
[moonlighting](#)
[scrape the bottom of the barrel](#)
[seconds](#)
[sound bite](#)
[split second](#)
[take a back seat](#)
[the dying seconds](#)
[the turning point](#)
[wait a sec](#)
[win by a nose](#)

second-rate

[seconds](#)

secret

[blab](#)
[break the silence](#)
[hidden agenda](#)
[hushed up](#)
[it's not a state secret](#)
[keep it to yourself](#)
[mouth off](#)
[on the QT](#)
[out of the closet](#)
[skeleton in the closet](#)
[spill the beans](#)
[tell on](#)
[the cat's out of the bag](#)
[the jig's up](#)
[top secret](#)

[trade secret](#)
[under wraps](#)

secretly

[laugh up your sleeve](#)
[on the sly](#)
[put a bug in my ear](#)
[spirit away](#)

sedative

[a downer \(drug\)](#)

see

[a dead loss](#)
[a fly on the wall](#)
[a pig in a poke](#)
[a sight for sore eyes](#)
[as plain as day](#)
[as plain as the nose on your face](#)
[at face value](#)
[at first glance](#)
[at the end of my rope/ at the end of my tether](#)
[behind your back](#)
[bye for now](#)
[can't believe my eyes](#)
[can't see for looking](#)
[can't see the forest for the trees](#)
[carry the can](#)
[catch a glimpse](#)
[catch me doing that](#)
[catch you later](#)
[check out](#)
[check over](#)
[check up on](#)
[chew him out](#)
[ciao](#)
[come to fruition](#)
[date](#)
[do you follow](#)
[drive you nuts](#)
[drop her/him](#)
[drop in](#)
[dump her/him](#)
[eagle eyes](#)
[eat crow](#)

[first hand](#)
[fit to be tied](#)
[floor you](#)
[follow through](#)
[get a shot at](#)
[get real](#)
[get the finger \[B\] \(get the bird\)](#)
[get the picture](#)
[give me a bad time](#)
[give you a rough time](#)
[give you the axe](#)
[go out with](#)
[have an affair](#)
[have to hand it to you](#)
[head in the sand](#)
[home run \(baseball\)](#)
[in broad daylight](#)
[in glowing terms](#)
[in plain view](#)
[it appears to me](#)
[it's as plain as the nose on your face](#)
[kick the weed](#)
[knock the wind out of his sails](#)
[laid bare](#)
[lay eyes on](#)
[let you have it](#)
[like the devil](#)
[lollygag](#)
[look over your shoulder](#)
[love is blind](#)
[make sense of it](#)
[mugged](#)
[nitpick](#)
[out of sight](#)
[out of sight, out of mind](#)
[out on a limb](#)
[pick you up](#)
[plain as day](#)
[plain as the nose on your face](#)
[play into his hand](#)
[put a different slant on it](#)
[put things in perspective](#)

[put yourself out](#)
[read between the lines](#)
[read into](#)
[read you](#)
[road to hell is paved...](#)
[run across](#)
[screw](#)
[see hide nor hair](#)
[see me for dust](#)
[see through](#)
[seeing things](#)
[sense of humor](#)
[set out](#)
[shaft](#)
[so long](#)
[tail lights](#)
[take a look](#)
[take on a new light](#)
[take out](#)
[the big picture](#)
[trial run](#)
[try it on](#)
[try me](#)
[try that on for size](#)
[try your luck](#)
[turn a blind eye](#)
[under my nose](#)
[wait around](#)
[watch your every move](#)
[wind up](#)
[window on the world](#)
[wouldn't miss it for the world](#)
[wysiwyg](#)
[you reap whatsoever you sow](#)

seeing

[a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush](#)
[break off](#)
[tunnel vision](#)

seeking

[out for blood](#)

seem

[come across](#)

[dipstick](#)
[how time flies](#)
[time stands still](#)

seen

[a fresh pair of eyes](#)
[a perfect stranger](#)
[a total stranger](#)
[drop out of sight](#)
[haven't seen hide nor hair](#)
[if that doesn't beat all](#)
[long time no see](#)
[turn up](#)

seize

[let this chance go by](#)
[make the most of it](#)
[milk it](#)
[miss your chance](#)
[take advantage of](#)
[you snooze, you lose](#)

seldom

[once in a blue moon](#)

self

[ego trip](#)

self-control

[come undone](#)

self-respect

[pride goeth before a fall](#)

self-starter

[hit the ground running](#)

sell

[clear out](#)
[hard sell](#)
[make a pitch](#)
[on the market](#)
[part with](#)
[pedal her ass \[B\]](#)
[play the stock market](#)
[pusher](#)
[sell like hotcakes](#)
[sell out](#)
[sell the farm](#)
[seller's market](#)

[set your price](#)
[soft sell](#)
[the middleman](#)

seller

[cash on the line](#)
[firm market](#)
[seller's market](#)

semi-trailer

[a big rig](#)

send

[dash off a note/letter](#)
[drop a line](#)
[keep you posted](#)
[pay my respects](#)
[send him up](#)

send-up

[a takeoff on](#)
[over the top](#)

senior

[grey power](#)
[raisins](#)
[sunset years](#)
[twilight years](#)

sense

[come to](#)
[common sense](#)
[doesn't add up](#)
[doesn't wash](#)
[got rocks in your head](#)
[horse sense](#)
[it figures](#)
[it's beyond me](#)
[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[make of it](#)
[make your bum hum](#)
[no rhyme or reason](#)
[see it coming](#)
[smell blood](#)

sensible

[a few bricks short of a full load](#)
[all his marbles](#)
[carry on](#)

[cooler heads prevailed](#)
[discretion is the better part of valor](#)
[hairbrain](#)
[hold water](#)
[horse sense](#)
[keep an even keel](#)
[make sense](#)
[out in left field](#)

sensitive

[high strung](#)
[touchy](#)

sent

[chain letter](#)

sentence

[a bum rap](#)
[out of context](#)

sentenced

[hit the bricks](#)
[lifer](#)

sentimental

[play on my heart strings](#)

separate

[a horse of a different color](#)
[part company](#)
[split up](#)

separated

[neither fish nor fowl](#)

separation

[breakup](#)

sequence

[chain reaction](#)

series

[a paper trail](#)
[go all the way \(sports\)](#)
[knocked out](#)
[losing streak](#)
[lucky streak](#)
[make a clean sweep](#)
[stay alive](#)
[string of good luck](#)

serious

[a close shave](#)
[break your fall](#)

[coin](#)
[get a grip](#)
[get down to brass tacks](#)
[get real](#)
[get serious](#)
[heavy](#)
[in deep doo-doo \[B\]](#)
[in deep trouble](#)
[joking aside](#)
[lighten up](#)
[mean business](#)
[no kidding](#)
[no nonsense](#)
[strictly business](#)
[take me seriously](#)
[toy with](#)
[you're kidding](#)

seriously

[get down to business](#)
[talk turkey](#)
[toy with](#)

serve

[bow out](#)
[cool your heels](#)
[fill the bill](#)
[greasy spoon](#)
[mind the store](#)
[press into service](#)
[take-out restaurant](#)
[wait on customers](#)
[wait on you hand and foot](#)

served

[first come, first served](#)
[on a silver platter](#)

service

[darken a church door](#)
[draft dodger](#)
[jump queue](#)
[pay through the nose](#)
[rain check](#)
[suck the hind tit \[B\]](#)
[the squeaky wheel gets the grease](#)

| | |
|--------------|---|
| serving | at your beck and call soldier on |
| session | jam session |
| set | frame make your mark raise the bar set the table straighten you out touch off turn over a new leaf visit a spell wheels world beater |
| set-to | a dust-up |
| settle | calm down come out in the wash come to terms have it out |
| settled | up in the air |
| settlement | a fair shake |
| seventy-five | six bits |
| several | a losing streak a lucky streak gang up on in a slump in the long haul |
| severe | killing me |
| sewer | in the drink |
| sex | a blow job [B] a piece of ass [B] a roll in the hay [B] |

[ball her \[B\]](#)
[bang \[B\]](#)
[come across \[B\]](#)
[cut him off \[B\]](#)
[fool around](#)
[get into her pants \[B\]](#)
[get laid \[B\]](#)
[give head \[B\]](#)
[go down on \[B\]](#)
[have nookie](#)
[horny \[B\]](#)
[jump \[B\]](#)
[lay \[B\]](#)
[nookie \[B\]](#)
[on the make](#)
[pedal her ass \[B\]](#)
[poontang \[B\]](#)
[saw off a chunk \[B\]](#)
[screw \[B\]](#)
[shagging wagon](#)
[steamy](#)

sexist

[politically correct](#)

sexual

[come onto](#)
[get fresh](#)
[get it on](#)
[have nookie](#)
[have sex](#)
[hit on](#)
[out of the closet](#)
[tits and ass \(T & A\) \[B\]](#)

sexy

[bat her eyes](#)
[bump and grind](#)
[hot stuff](#)

shabby

[cheesy](#)
[crappy](#)
[crummy](#)
[god awful](#)
[had it](#)

[lousy](#)
[mousy](#)
[suck](#)
[wear out](#)

shack

[squat](#)

shades

[smack of](#)

shaft

[screw](#)

shake

[get the jitters](#)
[get the lead out](#)
[kick a habit](#)
[not so hot](#)
[nothing to write home about](#)
[put 'er there](#)
[put her there](#)
[rock](#)
[shake on it](#)

shame

[bat an eye](#)
[good grief](#)
[save face](#)

shape

[a basket case](#)
[hold your mouth the right way](#)
[if you can't cut it, you can't stay](#)
[the way you hold your mouth](#)

shaped

[a dildo \[B\]](#)

share

[a piece of the action](#)
[buy up](#)
[carry your weight](#)
[cheap skate](#)
[cop out](#)
[cough up](#)
[do your part](#)
[dog in the manger](#)
[it takes two to tango](#)
[pay your way](#)

[play the stock market](#)

[pull your weight](#)

[shareware](#)

[square up](#)

sharp

[bright](#)

[cheek](#)

[cut a fine figure](#)

[in tune \(music\)](#)

[losing it](#)

[on the ball](#)

[your lip](#)

sharply

[a sharp tongue](#)

[snap at](#)

[spike the ball](#)

[turn on a dime](#)

shebang

[kit and caboodle](#)

shed

[throw some light on](#)

sheesh

[nuts](#)

sheets

[make the bed](#)

shelf

[gathering dust](#)

[mothball](#)

[off the shelf](#)

[run of the mill](#)

shelter

[shuck on down to the fraidy hole](#)

[squat](#)

[take you in](#)

shift

[drive standard](#)

[mark a watershed](#)

shiny

[tiddly](#)

ship

[if you can't cut it, you can't stay](#)

ship"

[SOS](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| shipshape | |
| | apple-pie order |
| shirt | |
| | drop a bundle keep your hair on keep your shirt on like a dirty shirt XL |
| shit | |
| | catch hell [B] cow-pie don't give a damn [B] doo-doo drop a log [B] fish or cut bait four-letter words full of it [B] get your knuckles rapped in deep doo-doo [B] in hot water no guff out of luck shit myself [B] take a dump [B] you're full of it [B] |
| shitload | |
| | motherlode |
| shmooze | |
| | work the room |
| shock | |
| | blow your mind curl your hair floor you raised eyebrows rock scrape me off the ceiling |
| shocked | |
| | eat my hat/shirt shit or wind my watch |
| shocking | |
| | a caution |
| shoes | |

[shoes like boats](#)

shogun

[a heavyweight](#)

shoot

[dead-eye Dick](#)

[fair game](#)

[fire away](#)

[get a shot at](#)

[get good wood on](#)

[good hands](#)

[gun down](#)

[have a fix](#)

[hit me with your best shot](#)

[pop a cap \[B\]](#)

[put down](#)

[quick on the draw](#)

[shoot from the hip](#)

[shoot it out](#)

[shoot up](#)

[shoot-up](#)

[sock it to me](#)

[step on your dick](#)

[take a shot](#)

[your own worst enemy](#)

shooting

[crack shot/salesman etc.](#)

shop

[shoplifting](#)

[trash the place](#)

short

[a bit off/a bit mental](#)

[a crash course](#)

[a little off](#)

[a quick study](#)

[a quickie](#)

[a screw loose](#)

[a stone's throw](#)

[at a moment's notice](#)

[brush cut](#)

[drop your drawers](#)

[fast track](#)

[gotches](#)

[how time flies](#)[in a bit](#)[it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all](#)[knee high to a grasshopper](#)[not all there](#)[out of breath](#)[out of wind](#)[quick and dirty](#)[run out](#)[skinhead](#)[suck the hind tit \[B\]](#)[three slices short \(of a full loaf\)](#)[tuckered out](#)[wait a minute](#)[without a full deck](#)

shorter

[short cut](#)

shortest

[as the crow flies](#)

shot

[a big wheel](#)[a lift](#)[big boys](#)[foot the bill](#)[have the final say](#)[hazard a guess](#)[pick up the tab](#)[put to death](#)[put your heart into it](#)[run the show](#)[shoot-out \(sports\)](#)[spring for](#)

should

[age before beauty](#)[beggars can't be choosers](#)[bite your tongue](#)[blow it out of proportion](#)[caught looking](#)[fish and company stink after three days](#)[got it coming](#)[had better](#)[heaven forbid](#)

[know better](#)
[loud mouth](#)
[people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones](#)
[practice what you preach](#)
[run off at the mouth](#)
[time's a wasting](#)
[you had to be there](#)

shoulder

[doesn't mince words](#)
[shmooze](#)
[side by side](#)
[spoil for a fight](#)
[stand away](#)

shout

[blow your lid/stack/top](#)
[let you have it](#)
[raise Cain](#)
[take my head off](#)

shouting

[at the top of his voice](#)
[brouhaha](#)
[catcall](#)

shove

[stick it up your ass \[B\]](#)
[stuff it](#)

show

[a blank look](#)
[a faraway look](#)
[all hat and no cattle](#)
[bat an eye](#)
[body language](#)
[claws are showing](#)
[don't get smart with me](#)
[draw attention to](#)
[freak/freak out](#)
[gas](#)
[give a hoot](#)
[glued to the set](#)
[hidden talent](#)
[keep under wraps](#)
[kick ass](#)
[kick some ass](#)

[let on](#)
[make a pass](#)
[moon them](#)
[pay tribute](#)
[perk up](#)
[phone-in](#)
[point out](#)
[power play \(business\)](#)
[put on the dog](#)
[razzle-dazzle](#)
[roll out the red carpet](#)
[say jump...how high](#)
[shake on it](#)
[show promise](#)
[show you around](#)
[show your stuff](#)
[sign in](#)
[take a bow](#)
[take a shine to](#)
[take my hat off to](#)
[throw a tantrum](#)
[tip your hand](#)
[turn out](#)
[turn up](#)
[walk a straight line](#)
[wear your heart on your sleeve](#)

show-off

[a hotdog](#)
[a hotshot](#)
[jive ass \[B\]](#)
[showboat](#)

showboat

[a hotshot](#)
[razzle-dazzle](#)
[show off](#)
[show-off](#)

showdown

[rubber match](#)

showing

[a poker face](#)
[close to the vest](#)
[dead as a doornail](#)

[in the black](#)
[in the red](#)
[on the clock](#)
[out of line](#)
[power trip](#)
[soft sell](#)
[up and coming](#)
[written all over your face](#)

shown

[at face value](#)

shrinking

[a caution](#)
[wall flower](#)

shucks

[fiddlesticks](#)
[gee whiz](#)
[heck](#)
[phooey](#)

shuffle

[play musical chairs](#)

shun

[stand away](#)

shut

[call his bluff](#)
[cut and dried](#)
[cut off](#)
[keep quiet](#)
[put your money where your mouth is](#)
[shut your face](#)
[slap my afro / slap my fro](#)
[zip](#)

shutout

[get bageled](#)

siblings

[the runt of the litter](#)

sick

[as sick as a dog](#)
[as sick as a parrot](#)
[catch a cold \(catch cold\)](#)
[come down with](#)
[fall ill](#)
[get out of my face](#)

[good and dead/mad/sick](#)
[have a case of](#)
[in sick bay](#)
[laid up](#)
[look like death warmed over](#)
[make me sick/mad etc.](#)
[sick to death](#)
[sicker than a dog](#)
[till you're blue in the face](#)
[turn your stomach](#)
[under the weather](#)
[uptight](#)
[woozy](#)

| | |
|--------|--|
| sicker | |
|--------|--|

[as sick as a parrot](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| sickness | |
|----------|--|

[bounce back](#)

| | |
|------|--|
| side | |
|------|--|

[a pocket of resistance](#)
[by the same token](#)
[cheek by jowl](#)
[choose sides](#)
[come onside](#)
[dark side](#)
[fence sitter](#)
[flip-flop](#)
[heads or tails](#)
[in my good books](#)
[in your corner](#)
[make way](#)
[middle ground](#)
[neck and neck](#)
[on side](#)
[on the bandwagon](#)
[out of the corner of my eye](#)
[over easy](#)
[shoulder to shoulder](#)
[sit the fence](#)
[take a stand](#)
[the downside](#)
[turncoat](#)
[two abreast](#)

[under the table](#)[upside](#)

sight

[behind the scenes](#)[holy smoke](#)[lay low](#)

sign

[a dead giveaway](#)[a token gesture](#)[at the crack of dawn](#)[back you](#)[bat an eye](#)[come to terms](#)[dead as a doornail](#)[drop a hint](#)[full blown](#)[get the finger \[B\] \(get the bird\)](#)[haven't seen hide nor hair](#)[join up](#)[light at the end of the tunnel](#)[like a bolt from the blue](#)[sign in](#)[sign out](#)[sign up](#)[smelling yourself](#)[stone dead](#)[the rabbit died](#)[without turning a hair](#)

signal

[a dead giveaway](#)[mayday \(m'aidez\)](#)

signature

[John Hancock](#)[John Henry](#)

signed

[cover your ass \[B\]](#)[in black and white](#)[in writing](#)[John Hancock](#)[John Henry](#)[on loan](#)

significant

[the past is slipping by without a trace](#)
[well taken](#)

signing

[over and out](#)

silence

[silence is golden](#)

silkhead

[chromedome](#)

silly

[carry on](#)

[wacky](#)

similar

[a common thread](#)

[a far cry](#)

[a takeoff on](#)

[all that jazz](#)

[along those lines](#)

[birds of a feather flock together](#)

[cut from the same cloth](#)

[in step](#)

[in that vein](#)

[part and parcel](#)

[pass for](#)

[see eye to eye](#)

[shades of](#)

[smack of](#)

[take after](#)

simple

[cut and dried](#)

[down home](#)

[play the fool](#)

simultaneously

[at once](#)

since

[born tired](#)

sincere

[in bad faith](#)

[play games](#)

sincerely

[cross my heart and hope to die](#)

[from the bottom of my heart](#)

[in good faith](#)

sing

[break into song](#)
[carry a tune](#)
[hit the high notes](#)
[praise him to the skies](#)
[sing up a storm](#)

single

[one by one](#)
[rodchester](#)
[single file](#)

sink

[Fibber McGee's closet](#)

sinker

[fastball](#)

sip

[have a smash](#)

sit

[bag some rays](#)
[belly up to the bar](#)
[curl up with a good book](#)
[get over](#)
[grab a chair](#)
[have a chair](#)
[have a seat](#)
[kick back](#)
[set a spell](#)
[take a load off your feet](#)
[take my place](#)
[take the stand](#)
[take your seat](#)

sitting

[gathering dust](#)
[navel-gazing](#)
[on the throne](#)

situation

[get the lay of the land](#)
[in a fix](#)
[in a pickle](#)
[in a pinch](#)
[on the whole](#)
[up shit creek \[B\]](#)

six

[pushing up daisies](#)

six-foot-deep

[deep six](#)

size

[beef it up](#)

[get the lay of the land](#)

[half-pint](#)

[knee high to a grasshopper](#)

[put things in perspective](#)

[turnout](#)

[XL](#)

skate

[skaters](#)

skater

[power play \(hockey\)](#)

[pull the goalie \(hockey\)](#)

skidaddle

[off with you](#)

skids

[junkie](#)

[skids](#)

skies

[in glowing terms](#)

skill

[a crash course](#)

[bag of tricks](#)

[cook](#)

[hard skill](#)

[hidden talent](#)

[how's tricks](#)

[jack of all trades](#)

[lose your touch](#)

[make a comeback](#)

[make something of yourself](#)

[on even terms](#)

[pure luck](#)

[sell yourself short](#)

[sleeper](#)

[take up](#)

[test your metal](#)

[the right stuff](#)

[the tricks of the trade](#)

[the world is your oyster](#)

[twinkle toes](#)

skilled

[crack shot/salesman etc.](#)[has-been](#)[no slouch](#)[shit hot \[B\]](#)

skillful

[good hands](#)[slip a notch](#)

skin

[black eye](#)[break out in a rash](#)[cheesecake](#)[peaches-and-cream](#)[rattle my chain](#)[save your bacon](#)[skin virgin](#)[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)[you can't tell a book by its cover](#)

skip

[duck out](#)

skirmish

[a dust-up](#)

skunk

[blank](#)

skunked

[get bageled](#)[goose egg](#)

sky

[airy-fairy](#)[clouds on the horizon](#)[hands up](#)[pipe dream](#)[put 'em up](#)

slam

[home run \(baseball\)](#)

slammer

[behind bars](#)[in the tank](#)[The Rock](#)

slang

[hip hop \(generation\)](#)[wack](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| slant | |
| | twist your words |
| slap | |
| | rough up |
| | shut my mouth |
| | slap my afro / slap my fro |
| slapping | |
| | high five |
| slash | |
| | lay the lumber |
| sledding | |
| | rough going |
| | uphill battle |
| sleep | |
| | bed down |
| | catch some z's |
| | conk out |
| | crash |
| | dead to the world |
| | deep sleep |
| | drop off |
| | fall asleep |
| | flake out |
| | go down |
| | play around |
| | sack out |
| | saw logs |
| | sleep around [B] |
| | sleep in |
| | sleep it off |
| | sleep like a log |
| | stay awake |
| | stay up |
| | wake up |
| | wet the bed |
| sleeping | |
| | dead to the world |
| | sound asleep |
| sleepy | |
| | sleepy head |
| sleeves | |
| | long johns |
| | |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| slide | lose ground |
| slider | fastball |
| slightly | a glow on buzzed tipsy uptalk |
| slim | a long shot against all odds not likely twiggy |
| slimebucket | dirty dog/dirty rat scum/scumbag |
| slip | a slip of the tongue ditch him drop off slip out |
| slo | time stands still |
| sloppy | let yourself go |
| slashed | as drunk as a skunk bombed corked hammered higher than a kite in the bag liquored up loaded pissed [B] plastered tanked/tanked up |
| slow | dense dimwit drag your feet |

[drop off](#)
[knock the wind out of his sails](#)
[lamebrain](#)
[late bloomer](#)
[not all there](#)
[one brick short of a full load](#)
[slo mo](#)
[take your sweet time](#)
[thick as a brick](#)
[time stands still](#)
[tough sledding](#)

slower

[as slow as molasses in January](#)
[breathe easy](#)
[drop back](#)
[ease up](#)
[slo mo](#)
[slow down](#)
[slowpoke](#)

slowly

[break in](#)
[die hard](#)
[dilly-dally](#)
[plug away](#)
[slug away](#)
[walk through](#)
[warm up](#)

slowness

[as slow as a dead snail](#)

slug

[plug away](#)

small

[a drop in the bucket](#)
[a hill of beans](#)
[a paltry sum](#)
[a pocket of resistance](#)
[a short one](#)
[a spot of tea](#)
[a stitch in time saves nine](#)
[a tempest in a teapot](#)
[a token gesture](#)
[bit by bit](#)

[bits and pieces](#)
[cauliflower ear](#)
[chicken feed](#)
[cry over spilt milk](#)
[don't make a mountain out of a molehill](#)
[dust devil](#)
[fib](#)
[fly in the ointment](#)
[greasy spoon](#)
[have a sip](#)
[jam](#)
[just a smidgeon](#)
[knee high to a grasshopper](#)
[milk run](#)
[nitpick](#)
[odds and ends](#)
[peanuts](#)
[piddly](#)
[pocket Hercules](#)
[potlicker](#)
[puddlejumper](#)
[slip up](#)
[so small you could barely swing a cat](#)
[so small you had to back out to change your mind](#)
[split hairs](#)
[split second](#)
[strip mall](#)
[teeny-weeny](#)
[the room is so small you have to go outside turn around](#)
[the tip of the iceberg](#)
[the world is your oyster](#)
[tip of the iceberg](#)
[touch up](#)
[twerp](#)
[two pee holes in the snow](#)
[white lie](#)

smaller

[cut you down to size](#)

[take in](#)

smallest

[the runt of the litter](#)

smart

[a lot on the ball](#)[dense](#)[grey matter](#)[on the ball](#)[swift](#)[worldly wise](#)

smartass

[cocky](#)

smarter

[put on airs](#)[smarten up](#)

smashed

[looped](#)

smell

[a snootful](#)[a wake-up call](#)[all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy](#)[bad breath](#)[fishy](#)[give off an odor](#)

smelly

[jungle mouth](#)

smidgeon

[just a titch](#)

smile

[flash a smile](#)[keep a straight face](#)[wipe that smile off your face](#)

smiling

[rise and shine](#)[wipe that smile off your face](#)

smithwright

[eighty-six it](#)

smoke

[backroom boys](#)[chain smoker](#)[have a drag](#)[light up](#)[smoke like a furnace](#)[toke up](#)

smoking

[break a habit](#)[kick the weed](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| smooth | as clean as a whistle away to the races blue sky butter wouldn't melt in his mouth like the wind silver-tongued slick without a hitch |
| smoothly | fine-tune hit on all cylinders like shit through a goose on the rails run amuck |
| snack | a bite to eat junk food |
| snag | glitch |
| snail | as slow as molasses in January |
| snap | a piece of cake there's nothing to it |
| snapped | pissed to the gills [B] |
| snappy | hurry up |
| snatch | mount a comeback pull it off |
| snazzy | ritzy |
| sneak | slip away |
| snit | in a funk |
| snitch | fink |
| snobbish | high and mighty |

[high-hat](#)

[hoity-toity](#)

snowstorm

[a howling blizzard](#)

snowy

[it's raining/snowing](#)

so

[a three-bagger](#)

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)

[bow out](#)

[calm down](#)

[can't see the forest for the trees](#)

[cheerio](#)

[choke](#)

[clear up](#)

[clear your head/mind](#)

[don't have a cow](#)

[don't think so](#)

[drive it home](#)

[Fibber McGee's closet](#)

[fly low](#)

[get a grip on yourself](#)

[give a little](#)

[got you by the balls \[B\]](#)

[it figures](#)

[lighten up](#)

[make a good impression](#)

[make myself clear](#)

[mayday \(m'aidez\)](#)

[mop the floor with us](#)

[no great shakes](#)

[pipe down](#)

[play a prank on](#)

[pull in your horns](#)

[rocks socks](#)

[rolling in the aisles](#)

[scared out of my wits](#)

[see me for dust](#)

[shit myself \[B\]](#)

[step aside](#)

[take it easy](#)

[the room is so small you have to go outside turn around](#)

[tone down](#)
[toodles/toodle-oo](#)
[who cares](#)
[wipe out](#)
[work my fingers to the bone](#)
[yeppers](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| so-so | |
| | fair to middling |
| sob | |
| | cry her heart out |
| sober | |
| | draw a sober breath sleep it off sober up walk a straight line |
| sociable | |
| | standoffish |
| socialist | |
| | pinko |
| socialize | |
| | get around |
| sock | |
| | hit me with your best shot rocks socks |
| soft | |
| | an easy mark bleeding heart buyer's market chaser cushy downplay hard sell |
| softer | |
| | tone down |
| softly | |
| | feather a pass (hockey) |
| software | |
| | bootleg |
| sold | |
| | change hands Cowtown cut rate |
| soldier | |

[an old warhorse](#)

[Johnny Canuck](#)

solemn

[word of honor](#)

solid

[as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar](#)

solitary

[in the hole](#)

solution

[stroke of genius](#)

[that's the ticket](#)

[work things out](#)

solve

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)

[bail me out](#)

[crack this case](#)

[do the trick](#)

[have my work cut out](#)

[iron out](#)

[mend fences](#)

[smooth out](#)

[work it out](#)

some

[ante up](#)

[blow the lid off](#)

[break a story](#)

[catch some rays](#)

[catch some z's](#)

[drum up](#)

[eat it up](#)

[Fibber McGee's closet](#)

[get a fix](#)

[get a kick out of](#)

[have a bite](#)

[have a fix](#)

[have a heart](#)

[help yourself](#)

[hit and miss](#)

[hit the bar](#)

[in the throes](#)

[it goes with the territory](#)

[it takes two to tango](#)

[kick ass](#)
[lose your touch](#)
[onto something](#)
[pony up](#)
[ring leader](#)
[sack out](#)
[sell yourself short](#)
[show promise](#)
[take it with a grain of salt](#)
[take time to smell the roses](#)
[the benefit of the doubt](#)
[tie up loose ends](#)
[you don't miss the water till the well runs dry](#)

somebody

[take up the slack](#)
[the cat's meow](#)
[the shit hit the fan](#)

someone

[a contract out on](#)
[a little bird told me](#)
[a sight for sore eyes](#)
[bad news](#)
[bigmouth](#)
[blue-collar worker](#)
[bow out](#)
[catch a ride](#)
[cross someone](#)
[do a favor](#)
[double-cross](#)
[doughhead](#)
[feel a draft](#)
[feel for](#)
[flash a smile](#)
[fool around](#)
[get even](#)
[get revenge](#)
[give him the brush-off](#)
[go to bat for](#)
[good riddance](#)
[green with envy](#)
[has-been](#)
[help out](#)

[it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all](#)

[kowtow](#)

[laugh up your sleeve](#)

[lend a hand](#)

[let down](#)

[let George do it](#)

[lift a finger](#)

[lucky dog](#)

[make a pass](#)

[make amends](#)

[match wits](#)

[new blood](#)

[no-show](#)

[open some doors](#)

[part with](#)

[pay a visit](#)

[pay my respects](#)

[pay tribute](#)

[piggyback](#)

[pirate](#)

[play a joke on](#)

[point a finger at](#)

[pop the question](#)

[press charges](#)

[puppy](#)

[put the heat on](#)

[raise your hand against](#)

[reduce to tears](#)

[shut-in](#)

[sit in judgement on](#)

[step aside](#)

[take a bullet](#)

[take advantage of](#)

[take care of](#)

[take my hat off to](#)

[take over](#)

[the acid test](#)

[the air was blue](#)

[the spitting image](#)

[throw insults](#)

something

[a bad taste in my mouth](#)

[a bone to pick](#)
[a goner](#)
[a keeper](#)
[a party to that](#)
[a pick-me-up](#)
[a sight for sore eyes](#)
[at a loss for words](#)
[call it quits](#)
[catch up on](#)
[chow](#)
[clouds on the horizon](#)
[cover-up](#)
[dig yourself in](#)
[do yourself proud](#)
[dog in the manger](#)
[eye candy](#)
[find my tongue](#)
[fishy](#)
[get caught](#)
[get this show on the road](#)
[give and take](#)
[give it a whirl](#)
[give my eye teeth](#)
[give my right arm](#)
[go off the deep end](#)
[God bless the Duke of Argyle](#)
[good riddance](#)
[have a looksee](#)
[have your cake and eat it, too](#)
[in the mood](#)
[je ne sais quoi](#)
[jog your memory](#)
[joker](#)
[keep under wraps](#)
[make an offer](#)
[make my day](#)
[makes no difference](#)
[nosebag](#)
[piano tied to your ass \[B\]](#)
[pull that](#)
[puppy](#)
[put your foot in it](#)

[put your foot in your mouth](#)
[red-faced](#)
[run an errand](#)
[sign out](#)
[something is haywire](#)
[something smells](#)
[step out of line](#)
[take a poke at](#)
[take care of](#)
[take chances](#)
[take oath](#)
[the sky isn't blue](#)
[there's something fishy](#)
[there's something rotten in the state of Denmark](#)
[throw the baby out with the bath water](#)
[turn-on](#)
[watch your every move](#)
[writer's block](#)
[yellow belly](#)

sometimes

[as luck would have it](#)
[sometimes life is a bucket of shit and the handle is inside \[B\]](#)
[the best-laid plans of mice and men go oft astray](#)

somewhere

[hell bent for election](#)
[kicking around](#)

son

[like father, like son](#)
[the apple doesn't fall far from the tree](#)

song

[a hit](#)
[chestnut](#)
[tearjerker](#)

soon

[bye for now](#)
[don't hold your breath](#)
[in a jiffy](#)
[in a sec](#)
[in no time](#)
[in the offing](#)
[in two shakes \(of a lamb's tail\)](#)
[jump the gun](#)

[lame duck](#)
[light at the end of the tunnel](#)
[not long for this world](#)
[on a full stomach](#)
[stag](#)

sophie

[between a rock and a hard place](#)
[between the devil and the deep blue sea](#)

sophisticated

[cool](#)
[hip](#)
[square](#)
[with it](#)

sore

[whore blossom](#)

soreness

[charley horse](#)

sorrow

[touch you](#)

sorrowful

[heavy heart](#)
[sick at heart](#)

sorry

[afraid so](#)
[shut my mouth](#)

soul

[made for each other](#)
[rest his soul \(God rest his soul\)](#)
[tell all](#)

souls"

[SOS](#)

sound

[bark is worse than his bite](#)
[dead to the world](#)
[deep sleep](#)
[grunge \(music\)](#)
[in the black](#)
[let off steam](#)
[like a broken record](#)
[saw logs](#)
[zoom](#)

sounding

[going to town](#)

| | |
|----------|--|
| soundly | sleep like a log |
| soup | cheap like borsch |
| sour | go bad off |
| source | bread and butter cash cow kill the goose that lays the golden eggs the family jewels |
| south | head down there snowbirds |
| southpaw | lefty |
| space | a hollow leg booked/booked up elbow room fill in fill the gap keep your distance make room yin yang |
| spaced | stoned |
| spade | doesn't mince words in no uncertain terms straight from the shoulder |
| spare | and then some |
| speak | a way with words at liberty cat got your tongue don't get mad; get even drag it out flap your gums go off half-cocked |

[have the floor](#)
[hot and bothered](#)
[it's your move](#)
[learn your place](#)
[make no bones about it](#)
[nerves of steel](#)
[quick on the draw](#)
[say what's on your mind](#)
[slip out](#)
[snap at](#)
[sound off](#)
[speak out](#)
[speak up](#)
[speak your mind](#)
[stand up for](#)
[take your turn](#)
[the ball's in your court](#)
[the road to hell is paved with good intentions](#)
[touch on](#)
[wax eloquent](#)

speaker

[yours truly](#)

speaking

[by word of mouth](#)
[get on with it](#)
[not speaking](#)
[on the outs](#)
[so to speak](#)
[speak of the devil](#)

special

[a red-letter day](#)
[get high](#)
[go out of your way](#)
[it's a dilly](#)
[it's a Duesey](#)
[it's not a state secret](#)
[je ne sais quoi](#)
[no great shakes](#)
[not so hot](#)
[nothing to write home about](#)
[prima donna](#)
[roll out the red carpet](#)

[royal treatment](#)
[take the trouble](#)
[the cat's meow](#)
[the in-crowd](#)
[trade secret](#)

specific

[sharp](#)

spectacular

[nothing to write home about](#)
[razzle-dazzle](#)

speech

[spin doctor](#)
[wax eloquent](#)

speech-writing

[spin crew](#)

speed

[at a good clip](#)
[do \(a speed\)](#)
[fastball](#)
[get up a head of steam](#)
[hit speeds of](#)
[in full flight](#)
[neck and neck](#)
[up to speed](#)

speeding

[faster than a minnow can swim a dipper](#)
[greased lightning](#)
[lightning fast](#)

spell

[break a spell](#)
[put a hex on me](#)
[set a spell](#)
[under a spell](#)
[visit a spell](#)

spend

[a fool and his money are soon parted](#)
[blow a bundle](#)
[blow your wad](#)
[break the bank](#)
[burn a hole in your pocket](#)
[cheap](#)
[chintzy](#)

[count your chickens before they hatch](#)[easy street](#)[hang out](#)[high roller](#)[hold the purse strings](#)[penny pincher](#)[pin money](#)[piss away \[B\]](#)[put in time](#)[shoot your wad](#)[stretch the dollar](#)[throw good money after bad](#)[tight/tight fisted](#)[tighten our belts](#)[you need money to make money](#)

spending

[a freeze on](#)[from hand to mouth](#)[penny wise, dollar dumb](#)[trickle-down economics](#)

spent

[cash flow](#)[have your cake and eat it, too](#)[hold the purse strings](#)[pad an expense account](#)[square deal](#)

spices

[spice up](#)

spiffy

[tiddly](#)

spill

[spill the beans](#)[spill your guts](#)[there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip](#)

spin

[boggle your mind](#)[doctor it/doctor it up](#)[lay rubber](#)[put the right spin on it](#)[spin doctor](#)[wipe out](#)

spinny

[funny in the head](#)
[over the rainbow](#)
[wacko](#)

spirit

[under a spell](#)
[wekabi](#)

spiritual

[cast a spell](#)

spitless

[frightened to death](#)
[in a cold sweat](#)
[quake in his boots](#)
[scared out of my wits](#)
[scared shitless \[B\]](#)

splashback

[feedback](#)

split

[before you can say Jack Robinson](#)
[crack me up](#)
[hoot](#)
[in the wink of an eye](#)
[kill ourselves laughing](#)
[laugh yourself sick](#)
[meet you half way](#)
[part company](#)
[put too fine a point on](#)

spoil

[go bad](#)
[rain on their parade](#)

spoiled

[off](#)

spoke

[cooler heads prevailed](#)

spoken

[a slip of the tongue](#)
[out loud](#)
[under my breath](#)
[upon the words offhandedly spoken](#)

sport

[cut a wide swath](#)
[play to the crowd](#)
[take a joke](#)

[workout](#)

spot

[bang on](#)
[bleeding heart](#)
[dead on](#)
[Hobson's choice](#)
[on the button](#)
[on the mark](#)
[on the money](#)
[the sweet spot](#)
[then and there](#)

spouse

[better half](#)
[fool around](#)
[have an affair](#)
[in the doghouse](#)

spray

[hose it down/ hose it off](#)
[wash it off](#)

spread

[get the word out](#)
[run rampant](#)
[serve notice](#)
[snowball](#)
[spread like wildfire](#)

spreading

[nip it in the bud](#)

squandered

[down the drain](#)

square

[a wash](#)
[back to the drawing board](#)
[be there or be square](#)
[even](#)
[square one](#)
[start from scratch](#)
[start over](#)

squarely

[get good wood on](#)

squeal

[blow the whistle](#)
[go wild](#)

[rat fink](#)
[rat on](#)
[shoot your mouth off](#)
[snitch](#)
[tell on](#)

squealer

[canary](#)

stability

[an even keel](#)

stable

[anchor you](#)
[as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar](#)

stack

[flip your lid](#)
[go through the roof](#)

stadium

[The Big O](#)

stage

[all the world's a stage](#)
[front man](#)
[get to first base](#)
[play a bit-part](#)
[spade work](#)
[take the stage](#)

staggering

[walk a straight line](#)

stall

[hold up](#)

stand

[at ease](#)
[back down](#)
[be there for me](#)
[fair-weather friend](#)
[get in my face](#)
[get out of the road](#)
[give you the cold shoulder](#)
[on the stand](#)
[slo mo](#)
[stand for](#)
[stand up and be counted](#)
[take it](#)

standard

[hard nosed](#)
[raise the bar](#)
[the going rate](#)
[up to par](#)

standing

[two abreast](#)

standingwalking

[side by side](#)

star

[front man](#)
[the best things in life are free](#)

stare

[give him the evil eye](#)

staring

[all eyes](#)

stark

[the full Monty](#)
[without a stitch of clothes on](#)

start

[a head start](#)
[a leg up](#)
[a new lease on life](#)
[all set](#)
[back to square one](#)
[boot up](#)
[for crying out loud](#)
[from the word go](#)
[get busy](#)
[get going](#)
[get in on the ground floor](#)
[get off to a good start](#)
[get the drop on](#)
[get the jump on](#)
[get up on the wrong side of bed](#)
[jump start](#)
[kick start](#)
[let her rip](#)
[mark a watershed](#)
[off to a bad start](#)
[off to the races](#)
[pick a fight](#)
[right off the bat](#)

[set about](#)
[set fire](#)
[set in](#)
[set off](#)
[start from scratch](#)
[start out](#)
[start up](#)
[start with a bang](#)
[take the chill off](#)
[the shit hit the fan](#)
[touch off](#)

started

[get on your horse](#)
[start a fire under him](#)
[under way](#)

starting

[a fresh start](#)
[asking price](#)
[up and coming](#)

state

[as a matter of fact](#)
[at sixes and sevens](#)
[cutting edge](#)
[frame of mind](#)
[have a say](#)
[in fact](#)
[say your piece](#)
[serve notice](#)
[something smells](#)
[take a stand](#)
[the cutting edge](#)
[top secret](#)

statement

[a downer \(sadness\)](#)
[a little thick](#)
[bafflegab](#)
[baloney](#)
[bunk](#)
[grandfather clause](#)
[grey area](#)
[hard line](#)
[hogwash](#)

[motherhood and apple pie](#)

[point is well taken](#)

[the last word](#)

[top it off](#)

[uptalk](#)

[zinger](#)

stating

[get a ticket](#)

station

[turn yourself in](#)

stay

[a bed of roses](#)

[break curfew](#)

[cabin fever](#)

[cocoon](#)

[fish and company stink after three days](#)

[get along](#)

[grounded](#)

[hang around](#)

[hold a grudge](#)

[hold down](#)

[hole up](#)

[if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen](#)

[keep in line](#)

[keep out](#)

[keep up with the times](#)

[keep your cool](#)

[keep your nose clean](#)

[lay low](#)

[lay over](#)

[love them and leave them](#)

[make yourself scarce](#)

[play hooky](#)

[squat](#)

[stay abreast](#)

[stay put](#)

[stick it out](#)

[stick to it](#)

[watch your step](#)

[wear out your welcome](#)

steadily

[as busy as a beaver](#)

[go on about](#)
[plug away](#)
[slug away](#)
[work your buns off](#)

steady

[keep an even keel](#)

steal

[clean me out](#)
[pinch](#)
[pirate](#)
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[worldly wise](#)

| | |
|------------|---|
| strength | ace in the hole pocket Hercules straight up test your metal |
| stress | a rough time of it a tough time of it cost you cramp your style put the heat on under pressure without turning a hair work off |
| stressed | climb the walls |
| stretch | by no means kick |
| stretching | not by any stretch of the imagination that's stretching it |
| strictly | no nonsense |
| stride | faze me |
| strike | finish off go for the jugular |
| string | bean pole lucky streak tie up wrap around his finger |
| strip | full Monty the full Monty |
| stroke | a lucky break hole in one (golf) |
| strong | a run for your money a tall one |

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styled

[dolloed up](#)

| | |
|------------|--|
| stylish | groovy snazzy |
| subcompact | puddlejumper |
| subculture | hip hop (generation) |
| subject | a mental block drop hold forth it was Greek to me one-track mind zoom in |
| substance | all show another nail in your coffin |
| substitute | jury-rig make do pinch-hitter (baseball) Plan B stand in |
| subtle | put out feelers |
| suburbs | the burbs |
| succeed | a golden opportunity a snowball's chance in hell bomb out come off even a blind pig can find an acorn fall through get ahead get off the ground go places haven't got a hope in hell last resort late bloomer make it big more power to you |

[open some doors](#)
[pan out](#)
[piggyback](#)
[pull it off](#)
[self-made man](#)
[step on people](#)
[stop at nothing](#)
[the heat is on](#)
[the key to success](#)
[where there's a will, there's a way](#)
[work out](#)
[you need money to make money](#)

succeeded

[she peed](#)

succeeding

[coming up roses](#)
[going strong](#)
[haven't got a hope](#)

success

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[future looks bright](#)
[get off to a good start](#)
[have it made](#)
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[make a comeback](#)
[nothing succeeds like success](#)
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[rest on your laurels](#)
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[ride the wave](#)
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successful

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[keep your fingers crossed](#)
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[together](#)
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successfully

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succession

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such

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suck

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sucker

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suffer

[pay the price](#)
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suffering

[put out of its misery](#)

sufficient

[as useless as a fifth wheel](#)
[last me](#)

sugar

| | |
|-------------|--|
| | a sweet tooth |
| suggest | |
| | begs the question drop a hint get at hit the nail on the head lay a trip point a finger at throw that in |
| suggestions | |
| | food for thought |
| suing | |
| | take you for all you've got |
| suit | |
| | becomes you didn't have a stitch of clothes on full Monty |
| suited | |
| | cut out for |
| sum | |
| | chicken feed peanuts |
| summary | |
| | track record |
| summer | |
| | dog days of summer |
| sun | |
| | at first light bag some rays catch some rays goodies the best things in life are free |
| sunglasses | |
| | shades |
| sunset | |
| | golden years |
| sunshine | |
| | bag some rays |
| super | |
| | awesome bonzer lightning fast |

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supercharge

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superior

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superstar

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supervise

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supervised

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supervisor

[chief cook and bottle washer](#)[self-starter](#)

supper

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supporting

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Legend:

[B] bad language

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[walk the talk](#)
[when it comes to](#)
[windbag](#)
[yada](#)
[yak](#)

talked

[hushed up](#)

talker

[butter wouldn't melt in his mouth](#)

[silver-tongued](#)

talking

[a hot number](#)

[a tongue-lashing](#)

[all wet](#)

[carry the conversation](#)

[chimo](#)

[clam up](#)

[cut off](#)
[drop it](#)
[dry up](#)
[ears are burning](#)
[feel a draft](#)
[fish or cut bait](#)
[go to bat for](#)
[going to town](#)
[pull a few strings](#)
[shut your face](#)
[sign off](#)
[talk about](#)
[talk away](#)
[the talk of the town](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| tall | |
| | bean pole |
| taller | |
| | a pinch to grow an inch |
| tan | |
| | catch some rays |
| tank | |
| | a fill-up brain storm fill her up hit the bricks lush think outside the box wino |
| tantrum | |
| | make a fuss |
| tap | |
| | on tap run a tub running water |
| tape | |
| | jump through hoops |
| target | |
| | a sitting duck get a shot at on schedule |
| task | |
| | a dickens of a time |

[a hard row to hoe](#)
[a hell of a time](#)
[a helping hand](#)
[a piece of piss](#)
[beat your head against a stone wall](#)
[beg off](#)
[bite off more than you can chew](#)
[come through](#)
[dirty work](#)
[do a favor](#)
[do the honors](#)
[down to the short strokes](#)
[drop the ball](#)
[duty calls](#)
[easy pickings](#)
[finishing touch](#)
[get blood from a stone](#)
[half the battle](#)
[hands on](#)
[hard pressed](#)
[have my work cut out](#)
[joe-job](#)
[look up a dead horse's ass \[B\]](#)
[loose ends](#)
[on my plate](#)
[on the beat](#)
[one hell of a time](#)
[pissing into the wind \[B\]](#)
[serve the purpose](#)
[shooting fish in a barrel](#)
[take the trouble](#)
[the going gets rough](#)
[work cut out for](#)

taste

[from hunger](#)
[have a sip](#)
[hit the spot](#)
[yum](#)

tasty

[done to a turn](#)
[yummy](#)

tat

[own medicine](#)

[what's good for the goose is good for the gander](#)

tattle

[fink](#)

[rat fink](#)

[snitch](#)

tattoo

[skin virgin](#)

tattooed

[skin virgin](#)

tea

[a spot of tea](#)

[not for all the tea in China](#)

teach

[die hard](#)

[show you the ropes](#)

[teach you the tricks of the trade](#)

teacher

[blow the whistle](#)

[hand in](#)

teaches

[courseware](#)

teakettle

[send him flying](#)

team

[choose sides](#)

[choose up sides](#)

[come onside](#)

[crack the line-up](#)

[good bet](#)

[jock](#)

[jump ship](#)

[kick some ass](#)

[make the team](#)

[no contest](#)

[no fair](#)

[plug the team](#)

[team up](#)

[throw a game](#)

[try out](#)

[underdog](#)

tears

[crocodile tears](#)
[cry me a river](#)
[pluck at the heart strings](#)
[tearjerker](#)
[this mortal coil](#)

tease

[give me a bad time](#)
[give you a hard time](#)
[give you a ribbing](#)
[give you a rough time](#)
[give you the gears](#)
[josh](#)
[kid](#)
[make fun of](#)
[pick on](#)

teasing

[a bad time](#)
[a hard time](#)
[a rough time](#)

technology

[cutting edge](#)
[the cutting edge](#)

tee

[all teed up](#)
[hole in one \(golf\)](#)

teed

[pissed \[B\]](#)
[ticked off](#)

teenage

[hood](#)

teenager

[pimple pole](#)
[puppy love](#)

teeny-weeny

[itsy-bitsy / itty-bitty](#)

teeth

[chops](#)
[give an arm and a leg](#)
[give my right arm](#)
[piss like a race horse \[B\]](#)

telegraph

[through the grapevine](#)

telescope

[with the naked eye](#)

tell

[a cut-up](#)

[a penny for your thoughts](#)

[bare your soul](#)

[bawl me out](#)

[beauty is only skin deep](#)

[blab](#)

[blabbermouth](#)

[blow the lid off](#)

[blow the whistle](#)

[break a story](#)

[break off](#)

[break the silence](#)

[button your lip](#)

[call off the dogs](#)

[canary](#)

[come clean](#)

[come out with](#)

[crack a joke](#)

[cut to the chase](#)

[dates you](#)

[don't give me that line/story etc.](#)

[don't teach your grandmother how to suck eggs](#)

[draw it to my attention](#)

[eff 'im \[B\]](#)

[egg me on](#)

[fill me in](#)

[fink](#)

[get off a few good ones](#)

[get the word out](#)

[gimme a break](#)

[give it to him](#)

[give me a hint](#)

[give you a line](#)

[give you flack](#)

[go pound salt](#)

[go public](#)

[ham it up](#)

[hand you a line](#)

[hit me](#)

[jack me around](#)

[joke around](#)

[joker](#)

[keep a lid on it](#)

[keep a secret](#)

[keep it quiet](#)

[keep it to yourself](#)

[keep you on track](#)

[kid you not](#)

[King Shit on Turd Island](#)

[lead you down the garden path](#)

[leak](#)

[let me have it](#)

[let the cat out of the bag](#)

[let you have it](#)

[make a clean breast of it](#)

[mouth off](#)

[muckrake](#)

[mum's the word](#)

[point out](#)

[pour out your soul](#)

[preach to the choir/preach to the converted](#)

[pull your leg](#)

[put him in his place](#)

[put in a good word for](#)

[rat on](#)

[run it by me again](#)

[say the word](#)

[say your piece](#)

[set you straight](#)

[shoot](#)

[snitch](#)

[snow them](#)

[sock it to me](#)

[spare me](#)

[speak volumes](#)

[spill the beans](#)

[spill your guts](#)

[spin a yarn](#)

[spread the word](#)

[squeal](#)

[squealer](#)

[steal your thunder](#)

[straighten you out](#)
[talk it up](#)
[tell all](#)
[tell him a thing or two](#)
[tell him off](#)
[tell him where to get off](#)
[tell him where to go](#)
[tell me another one](#)
[tell on](#)
[the fifth column](#)
[there are two sides to every story](#)
[to be perfectly honest](#)
[turn yourself in](#)
[under oath](#)
[won't tell a soul](#)

telling

[beat around the bush](#)
[cut the crap \[B\]](#)
[honesty is the best policy](#)
[you've got to be kidding](#)

temper

[blow up](#)
[fly off the handle](#)
[hold your temper](#)
[hot tempered](#)
[lose your cool](#)
[throw a tantrum](#)

tempered

[a hothead](#)
[short temper](#)

tempting

[phat](#)

ten

[do a dime](#)
[first down/first and ten](#)
[kill an elephant](#)

tendency

[a sharp tongue](#)
[one-track mind](#)

tender

[still wet behind the ears](#)

tense

[uptight](#)
[white knuckles](#)

tension

[break the ice](#)
[with bated breath](#)

tenterhooks

[walk on eggshells](#)

term

[hit the bricks](#)
[in the long haul](#)
[sing his praises](#)

terminate

[fire](#)

terminated

[dead meat](#)

terrific

[wicked](#)

terrorist

[Netwar](#)

test

[behind the curve](#)
[prepare like crazy](#)
[put you through the mill](#)
[suffer a setback](#)
[take it for a spin](#)
[test your metal](#)
[the proof of the pudding is in the eating](#)
[time's up](#)
[try it out](#)

tested

[put to the test](#)
[tried and true](#)
[where the rubber hits the road](#)

testicle

[prairie oyster](#)
[well hung \[B\]](#)

testifying

[on the stand](#)

textbook

[crack a book](#)

texture

[melt in your mouth](#)

than

[a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush](#)

[A-OK](#)

[a picture is worth a thousand words](#)

[a shadow of his former self](#)

[above and beyond the call of duty](#)

[actions speak louder than words](#)

[as sick as a parrot](#)

[ask for the moon](#)

[behind the curve](#)

[better late than never](#)

[better than a kick in the ass \[B\]](#)

[better the devil you know...](#)

[bigger than life](#)

[bite off more than you can chew](#)

[blood is thicker than water](#)

[blow it out of proportion](#)

[break curfew](#)

[break the record](#)

[circles around you](#)

[cut corners](#)

[cut rate](#)

[drink you under the table](#)

[drop back](#)

[faster than a minnow can swim a dipper](#)

[for good measure](#)

[get off your high horse](#)

[get the jump on](#)

[give 110%](#)

[give you odds](#)

[go the extra mile](#)

[greased lightning](#)

[high and mighty](#)

[in a split second](#)

[kill an elephant](#)

[knock your socks off](#)

[larger than life](#)

[lightning fast](#)

[mind boggling](#)

[musical chairs](#)

[not half bad](#)

[not too shabby](#)

[oodles](#)

[outdo yourself](#)
[outplay](#)
[pad an expense account](#)
[piss pot full \[B\]](#)
[run circles around you](#)
[run short](#)
[show you up](#)
[slowpoke](#)
[stretching it](#)
[suck the hind tit \[B\]](#)
[talk is cheap](#)
[top that](#)
[two heads are better than one](#)
[two's company, three's a crowd](#)
[up the wahoozey](#)
[wouldn't be caught dead](#)
[wouldn't miss it for the world](#)

thank

[a token gesture](#)
[deserve credit](#)
[hats off](#)
[much obliged](#)
[TGIF](#)
[thank goodness](#)
[thank heavens](#)
[thanks a bunch](#)
[thanks a million](#)
[vote of thanks](#)
[whew](#)

thankful

[much obliged](#)
[thank goodness](#)
[you can thank your lucky stars](#)

that

[a bad taste in my mouth](#)
[a ball-park figure](#)
[a blackout \(TV\)](#)
[a blackout \(war\)](#)
[a blank look](#)
[a blessing in disguise](#)
[a blowout](#)
[a cliff-hanger](#)

[a common thread](#)
[a contract out on](#)
[a crash course](#)
[a dead heat](#)
[a double-edged sword](#)
[a downer \(drug\)](#)
[a downer \(sadness\)](#)
[a fart in a windstorm](#)
[a goner](#)
[a hot number](#)
[a hot ticket](#)
[a lost cause](#)
[a new lease on life](#)
[a paper trail](#)
[a pick-me-up](#)
[a play on words](#)
[a shoo-in](#)
[a slip of the tongue](#)
[a slippery slope](#)
[a three-bagger \(baseball\)](#)
[a tough act to follow](#)
[a yawner](#)
[all's fair in love and war](#)
[along those lines](#)
[an offer I couldn't refuse](#)
[and that's that](#)
[be my guest](#)
[beater](#)
[bet on a lame rooster](#)
[big-sky thinking](#)
[bite your tongue](#)
[biter \(curling\)](#)
[black eye](#)
[body language](#)
[breadbasket](#)
[break off](#)
[broken dreams](#)
[bull/bullshit/BS \[B\]](#)
[burn a hole in your pocket](#)
[buy that](#)
[by guess or by gosh](#)
[by hook or by crook](#)

[by its very nature](#)
[c'est la vie](#)
[can't see the forest for the trees](#)
[carry the can](#)
[catch me doing that](#)
[catch up on](#)
[cauliflower ear](#)
[chain letter](#)
[chalk it up to](#)
[chalk one up for you](#)
[character assassination](#)
[check that](#)
[clunker](#)
[come to terms with](#)
[come to think of it](#)
[corner you](#)
[cotton to that](#)
[count your chickens before they hatch](#)
[courseware](#)
[crank issue](#)
[cross that bridge when I come to it](#)
[cut it out](#)
[damn the luck \[B\]](#)
[dark horse](#)
[darn right](#)
[darn tooting](#)
[Denver boot](#)
[dig yourself in](#)
[do the trick](#)
[do yourself proud](#)
[don't eat that](#)
[don't give me that line/story etc.](#)
[don't make me laugh](#)
[don't make waves](#)
[double whammy](#)
[down with](#)
[dust bunny](#)
[ear candy](#)
[eat that](#)
[eat your heart out](#)
[eye candy](#)
[face up](#)

[fall for that](#)
[famous last words](#)
[feel free](#)
[Fibber McGee's closet](#)
[finishing touch](#)
[fish for a compliment](#)
[fuck that noise \[B\]](#)
[fucked by the fickle finger of fate \[B\]](#)
[Gang of Four](#)
[Generation X](#)
[get a load of that](#)
[gimme a break](#)
[give her credit](#)
[give it a rest](#)
[give notice](#)
[give your word](#)
[good on you](#)
[good riddance](#)
[good show](#)
[grain belt](#)
[grandfather clause](#)
[greasy spoon](#)
[hair off the dog that bit you](#)
[hand me down](#)
[hang on every word](#)
[hard line](#)
[hard skill](#)
[have to hand it to you](#)
[hear me out](#)
[hold me responsible](#)
[holy cow](#)
[holy Moses](#)
[hook, line and sinker](#)
[hot off the press](#)
[how about that](#)
[how do you like them apples](#)
[how does that grab you](#)
[if that doesn't beat all](#)
[in the mood](#)
[inside joke](#)
[is that so](#)
[it's a whole nother world out there](#)

[it's a whole other world out there](#)
[joe-job](#)
[keep your fingers crossed](#)
[kiss of death](#)
[knock it off](#)
[know better](#)
[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[laid off](#)
[laundered money](#)
[like a dirty shirt](#)
[like it or lump it](#)
[make a pass](#)
[middle ground](#)
[milk run](#)
[Murphy's Law](#)
[music to my ears](#)
[my ass](#)
[my eye](#)
[new money](#)
[odds and ends](#)
[old money](#)
[old wives' tale](#)
[on the bubble](#)
[on the spot](#)
[onto us](#)
[open to criticism](#)
[pay back](#)
[pay off](#)
[pay tribute](#)
[pen those words/lines](#)
[phone-in](#)
[point a finger at](#)
[pointed questions](#)
[promise the moon](#)
[pull that](#)
[put him in his place](#)
[put in a good word for](#)
[put my foot down](#)
[put your foot in it](#)
[put your foot in your mouth](#)
[reach out](#)
[relate to that](#)

[rented lips](#)
[right on](#)
[rumor has it](#)
[rustbucket](#)
[sacred cow](#)
[second wind](#)
[see to it/see to that](#)
[seeing things](#)
[sentence to death](#)
[shareware](#)
[shit myself \[B\]](#)
[shooting fish in a barrel](#)
[should be so lucky](#)
[shove down my throat](#)
[show promise](#)
[slippery slope](#)
[smooth sailing](#)
[snatch victory from the jaws of defeat](#)
[speak highly of](#)
[string along](#)
[swallow that](#)
[swear by](#)
[take a look](#)
[take oath](#)
[take-out restaurant](#)
[take that](#)
[tall tale](#)
[tearjerker](#)
[that takes the cake](#)
[that'll be the day](#)
[that'll be the frosty Friday](#)
[that's a corker](#)
[that's a crock \(of shit\) \[B\]](#)
[that's all she wrote](#)
[that's cool](#)
[that's his bible](#)
[that's life](#)
[that's stretching it](#)
[that's the ticket](#)
[that's the way the ball bounces](#)
[that's the way the cookie crumbles](#)
[the balance of power](#)

[the call of duty](#)
[the devil you say](#)
[the dickens you say](#)
[the fickle finger of fate](#)
[the fifth column](#)
[the inside story](#)
[the lap of luxury](#)
[the last straw](#)
[the luck of the draw](#)
[the Man in the Moon](#)
[the one that got away](#)
[the rabbit died](#)
[the rest is history](#)
[the spice of life](#)
[the sweet spot](#)
[the whole ball of wax](#)
[then and there](#)
[there you go](#)
[throw that in](#)
[to hell with that \[B\]](#)
[toney neighborhood](#)
[top that](#)
[touch wood](#)
[tough luck](#)
[traffic jam](#)
[trickle-down economics](#)
[try that](#)
[try that on for size](#)
[turn-on](#)
[twig to that](#)
[underdog](#)
[walk a straight line](#)
[warped sense of humor](#)
[what in the name of heaven](#)
[what was I thinking of](#)
[what's good for the goose is good for the gander](#)
[what's the big idea](#)
[white elephant](#)
[wind up](#)
[winning isn't everything; it's the only thing](#)
[wipe out](#)
[work ethic](#)

[work my fingers to the bone](#)
[yonder over there](#)
[you betcha](#)
[you don't say](#)
[young at heart](#)

that'll

[blue moon](#)

their

[dig in their heels](#)
[don't borrow trouble](#)
[freeze wages](#)
[hip hop \(generation\)](#)
[like father, like son](#)
[live and let live](#)
[love is blind](#)
[rolling in the aisles](#)
[the apple doesn't fall far from the tree](#)
[there is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so](#)
[you have to be good to be lucky](#)

theme

[a common thread](#)

then

[charity begins at home](#)
[on the spot](#)
[one at a time](#)
[one by one](#)
[you had to be there](#)

theory

[cold comfort](#)
[what-if](#)
[where the rubber hits the road](#)

therapist

[shrink/head shrink](#)

there

[a few bricks short of a full load](#)
[a scandal is brewing](#)
[all's fair in love and war](#)
[anything goes](#)
[beat a dead horse](#)
[check over](#)
[feel the pinch](#)
[fill the gap](#)

[first hand](#)
[get in on the ground floor](#)
[get out of the road](#)
[head down there](#)
[head up there](#)
[hyah](#)
[if the shoe fits, wear it](#)
[in person](#)
[it's a whole nother world out there](#)
[it's a whole other world out there](#)
[it's a zoo in there](#)
[Johnny-come-lately](#)
[Johnny on the spot](#)
[kicking around](#)
[like a dirty shirt](#)
[miss out on](#)
[musical chairs](#)
[no chancy](#)
[no news is good news](#)
[not playing with a full deck](#)
[on the brink](#)
[on the spot](#)
[one brick short of a full load](#)
[put in time](#)
[scandal is brewing](#)
[something smells](#)
[stand by me](#)
[steer clear](#)
[stick it out](#)
[stick to it](#)
[tear around](#)
[that's all she wrote](#)
[the air was blue](#)
[the heat is on](#)
[the lights are on but nobody's home](#)
[the sky isn't blue](#)
[the tide turned](#)
[there you go](#)
[there's a catch to it](#)
[there's more than one way to skin a cat](#)
[there's no two ways about it](#)
[there's one born every minute](#)

[there's something fishy](#)
[there's something rotten in the state of Denmark](#)
[time ran out](#)
[time's up](#)
[when the crunch comes](#)
[when the going gets tough](#)
[you had to be there](#)

| | |
|----------|---|
| these | |
| | neck of the woods these parts |
| thesis | |
| | case in point |
| thethe | |
| | straight talk |
| thick | |
| | for better or worse greasy kid's stuff lay it on |
| thieving | |
| | cotton-picking |
| thin | |
| | a shadow of his former self bean pole for better or worse spirit away string bean wear out work my fingers to the bone |
| thing | |
| | a bull in a china shop a dog's breakfast a duke's mixture a piece of piss a sharp wit a shoo-in act up all hell broke loose all that jazz all things being equal all's well that ends well and stuff badmouth |

[bare bones](#)
[beggars can't be choosers](#)
[being there](#)
[black sheep](#)
[bozo](#)
[character assassination](#)
[cut a wide swath](#)
[cut the crap \[B\]](#)
[ditto](#)
[do-funny](#)
[easy come, easy go](#)
[every cloud has a silver lining](#)
[everything from soup to nuts](#)
[first off](#)
[first up](#)
[flattery will get you nowhere](#)
[get even](#)
[get into trouble](#)
[go out of your way](#)
[high on the hog](#)
[hold the fort](#)
[if a mussel doesn't open don't eat it](#)
[in agreement](#)
[in step](#)
[in the bag](#)
[it takes two to tango](#)
[lead you on](#)
[let sleeping dogs lie](#)
[loud mouth](#)
[money is the root of all evil](#)
[onto us](#)
[pay a compliment](#)
[play my cards right](#)
[play with fire](#)
[push the right buttons](#)
[put a different slant on it](#)
[put things in perspective](#)
[putting on the ritz](#)
[right off the bat](#)
[rock the boat](#)
[seeing things](#)
[set the world on fire](#)

[show you around](#)
[shuffle the chairs on the deck](#)
[small potatoes](#)
[something borrowed, something blue](#)
[sweeten the pot](#)
[talk through your hat](#)
[that's the way the cookie crumbles](#)
[the devil makes work for idle hands](#)
[the grass is greener on the other side of the fence](#)
[the life of Riley](#)
[the real McCoy](#)
[the spice of life](#)
[the turning point](#)
[the whole ball of wax](#)
[throw insults](#)
[to each his own](#)
[trade insults](#)
[twist of fate](#)
[up to no good](#)
[warped sense of humor](#)
[when in Rome, do as the Romans do](#)
[where it's at](#)
[winning isn't everything; it's the only thing](#)
[you don't miss the water till the well runs dry](#)

thing-a-ma-bob

[do-funny](#)

thing-a-ma-jig

[what-cha-ma-call-it](#)

think

[at a loss for words](#)
[be there or be square](#)
[big-sky thinking](#)
[brain storm](#)
[bring you up short](#)
[clear your head/mind](#)
[collect my thoughts](#)
[come up with](#)
[dawn on me](#)
[don't think so](#)
[doughhead](#)
[draw a blank](#)
[dumbbell](#)

[find my tongue](#)
[get your head together](#)
[hit on](#)
[hold the phone](#)
[in heaven's name](#)
[keep you in mind](#)
[keep your head](#)
[knucklehead](#)
[lose it](#)
[lose your head](#)
[lose your tongue](#)
[losing it](#)
[mind go blank](#)
[mull over](#)
[one-track mind](#)
[point of view](#)
[popcorn brain](#)
[presence of mind](#)
[pull your chain](#)
[push the envelope](#)
[pussyfoot around](#)
[put to rest](#)
[rack my brain](#)
[say my piece](#)
[say your piece](#)
[scared out of my wits](#)
[second guess](#)
[sharp as a tack](#)
[sharpen up](#)
[slap my afro / slap my fro](#)
[speak out](#)
[speak your mind](#)
[take leave of your senses](#)
[tell him where to get off](#)
[think outside the box](#)
[think over](#)
[think straight](#)
[think through](#)
[twig to that](#)
[wait a minute](#)
[who do you think you are](#)
[writer's block](#)

| | |
|----------|---|
| thinker | lamebrain mind of his own |
| thinking | a penny for your thoughts an airhead best interests at heart big-sky thinking blurt out dense go off half-cocked hemming and hahing in mind mind in neutral off the cuff off the top of my head out of your mind read you reject out of hand say what's on your mind shoot from the hip shoot your mouth off slip out think outside the box think tank warped sense of humor young at heart |
| third | a three-bagger (baseball) grill you haul up on the carpet on the carpet pointed questions two's company, three's a crowd |
| thirst | wet your whistle |
| thirsty | work up a thirst |
| thirties | dirty thirties |
| this | at this point in time |

[be my guest](#)
[begs the question](#)
[blow this joint](#)
[blow this Popsicle stand](#)
[buy a round](#)
[by gosh](#)
[check this out](#)
[eyeball this](#)
[eyes glaze over](#)
[have a mind to](#)
[have one on me](#)
[hold it](#)
[how do you like them apples](#)
[in these parts](#)
[it appears to me](#)
[it has your name on it](#)
[it occurs to me](#)
[it strikes me](#)
[keep it up](#)
[make my day](#)
[mum's the word](#)
[open season](#)
[peep this](#)
[quit this place](#)
[sheesh](#)
[so far, so good](#)
[so much as](#)
[take it](#)
[take it or leave it](#)
[take this job and shove it \[B\]](#)
[TGIF](#)
[this one is on me](#)
[to the best of my knowledge](#)
[up with](#)
[upon my word](#)
[vale of tears \(valley of tears\)](#)
[wait a minute](#)
[what in tarnation](#)
[when it comes to](#)
[wind up](#)

thoroughly

[but good](#)

[prepare like crazy](#)

those

[chain of command](#)

[in his good books](#)

[in that vein](#)

[inside information](#)

[inside joke](#)

[pen those words/lines](#)

[the underground](#)

though

[look down your nose at](#)

[make yourself at home](#)

[tempt fate](#)

thought

[a faraway look](#)

[brain traffic](#)

[collect my thoughts](#)

[come to think of it](#)

[drive you to distraction](#)

[I smell where you're stepping](#)

[in the gutter](#)

[it occurs to me](#)

[lose my train of thought](#)

[offhand](#)

[under my skin](#)

thousands

[megabucks](#)

thread

[rags](#)

[the eye of a needle](#)

threat

[an offer I couldn't refuse](#)

threaten

[rattle sabres](#)

threatening

[a false move](#)

three

[a full house \(cards\)](#)

[a three-bagger](#)

[hat trick](#)

[power play \(hockey\)](#)

[two's company, three's a crowd](#)

| | |
|----------|---|
| thrifty | penny pincher |
| thrill | what a rush |
| throat | dig your own grave down the hatch |
| throttle | full steam ahead |
| through | brain traffic bush telegraph by word of mouth come to fruition drop the ball dry run follow through for better or worse go through have a drag have a sip make good pass through peek-a-boo put out feelers rumor has it run a red light run down run the gauntlet run through see it through take its course take your lumps through the grapevine through the mill weather the storm |
| throw | a good arm barf blow a kiss blow chunks blow it out your ear |

[burn it in](#)
[bury the hatchet](#)
[come down hard](#)
[do away with](#)
[faze me out](#)
[get rid of](#)
[hang you out to dry](#)
[hork](#)
[it phased me out](#)
[junk it](#)
[make a fuss](#)
[monkeywrenching](#)
[ralph](#)
[reject out of hand](#)
[sick to my stomach](#)
[smithwright it](#)
[take a dive](#)
[throw away](#)
[throw out](#)
[throw the baby out with the bath water](#)
[turf it](#)

thumb

[a pinch of salt](#)
[all thumbs](#)

thwarts

[a thorn in my side](#)

ticked

[browned off](#)
[cheesed off](#)
[miffed](#)
[pissed off \[B\]](#)
[put out about](#)
[teed off](#)

ticket

[a pop](#)
[check your bags](#)
[do the trick](#)
[freebie](#)
[pay the shot](#)

tickety-boo

[apple-pie order](#)
[shipshape](#)

| | |
|-----------|--|
| tiddly | spiffy |
| tide | do me for/do me until last me |
| tidy | spiffy tiddly |
| tie | a dead heat give you hell [B] odds and ends ream out saw-off tie up |
| tied | dead even |
| tight | camel toes [B] cheap chintzy Hobson's choice sweater girl tight-ass [B] zip |
| tight-ass | cheap skate |
| tighten | do up take in |
| tightly | chockablock |
| tilt | full out |
| time | a bad time a blast a dickens of a time a dog's age a dog's life a drag a hard time a hell of a time |

[a hoot](#)

[a keeper](#)

[a losing streak](#)

[a lucky streak](#)

[a month of Sundays](#)

[a quick study](#)

[a quickie](#)

[a riot](#)

[a rough time of it](#)

[a sharp wit](#)

[a tough time of it](#)

[a wild goose chase](#)

[about time](#)

[all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy](#)

[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)

[at once](#)

[at one time](#)

[at this point in time](#)

[bat a thousand](#)

[bat five hundred](#)

[before you can say Jack Robinson](#)

[being there](#)

[bit by bit](#)

[blue in the face](#)

[breathe a sigh of relief](#)

[buy time](#)

[buyer's market](#)

[by and large](#)

[cash on the barrelhead](#)

[catch a glimpse](#)

[collecting dust](#)

[cost you](#)

[cut it a little fine](#)

[cut me some slack](#)

[do a dime](#)

[downtime](#)

[drag it out](#)

[drag on](#)

[enough is enough](#)

[Fletcherize your food](#)

[for a dog's age](#)

[for better or worse](#)

[for long](#)
[for the fun of it](#)
[forever and a day](#)
[fun and games](#)
[get down to business](#)
[give me a bad time](#)
[give up the ghost](#)
[give you a ribbing](#)
[golden age](#)
[had it up to here](#)
[hang out](#)
[happy camper](#)
[hard times](#)
[hassle me](#)
[have fun](#)
[high time](#)
[hold a grudge](#)
[how time flies](#)
[if you're born to hang, you won't drown](#)
[in a bit](#)
[in a coon's age](#)
[in a flash](#)
[in dribs and drabs](#)
[in the nick of time](#)
[in time](#)
[it ain't over till it's over](#)
[it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all](#)
[it never fails](#)
[just in time](#)
[kill an elephant](#)
[kill time](#)
[lean times](#)
[let the good times roll](#)
[little by little](#)
[lollygag](#)
[long time no see](#)
[lose time](#)
[make good time](#)
[make hay while the sun shines](#)
[mean streak](#)
[nine times out of ten](#)
[no rush](#)

[on the clock](#)
[on the dot](#)
[on the spot](#)
[on time](#)
[once in a blue moon](#)
[once upon a time](#)
[one by one](#)
[one hell of a time](#)
[open season](#)
[pinpoint](#)
[put in time](#)
[put you through the mill](#)
[rise to the occasion](#)
[roll around](#)
[save a bundle](#)
[save for a rainy day](#)
[saw sawdust](#)
[seller's market](#)
[sharp](#)
[slo mo](#)
[sound bite](#)
[spend time](#)
[split second](#)
[strike while the iron is hot](#)
[take advantage of](#)
[take pains](#)
[take time to smell the roses](#)
[take your time](#)
[talk your ear off](#)
[the bitter end](#)
[the breaking point](#)
[the calm before the storm](#)
[the crunch](#)
[the day of the family farm](#)
[the end of the line](#)
[the moment of truth](#)
[the point of no return](#)
[the runt of the litter](#)
[then and there](#)
[through thick and thin](#)
[till hell freezes over](#)
[till the cows come home](#)

[time and again](#)
[time flies when you're having fun](#)
[time is money](#)
[time on your hands](#)
[time ran out](#)
[time to kill](#)
[time's a wasting](#)
[time's up](#)
[times were hard](#)
[tough times](#)
[under the wire](#)
[wait a minute](#)
[weather the storm](#)
[your number is up](#)

timid

[faint of heart](#)
[no shrinking violet](#)

tinted

[shades](#)

tiny

[a drop in the bucket](#)
[birdbrain](#)
[itsy-bitsy / itty-bitty](#)
[just a titch](#)
[piddly](#)
[pipsqueak](#)
[salt away](#)
[so small you had to back out to change your mind](#)
[teeny-weeny](#)
[two pee holes in the snow](#)

tip

[a drop in the bucket](#)
[bend your elbow](#)
[make a difference](#)
[pat on the back](#)
[the balance of power](#)
[the turning point](#)
[tump](#)
[vote of thanks](#)
[weigh in at](#)

tipsy

[a glow on](#)

[buzzed](#)
[had a couple](#)

tire

[a blowout](#)
[have a flat](#)

tired

[all in](#)
[at my wits' end](#)
[blue in the face](#)
[born tired](#)
[brain is fried](#)
[bushed](#)
[dead tired](#)
[dog tired](#)
[done in](#)
[fed up](#)
[frazzled](#)
[fresh legs](#)
[look like he was dragged through a knothole](#)
[on his last legs](#)
[overdo it](#)
[play out](#)
[run down](#)
[run you ragged](#)
[sick of](#)
[sleepy head](#)
[till you're blue in the face](#)
[tired out](#)
[worn out](#)
[zonked](#)

tit

[belly up](#)
[boobs \[B\]](#)
[own medicine](#)
[what's good for the goose is good for the gander](#)

title

[The Great White Hope](#)

tizzy

[in a stew](#)

to

[a bar fly](#)
[a bar star](#)

[a bed of roses](#)
[a blackout \(TV\)](#)
[a blackout \(war\)](#)
[a blow job \[B\]](#)
[a blowout](#)
[a bone to pick](#)
[a budding genius](#)
[a close call](#)
[a close shave](#)
[a common thread](#)
[a contract out on](#)
[a feather in your cap](#)
[a fly on the wall](#)
[a free hand](#)
[a freeze on](#)
[a full plate](#)
[a ghost of a chance](#)
[a golden opportunity](#)
[a good arm](#)
[a handful](#)
[a head start](#)
[a keeper](#)
[a kept woman](#)
[a little steep](#)
[a pack of lies](#)
[a party to that](#)
[a picture is worth a thousand words](#)
[a piece of cake](#)
[a piece of piss](#)
[a pinch to grow an inch](#)
[a quick study](#)
[a sad sack](#)
[a score to settle](#)
[a sharp tongue](#)
[a sharp wit](#)
[a shoo-in](#)
[a sight for sore eyes](#)
[a sitting duck](#)
[a slim chance](#)
[a slippery slope](#)
[a snootful](#)
[a snowball's chance in hell](#)

[a sucker for punishment](#)
[a suicide pass \(hockey\)](#)
[a sure bet](#)
[a sure thing](#)
[a sweet tooth](#)
[a takeoff on](#)
[a three-bagger \(baseball\)](#)
[a tongue-lashing](#)
[a tough act to follow](#)
[a way with words](#)
[above the law](#)
[according to Hoyle](#)
[across the board](#)
[after all](#)
[against all odds](#)
[age before beauty](#)
[all ears](#)
[all hat and no cattle](#)
[all it's cracked up to be](#)
[all set](#)
[all things to all people](#)
[all thumbs](#)
[all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy](#)
[all's fair in love and war](#)
[an ace up your sleeve](#)
[an axe to grind](#)
[an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure](#)
[and then some](#)
[anything goes](#)
[armed to the teeth](#)
[as a matter of fact](#)
[as all get-out](#)
[as far as I know](#)
[as plain as day](#)
[as plain as the nose on your face](#)
[as sure as shit](#)
[asking price](#)
[at a loss for words](#)
[at fault](#)
[at least](#)
[at liberty](#)
[at loggerheads](#)

[at loose ends](#)
[at your fingertips](#)
[back at it](#)
[back at ya](#)
[back down](#)
[back out](#)
[back teeth are floating](#)
[back to square one](#)
[back to the drawing board](#)
[back to the grind](#)
[bag of tricks](#)
[bail me out](#)
[bam](#)
[bankroll](#)
[be-all, end-all](#)
[beat a dead horse](#)
[become of](#)
[bed down](#)
[beg off](#)
[belly up to the bar](#)
[below the poverty line](#)
[bend over backwards](#)
[bend the rules](#)
[bend your ear](#)
[better late than never](#)
[between the devil and the deep blue sea](#)
[betwixt and between](#)
[big-sky thinking](#)
[bigger fish to fry](#)
[bite the hand that feeds you](#)
[black eye](#)
[black-listed](#)
[blood is up](#)
[blood money](#)
[bombed](#)
[boot it](#)
[born with a silver spoon in his mouth](#)
[bottle drive](#)
[bottom out](#)
[break a spell](#)
[break a story](#)
[break a sweat](#)

[break and enter](#)
[break into](#)
[break into song](#)
[break off](#)
[break your heart](#)
[bring up](#)
[bring you up short](#)
[browbeat](#)
[brown nose \[B\]](#)
[buck fever](#)
[bug \(someone\)](#)
[bump and grind \(hockey\)](#)
[burn a hole in your pocket](#)
[burn it in](#)
[burn your bridges](#)
[bust my butt](#)
[butter fingers](#)
[butter up](#)
[buttonhole you](#)
[buy into](#)
[buy time](#)
[by the same token](#)
[by the way](#)
[by word of mouth](#)
[cabin fever](#)
[call attention to](#)
[call his bluff](#)
[call off the dogs](#)
[can't have it both ways](#)
[capture the imagination](#)
[car buff](#)
[carry the conversation](#)
[cascade \(business\)](#)
[case in point](#)
[cash on the barrelhead](#)
[cash on the line](#)
[cast a spell](#)
[catch a buzz](#)
[catch a plane/bus/train](#)
[catch on](#)
[catch up with](#)
[catch you later](#)

[catch your eye](#)
[caught flatfooted](#)
[cave in](#)
[chain letter](#)
[chalk it up to](#)
[change of heart](#)
[chaser](#)
[chasing rainbows](#)
[chat her up](#)
[cheap](#)
[check up on](#)
[check your bags](#)
[cheers](#)
[chill out](#)
[chime in](#)
[chimo](#)
[chintzy](#)
[chip in](#)
[chock full](#)
[chomping at the bit](#)
[choose up sides](#)
[chow](#)
[claim to fame](#)
[clear as a bell](#)
[close a deal/sale](#)
[cocoon](#)
[cold call](#)
[come across](#)
[come across \[B\]](#)
[come around](#)
[come back to haunt you](#)
[come naturally](#)
[come of age](#)
[come-on](#)
[come onto](#)
[come to a head](#)
[come to the point](#)
[come true](#)
[come undone](#)
[comeback kid](#)
[common sense](#)
[cool under pressure](#)

[cotton to that](#)

[crack under the strain](#)

[crash](#)

[crash a party](#)

[crawl on my hands and knees over broken glass just to see her photo](#)

[cut him off \[B\]](#)

[cut me to the quick](#)

[cut off](#)

[cut out for](#)

[cut to the chase](#)

[damn you \[B\]](#)

[dampen your spirits](#)

[dance with the one who brought you](#)

[darken a church door](#)

[date](#)

[dawn on me](#)

[dead in the water](#)

[dead set against](#)

[deadbeat](#)

[deal me in](#)

[death row](#)

[death wish](#)

[die hard](#)

[different strokes for different folks](#)

[dig in](#)

[dig it up](#)

[dig/dig it](#)

[dimwit](#)

[dipstick](#)

[ditto](#)

[do me](#)

[do or die](#)

[do unto others as you would have them do unto you](#)

[don't count your chickens before they hatch](#)

[don't give me any of your lip](#)

[don't hold your breath](#)

[don't push your luck](#)

[don't want to go there](#)

[door to door](#)

[down to the wire](#)

[downtime](#)

[drag it out](#)

[draw a blank](#)
[draw attention to](#)
[draw first blood](#)
[draw it to my attention](#)
[draw the line](#)
[drawing card](#)
[drive me batty](#)
[drive me crazy](#)
[drive me to the edge](#)
[drive me up the wall](#)
[drive you nuts](#)
[drive you to distraction](#)
[drive you to drink](#)
[drop dead](#)
[drop in](#)
[drop off](#)
[drop the ball](#)
[drop your gloves \(hockey\)](#)
[dude](#)
[Dumpster diving](#)
[dying to know](#)
[eager beaver](#)
[ears pinned back](#)
[easy as pie](#)
[easy street](#)
[easy time of it](#)
[eat up](#)
[eff 'im \[B\]](#)
[egg me on](#)
[eke out a living](#)
[elbow room](#)
[enough is enough](#)
[eye candy](#)
[face facts](#)
[fair game](#)
[fall apart \(at the seams\)](#)
[fall asleep](#)
[fall behind](#)
[fall for](#)
[fall ill](#)
[fall in love](#)
[fall off the wagon](#)

[fall on deaf ears](#)

[fall short](#)

[fall to pieces](#)

[falling in love](#)

[feedback](#)

[fever breaks](#)

[fill the gap](#)

[fill up](#)

[find a way around](#)

[find my tongue](#)

[find yourself](#)

[fine-tune](#)

[first crack at](#)

[first dibs](#)

[first down/first and ten](#)

[first hand](#)

[first off](#)

[first up](#)

[fixing to](#)

[flag a cab](#)

[flat out](#)

[Fletcherize your food](#)

[flip-flop](#)

[flip you for it](#)

[float your boat](#)

[floor it](#)

[fly-by-night](#)

[fly in the face of](#)

[for dear life](#)

[for openers](#)

[for the life of me](#)

[forget your manners](#)

[fraidy cat](#)

[frame](#)

[from pillar to post](#)

[from rags to riches](#)

[from stem to stern](#)

[from the frying pan into the fire](#)

[full throttle](#)

[fuss over](#)

[future looks bright](#)

[game for anything](#)

[Generation X](#)

[get a hold of](#)

[get a laugh](#)

[get a shot at](#)

[get at it](#)

[get busy](#)

[get even](#)

[get in on the ground floor](#)

[get me down](#)

[get off](#)

[get off on](#)

[get off your soap box](#)

[get on it](#)

[get out of](#)

[get out of town](#)

[get over](#)

[get real](#)

[get the drop on](#)

[get the hang of](#)

[get the jitters](#)

[get this show on the road](#)

[get to it](#)

[get to the point](#)

[get to the root of the problem](#)

[get together](#)

[get under my skin](#)

[get up a head of steam](#)

[get up on the wrong side of bed](#)

[get you down](#)

[get your attention](#)

[get your feet wet](#)

[get your goat](#)

[get your head out of the clouds](#)

[get your head together](#)

[get your hopes up](#)

[get your shirt in a knot/ get your shit in a knot \[B\]](#)

[get your way](#)

[gimme a break](#)

[give and take](#)

[give head \[B\]](#)

[give him a taste of his own medicine](#)

[give it a whirl](#)

[give me a break](#)
[give me a hint](#)
[give me a lift](#)
[give me the creeps](#)
[give you a boost](#)
[give you a run for your money](#)
[give you an out](#)
[give you the shirt off his back](#)
[go along with](#)
[go down](#)
[go down on \[B\]](#)
[go easy on](#)
[go hungry](#)
[go nowhere fast](#)
[go out of your way](#)
[go straight](#)
[go to any trouble](#)
[go to bat for](#)
[go to hell in a handbasket](#)
[go under](#)
[God bless the Duke of Argyle](#)
[going to the mountains](#)
[good bet](#)
[good for a loan](#)
[good going](#)
[good hands](#)
[good to go](#)
[goose it](#)
[got it coming](#)
[got it in for](#)
[got my eye on](#)
[got you cornered](#)
[got your number](#)
[grandfather](#)
[green with envy](#)
[ground me](#)
[grounded](#)
[grow a tail](#)
[had a bellyful](#)
[had better](#)
[hail a cab](#)
[hand down](#)

[hand in](#)
[hand me down](#)
[hand out](#)
[hand over](#)
[hands are tied](#)
[hang on every word](#)
[hang tough](#)
[hard done by](#)
[hard line](#)
[hard nosed](#)
[hard of hearing](#)
[hard put](#)
[hard sell](#)
[hard to believe](#)
[hard to swallow](#)
[hard to take](#)
[hard up](#)
[have a boo](#)
[have a go](#)
[have a say](#)
[have a shot at](#)
[have a whiz](#)
[have a word with you](#)
[have designs on](#)
[have it in hand](#)
[have it your way](#)
[have my work cut out](#)
[have the floor](#)
[have to go](#)
[have to go some](#)
[have you for breakfast](#)
[have you over](#)
[haven't got a hope in hell](#)
[hawk](#)
[head in the sand](#)
[health nut](#)
[hear me out](#)
[heavy foot](#)
[hell bent for election](#)
[hell to pay \[B\]](#)
[hemming and hahing](#)
[here's mud in your eye](#)

[hidden agenda](#)
[hit and run \(baseball\)](#)
[hit man](#)
[hit me](#)
[hit me for a loan](#)
[hit me with your best shot](#)
[hit my funny bone](#)
[hit on](#)
[hit the bar](#)
[hit the books](#)
[hit the bottle](#)
[hit the brakes](#)
[hit the bricks](#)
[hit the ground running](#)
[hit the hay](#)
[hit the skids](#)
[hold out for](#)
[hold the purse strings](#)
[hold up](#)
[hold you up](#)
[hold your own](#)
[holding the bag](#)
[hole up](#)
[home free](#)
[horny \[B\]](#)
[hot and bothered](#)
[hot tempered](#)
[how are you doing](#)
[how are you getting along](#)
[how are you making out](#)
[how do you do](#)
[hunker down](#)
[if a mussel doesn't open don't eat it](#)
[if you can't cut it, you can't stay](#)
[ignorance is bliss](#)
[in bad faith](#)
[in broad daylight](#)
[in control](#)
[in deep shit \[B\]](#)
[in deep trouble](#)
[in fact](#)
[in glowing terms](#)

[in good faith](#)
[in hand](#)
[in my care](#)
[in order](#)
[in over your head](#)
[in plain view](#)
[in store for](#)
[in the Monford lane](#)
[in the mood](#)
[in the offing](#)
[in the pipe five by five](#)
[in the works](#)
[inside information](#)
[is you is, or is you ain't my baby](#)
[it goes without saying](#)
[it occurs to me](#)
[it phased me out](#)
[it strikes me](#)
[it takes two to tango](#)
[it's a matter of life and death](#)
[it's a snap](#)
[it's a toss-up](#)
[it's as plain as the nose on your face](#)
[itchy feet](#)
[jam/jam out](#)
[jive ass \[B\]](#)
[joe-job](#)
[jog your memory](#)
[Johnny on the spot](#)
[joker](#)
[joking aside](#)
[jump at the chance](#)
[jump queue](#)
[jump ship](#)
[jump start](#)
[just as soon](#)
[keep a promise](#)
[keep a secret](#)
[keep an eye on](#)
[keep an open mind](#)
[keep fit](#)
[keep on trucking](#)

[keep the ball rolling](#)
[keep them straight](#)
[keep up the good work](#)
[keep you honest](#)
[keep you on track](#)
[keep you posted](#)
[keep your head above water](#)
[keep your nose to the grindstone](#)
[kick start](#)
[kick up your heels](#)
[kill for](#)
[kill me](#)
[kill time](#)
[killer instinct](#)
[King Shit on Turd Island](#)
[kiss ass \[B\]](#)
[kitty bar the door](#)
[knock the wind out of his sails](#)
[know which end is up](#)
[know your way around](#)
[kowitz](#)
[laid bare](#)
[laid off](#)
[laid up](#)
[land on your feet](#)
[land up](#)
[landlubber](#)
[last call](#)
[last resort](#)
[late bloomer](#)
[lay off](#)
[lazy bones](#)
[lead you on](#)
[leak](#)
[learn your place](#)
[leave the door open](#)
[leave you holding the bag](#)
[leave yourself open](#)
[leg work](#)
[let a fart \[B\]](#)
[let George do it](#)
[let go of](#)

[let me have it](#)

[let off](#)

[let this chance go by](#)

[lie down on the job](#)

[life is not all guns and roses](#)

[lifer](#)

[lift a finger](#)

[lift my spirits](#)

[light up](#)

[like a dirty shirt](#)

[like crazy/like mad](#)

[like the devil](#)

[live it up](#)

[live off](#)

[live on](#)

[loaded to the hilt](#)

[look into](#)

[look like death warmed over](#)

[look like he was dragged through a knothole](#)

[look over your shoulder](#)

[look the other way](#)

[lose it](#)

[lose out](#)

[lose your appetite](#)

[lose your head](#)

[lose your tongue](#)

[losing it](#)

[loss leader](#)

[love conquers all](#)

[love is where you find it](#)

[make a comeback](#)

[make a false move](#)

[make a go of it](#)

[make a good impression](#)

[make a living](#)

[make a pitch](#)

[make a point of](#)

[make advances](#)

[make amends](#)

[make an offer](#)

[make ends meet](#)

[make it worse](#)

[make me do it](#)
[make me sick/mad etc.](#)
[make my day](#)
[make sense](#)
[make way](#)
[make your hair stand on end](#)
[make your mouth water](#)
[mean well](#)
[mend fences](#)
[mete out](#)
[middle ground](#)
[mind boggling](#)
[mind go blank](#)
[misery loves company](#)
[miss out on](#)
[money doesn't grow on trees](#)
[monkeywrenching](#)
[more money than brains](#)
[more than welcome](#)
[mount a comeback](#)
[move over](#)
[move you to tears](#)
[nature calls](#)
[necessity is the mother of invention](#)
[nerves of steel](#)
[never mind](#)
[nine lives](#)
[nip and tuck](#)
[no pain, no gain](#)
[no questions asked](#)
[no rest for the wicked](#)
[no skin off my nose](#)
[no use for](#)
[nosebag](#)
[not all there](#)
[not by any stretch of the imagination](#)
[not long for this world](#)
[not speaking](#)
[nothing succeeds like success](#)
[off the kitchen etc.](#)
[off the record](#)
[off to a good start](#)

[off to the races](#)
[off topic](#)
[on approval](#)
[on deck](#)
[on good terms](#)
[on my best behavior](#)
[on my good side](#)
[on shaky ground](#)
[on tenterhooks](#)
[on the back burner](#)
[on the carpet](#)
[on the go](#)
[on the market](#)
[on the move](#)
[on the QT](#)
[on the run](#)
[on the shit list \[B\]](#)
[on the tip of my tongue](#)
[one false move](#)
[one for the money, two for the show...](#)
[one man's garbage is another man's art](#)
[one man's meat is another man's poison](#)
[one-track mind](#)
[onto us](#)
[open and shut](#)
[open season](#)
[out for blood](#)
[out loud](#)
[out of our hands](#)
[out of sight](#)
[out of the ball park](#)
[out of the corner of my eye](#)
[out of the goodness of my heart](#)
[out to get you](#)
[out to win](#)
[over my dead body](#)
[over the edge](#)
[parachute](#)
[part with](#)
[pass around](#)
[pass for](#)
[pass the buck](#)

[patch things up](#)
[pave the way](#)
[pay a visit](#)
[pay him back](#)
[pecking order](#)
[photo op](#)
[pin money](#)
[pinch](#)
[piss like a race horse \[B\]](#)
[pit stop](#)
[plain as day](#)
[plain as the nose on your face](#)
[plate is full](#)
[play a big part](#)
[play a mean game](#)
[play along](#)
[play catch-up](#)
[play dead](#)
[play hardball](#)
[play on my heart strings](#)
[pluck at the heart strings](#)
[plug into](#)
[plump full](#)
[political football](#)
[pop the question](#)
[popcorn brain](#)
[pound the pavement](#)
[pow](#)
[powder my nose](#)
[preach to the choir/preach to the converted](#)
[presence of mind](#)
[press charges](#)
[press into service](#)
[psych out](#)
[pull a few strings](#)
[pull it off](#)
[pull up stakes](#)
[pumped/pumped up](#)
[push the boat out](#)
[pussyfoot around](#)
[put 'er there](#)
[put an end to](#)

[put her there](#)
[put the hammer down](#)
[put the heat on](#)
[put to bed \(print media\)](#)
[put you at ease](#)
[put you in a bad mood](#)
[put you off your game](#)
[put your best foot forward](#)
[put your shoulder to the wheel](#)
[put yourself out](#)
[put yourself through college](#)
[quick on the draw](#)
[quit while you're ahead](#)
[rack my brain](#)
[rake you over the coals](#)
[rattle on](#)
[rattle sabres](#)
[reach me](#)
[reach out](#)
[read into](#)
[really deaf](#)
[rest on your laurels](#)
[ride herd](#)
[ride me](#)
[ride the wave](#)
[ring a bell](#)
[rise to the occasion](#)
[road to hell is paved...](#)
[rob Peter to pay Paul](#)
[roll off the tongue](#)
[rope into](#)
[rub salt in the wound](#)
[rubberneck](#)
[run across](#)
[run down](#)
[run for the hills](#)
[run the risk](#)
[run up](#)
[run you out](#)
[rush hour](#)
[salty](#)
[same to you](#)

[say jump...how high](#)
[say the word](#)
[scared stiff](#)
[scot-free](#)
[scrape by](#)
[screw you \[B\]](#)
[see a man about a dog](#)
[see you through](#)
[see your way](#)
[seek revenge](#)
[seize the opportunity](#)
[self-starter](#)
[sell the farm](#)
[seller's market](#)
[send him flying](#)
[send him up](#)
[sense of humor](#)
[set for life](#)
[set in her ways](#)
[set out to](#)
[set up shop](#)
[set you up](#)
[set your mind at ease](#)
[set your price](#)
[set your sights](#)
[shades of](#)
[shake him](#)
[shake on it](#)
[sharp](#)
[sharp as a tack](#)
[shit disturber \[B\]](#)
[shitting bricks \[B\]](#)
[shoot-out \(sports\)](#)
[shoot up](#)
[short temper](#)
[shortchange](#)
[shove down my throat](#)
[show up](#)
[show you up](#)
[shuck on down to the fraidy hole](#)
[shuffle the chairs on the deck](#)
[side by side](#)

[sign in](#)
[sign out](#)
[sit the fence](#)
[sit with you](#)
[slap my afro / slap my fro](#)
[sleep around \[B\]](#)
[sleep like a log](#)
[slippery slope](#)
[smack of](#)
[smartass \[B\]](#)
[snowball](#)
[so help me](#)
[so-so](#)
[so to speak](#)
[sock it to me](#)
[soften up](#)
[soften your stance](#)
[sound asleep](#)
[sounding board](#)
[spell disaster](#)
[spell you off](#)
[spin doctor](#)
[spin the bottle](#)
[spoil for a fight](#)
[square deal](#)
[square off](#)
[square one](#)
[squat](#)
[stand by me](#)
[stand on ceremony](#)
[start from scratch](#)
[start over](#)
[start with a bang](#)
[stay alive](#)
[stay up](#)
[steal your heart](#)
[step on it](#)
[step on people](#)
[stick in my craw](#)
[stick my neck out](#)
[stop at nothing](#)
[stop you cold](#)

[stop you in your tracks](#)
[straw horse](#)
[street smarts](#)
[stretch the truth](#)
[strike me](#)
[strike out \(baseball\)](#)
[strike while the iron is hot](#)
[strike your fancy](#)
[stroke your ego](#)
[sucked in](#)
[sucker](#)
[sure as shit](#)
[sweep you off your feet](#)
[sweet tooth](#)
[swelled head](#)
[tailgate](#)
[take a bow](#)
[take a bullet](#)
[take a dive](#)
[take a guess](#)
[take after](#)
[take care of business](#)
[take exception to](#)
[take him down a peg](#)
[take it back](#)
[take it to heart](#)
[take my head off](#)
[take on](#)
[take-out restaurant](#)
[take the flack](#)
[take the heat](#)
[take time to smell the roses](#)
[take up cudgels](#)
[take you to task](#)
[talk about](#)
[talk to the hand](#)
[teach you the tricks of the trade](#)
[tearjerker](#)
[teed up](#)
[tell him where to go](#)
[test drive](#)
[that's stretching it](#)

[that's the spirit](#)
[the best things in life are free](#)
[the burning question](#)
[the call of duty](#)
[the cart before the horse](#)
[the end of the line](#)
[the gift of the gab \(the gift of gab\)](#)
[the grass is greener on the other side of the fence](#)
[the heat is on](#)
[the inside track](#)
[the key to success](#)
[the life of the party](#)
[the Lord helps those who help themselves](#)
[the makings of](#)
[the middleman](#)
[the odds-on favorite](#)
[the past is slipping by without a trace](#)
[the Peter Principle](#)
[the point of no return](#)
[the proof of the pudding is in the eating](#)
[the rabbit died](#)
[the straight dope](#)
[the sweet spot](#)
[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)
[there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip](#)
[there's more than one way to skin a cat](#)
[there's no tomorrow](#)
[there's nothing to it](#)
[thick as a brick](#)
[think better of it](#)
[three sheets to the wind](#)
[throw a game](#)
[throw a party](#)
[throw cold water on](#)
[throw the book at](#)
[throw you](#)
[throw your weight around](#)
[throw yourself at him](#)
[thrown in](#)
[tied up](#)
[tight race](#)
[tight/tight fisted](#)

[time is money](#)
[time is of the essence](#)
[time on your hands](#)
[time out](#)
[time stands still](#)
[time to kill](#)
[tin ear](#)
[tip of the hat](#)
[tip the scales at](#)
[to a T](#)
[to be perfectly honest](#)
[to boot](#)
[to coin a phrase](#)
[to go](#)
[to perfection](#)
[to the max](#)
[to the nth degree](#)
[to top it off](#)
[toe the line](#)
[too far gone](#)
[top it up](#)
[touch you](#)
[touchy](#)
[trade insults](#)
[trial run](#)
[trickle-down economics](#)
[try it](#)
[try it on](#)
[try out](#)
[try that](#)
[try your hand at](#)
[tune me out](#)
[tuned in](#)
[turn in](#)
[turn on you](#)
[turn the tables on](#)
[turn you on](#)
[turn your stomach](#)
[turn yourself in](#)
[turncoat](#)
[twerp](#)
[two heads are better than one](#)

[under my breath](#)

[under my nose](#)

[under oath](#)

[under pressure](#)

[underdog](#)

[underhanded](#)

[up against](#)

[up against it](#)

[up and coming](#)

[up for it](#)

[up in arms](#)

[up to it](#)

[up to par](#)

[up to scratch](#)

[up to something](#)

[up your alley](#)

[up your sleeve](#)

[used to](#)

[user friendly](#)

[variety is the spice of life](#)

[wait around](#)

[wait on you hand and foot](#)

[wait up for](#)

[wait with bated breath](#)

[walk](#)

[walk the plank](#)

[wall flower](#)

[want a piece of me](#)

[want to make something of it](#)

[warm up](#)

[wash it down](#)

[wash it off](#)

[washed up](#)

[waste no time](#)

[watch your every move](#)

[water down](#)

[wax poetic](#)

[way out \(away out\)](#)

[well off](#)

[what came over me](#)

[what goes around comes around](#)

[what's going down](#)

[what's good for the goose is good for the gander](#)[what's your poison](#)[where angels fear to tread](#)[where there's a will, there's a way](#)[whet your appetite](#)[whiz](#)[win the hearts](#)[wired for sound](#)[wishy-washy](#)[with bells on](#)[with wings](#)[within earshot](#)[won't tell a soul](#)[work cut out for](#)[work it out](#)[work off](#)[work out](#)[work the room](#)[work to rule](#)[workaholic](#)[world beater](#)[worldly wise](#)[worlds apart](#)[wouldn't be caught dead](#)[wrap it up](#)[writer's block](#)[yellow](#)[yellow belly](#)[you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink](#)[you can't teach an old dog new tricks](#)[you had to be there](#)[you need money to make money](#)[your number is up](#)

toast

[cheers](#)[dust](#)[here's mud in your eye](#)[skoal](#)

tobacco

[pot](#)

today

[call it a day](#)

[darn my luck](#)
[out of step](#)
[there's no tomorrow](#)

toe

[follow the rules](#)
[hang ten \(surfing\)](#)
[keep your nose clean](#)

together

[boozing buddies](#)
[bosom buddy](#)
[brain storm](#)
[clean up your act](#)
[cool](#)
[do lunch](#)
[double whammy](#)
[get a life](#)
[get your act together](#)
[get your head together](#)
[hand in hand](#)
[hook up with](#)
[in step](#)
[inside joke](#)
[let the good times roll](#)
[Lovers' Leap](#)
[lump together](#)
[make up](#)
[partners in crime](#)
[pick up the pieces](#)
[piss parade \[B\]](#)
[pull together](#)
[read along](#)
[round up](#)
[shack up \[B\]](#)
[shape up](#)
[team up](#)
[the big picture](#)
[think tank](#)
[together](#)

toilet

[have a whiz](#)
[on the throne](#)
[the can](#)

[the john](#)[the loo](#)

told

[a little bird told me](#)[a scandal is brewing](#)[ears pinned back](#)[hand down](#)[laid off](#)[led to believe](#)[on the QT](#)[put a bug in my ear](#)[scandal is brewing](#)[the cat's out of the bag](#)[there's more than meets the eye](#)[toe the line](#)

toledo

[holy Moses](#)

tolerate

[hard to take](#)[put up with](#)[stand for](#)

tone

[snap at](#)[uptalk](#)

tongue

[cat got your tongue](#)[lose your tongue](#)[mind go blank](#)

tongue-lashing

[a piece of my mind](#)

tons

[a holy pile](#)[a shitload](#)[coming out of your yin yang](#)[whack](#)

too

[a bummer](#)[a crying shame](#)[a little steep](#)[a little thick](#)[a raw deal](#)[a rip-off](#)

[all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy](#)

[anal retentive](#)

[be-all, end-all](#)

[bigmouth](#)

[burn out](#)

[can't see for looking](#)

[coming out of our ears](#)

[coming out of your yin yang](#)

[cup runneth over](#)

[dense](#)

[dilly-dally](#)

[don't push your luck](#)

[drag your feet](#)

[eighty-six it](#)

[feast or famine](#)

[feel a draft](#)

[fish and company stink after three days](#)

[full of herself](#)

[fuss over](#)

[get carried away](#)

[go easy on](#)

[go out on a limb](#)

[go overboard](#)

[go too far](#)

[good grief](#)

[had a bellyful](#)

[had it](#)

[had it up to here](#)

[hard done by](#)

[in the nick of time](#)

[it never rains but it pours](#)

[jump the gun](#)

[keep your distance](#)

[kill an elephant](#)

[knock you down a peg](#)

[let it go to your head](#)

[like it or lump it](#)

[like the devil](#)

[liquored up](#)

[make a big to-do](#)

[make a federal case of it](#)

[make a scene](#)

[mind boggling](#)
[mind your P's and Q's](#)
[more than you can shake a stick at](#)
[nag](#)
[out of his element](#)
[out of range](#)
[out of sight \(outa sight\)](#)
[out of sight](#)
[over my head](#)
[over the hill](#)
[over the top](#)
[overdo it](#)
[plate is full](#)
[play catch-up](#)
[pour it on](#)
[pull it out](#)
[push me \(to the limit\)](#)
[put too fine a point on](#)
[put yourself out](#)
[rob the cradle](#)
[saw sawdust](#)
[shooting fish in a barrel](#)
[strike while the iron is hot](#)
[swelled head](#)
[tailgate](#)
[take your sweet time](#)
[talk your ear off](#)
[talk your head off](#)
[the last straw](#)
[the point of no return](#)
[throw yourself at him](#)
[to a fault](#)
[too big for his britches](#)
[too deep for me](#)
[too many chiefs and not enough Indians](#)
[too many cooks spoil the broth](#)
[tough bananas](#)
[under pressure](#)
[up to my ears](#)
[wear out your welcome](#)
[when it rains it pours](#)

[cheerio](#)

took

[she peed](#)

tooling

[drive around](#)

tooth

[hammer and tongs](#)[two-fisted attack](#)

toothpick

[a pine float](#)

top

[a little thick](#)[all the marbles](#)[brush cut](#)[chock full](#)[fastball](#)[fill up](#)[from stem to stern](#)[it's not a state secret](#)[loaded to the hilt](#)[number one](#)[plump full](#)[top it up](#)[up on](#)

topic

[a hot number](#)[a hot topic](#)[all that jazz](#)[along those lines](#)[beside the point](#)[crank issue](#)[don't want to go there](#)[grey area](#)[have a clue](#)[in that vein](#)[keep you on track](#)[off the wall](#)[off topic](#)[open a window](#)[out of the blue](#)[small talk](#)[the talk of the town](#)

[when it comes to](#)

torn

[shabby](#)

tornado

[shuck on down to the fraidy hole](#)

toronto

[Cabbagetown](#)

toss

[it's a toss-up](#)

toss-up

[there's not much to choose between them](#)

total

[a ball-park figure](#)

[a perfect stranger](#)

[in the ball park](#)

[run up](#)

totally

[awesome](#)

[groaty to the max](#)

[jump in with both feet](#)

[she peed](#)

[super-duper](#)

touch

[an easy mark](#)

[back off](#)

[doctor it/doctor it up](#)

[hit home](#)

[in touch](#)

[let it be](#)

[make advances](#)

[move you to tears](#)

[out of touch](#)

[pet](#)

[pluck at the heart strings](#)

[the sweet spot](#)

[tie up loose ends](#)

[touch base](#)

touching

[biter \(curling\)](#)

[bumper to bumper](#)

touchy

[edgy](#)

tough

[a rough time of it](#)
[hard as nails](#)
[hard nosed](#)
[hard on me](#)
[how do you like them apples](#)
[in tough](#)
[like it or lump it](#)
[play hardball](#)
[play the heavy](#)
[rough going](#)
[stick to it](#)
[tough bananas](#)
[tough luck](#)
[uphill battle](#)
[weather the storm](#)
[when push comes to shove](#)
[where there's a will, there's a way](#)

tougher

[bite the bullet](#)
[toughen up](#)

toward

[down the pike](#)
[five o'clock shadow](#)
[give you the cold shoulder](#)
[make a beeline](#)
[make a pass](#)
[make your way](#)
[on the road](#)
[take it out on](#)
[turn the corner](#)

town

[a hot topic](#)
[Cowtown](#)
[do the town](#)
[hit town](#)
[in the boonies](#)
[local yokel](#)
[paint the town red](#)
[pass through](#)
[run out of town](#)
[settle down](#)
[the bum's rush](#)

[you've got to be kidding](#)

toy

[clean up](#)

[trifle with me](#)

track

[hard skill](#)

[keep tabs on](#)

[lose count](#)

[on the rails](#)

[out of the way](#)

[play the ponies](#)

trade

[blue-collar worker](#)

traded

[change hands](#)

traffic

[Florida green](#)

[rush hour](#)

[traffic jam](#)

tragedy

[spell disaster](#)

trail

[hot on the trail](#)

trained

[out of his element](#)

training

[workout](#)

traitor

[fifth column](#)

[turncoat](#)

traits

[mean streak](#)

[take after](#)

transmission

[tranny](#)

transvestite

[drag queen](#)

trap

[play into his hand](#)

trash

[ratch](#)

[wreak havoc](#)

travel

[do \(a speed\)](#)
[get over](#)
[head down there](#)
[head up there](#)
[hit speeds of](#)
[hit the road/trail](#)
[hook up with](#)
[make good time](#)
[pass through](#)
[run up](#)
[take a drive/trip](#)
[take a flight](#)

traveling

[lay over](#)
[on your way](#)
[press on](#)

treat

[do unto others as you would have them do unto you](#)
[dubs](#)

treated

[do unto others as you would have them do unto you](#)

treatment

[get screwed](#)
[prima donna](#)

trend

[catch the wave](#)
[everything old is new again](#)
[keep up with the times](#)
[new wave](#)
[trendy](#)

trendy

[preppy](#)

trial

[hit and miss](#)
[pilot project](#)
[the acid test](#)
[vale of tears \(valley of tears\)](#)

tribute

[hats off](#)

trick

[fool you](#)
[funny stuff](#)

[play a joke on](#)
[pull the wool over your eyes](#)

tricked

[deked out of his jock](#)
[fall into a trap](#)
[gotcha \(got you\)](#)
[taken for a ride](#)

trickery

[smoke and mirrors](#)

tries

[a quick study](#)
[comeback kid](#)
[hit and run \(baseball\)](#)
[jive ass \[B\]](#)
[shit disturber \[B\]](#)
[smartass \[B\]](#)
[world beater](#)

trigger

[set off](#)

trim

[black out](#)

trimmings

[put the finishing touches on](#)

trip

[happy motoring](#)
[kill two birds \(with one stone\)](#)
[send him flying](#)
[take a drive/trip](#)
[throw your weight around](#)

trivia

[claptrap](#)

troops

[make war](#)

trophy

[go all the way \(sports\)](#)

trouble

[a pain in the ass \[B\]](#)
[curiosity killed the cat](#)
[don't borrow trouble](#)
[don't mention it](#)
[Gang of Four](#)
[get burned](#)
[get in deeper](#)

[get your tits in a wringer](#)
[in a jam](#)
[in deep doo-doo \[B\]](#)
[in deep shit \[B\]](#)
[in deep trouble](#)
[keep your nose clean](#)
[leave well enough alone](#)
[no sweat](#)
[not at all](#)
[put yourself out](#)
[the fat hit the fire](#)
[toast](#)
[vale of tears \(valley of tears\)](#)
[watch your step](#)

troublemaker

[bad news](#)

troublesome

[fly in the ointment](#)

truck

[a big rig](#)
[at the wheel](#)
[drive standard](#)
[set of wheels](#)
[tranny](#)
[wheels](#)

true

[afraid so](#)
[bah](#)
[bang on](#)
[blow my cover](#)
[bull/bullshit/BS \[B\]](#)
[come to terms with](#)
[darn tooting](#)
[eat my hat/shirt](#)
[go on](#)
[in a pig's ass \[B\]](#)
[is that so](#)
[keep your fingers crossed](#)
[my ass](#)
[no shit \[B\]](#)
[point is well taken](#)
[stretch the truth](#)

[take it](#)
[take it with a grain of salt](#)
[take oath](#)
[tall tale](#)
[that's a crock \(of shit\) \[B\]](#)
[the gospel truth](#)
[The Great White North](#)
[there's nothing to it](#)
[to the best of my knowledge](#)
[tried and true](#)
[true colors](#)
[wear your heart on your sleeve](#)
[well taken](#)
[wishful thinking](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| truly | |
| | bloody well |
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|------------|--|
| vanishing | into thin air |
| variety | everything from soup to nuts girl Friday variety is the spice of life |
| various | play the field |
| vegetable | cheap like borsch square meal |
| vegetate | mind in neutral |
| vehicle | black out bumper to bumper catch a ride fly low hit the brakes on board set of wheels traffic jam wheels |
| vein | along those lines |
| venture | sell the farm |
| verbal | two-fisted attack |
| verbatim | word for word |
| verbose | balderdash |
| verge | on the brink |
| vernacular | so to speak |
| versa | the past is slipping by without a trace |
| very | a basket case a budding genius a bundle of nerves |

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| | |
|------------|--|
| voice | come into your own pipes read me (CB radio) uptalk |
| volkswagen | Love Bug |
| volume | crank it up |
| vomit | barf blow chunks bring up hork hurl ralph sick to my stomach throw chunks throw up upchuck woof your cookies |
| vote | age of majority cast your vote come of age political football stand up and be counted take a poll the age of majority the balance of power |
| voters | leg work mend fences |
| vulgar | down and dirty swear like a sailor |
| vulnerable | Achilles heel open to criticism |

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[B] bad language

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[go to any trouble](#)
[lap up](#)
[right as rain](#)
[roll out the red carpet](#)
[take risks](#)
[two's company, three's a crowd](#)
[wear out your welcome](#)

well

['at a boy \(that a boy\)](#)
['at a girl \(that a girl\)](#)
[apple-pie order](#)
[at the top of her game](#)
[attaboy \(that a boy\)](#)
[attagirl \(that a girl\)](#)
[bloody well](#)
[buck fever](#)
[carry a tune](#)
[choke](#)
[clean cut](#)
[coming up roses](#)
[cool under pressure](#)
[crystal clear](#)
[did good](#)
[did yourself proud](#)
[done good](#)
[eat humble pie](#)
[fall short](#)
[fill his shoes](#)
[fine-tune](#)
[gee](#)
[go places](#)
[going great guns](#)

[going strong](#)
[gone to the dogs](#)
[good show](#)
[half-baked](#)
[hard of hearing](#)
[have deep pockets](#)
[hit it off](#)
[hit on all cylinders](#)
[hold a candle](#)
[if a mussel doesn't open don't eat it](#)
[if my memory serves me correctly](#)
[in a slump](#)
[in bad shape](#)
[know inside out](#)
[know like the back of your hand](#)
[look sharp](#)
[make a go of it](#)
[make a name for yourself](#)
[mop the floor with us](#)
[neat](#)
[not feeling myself](#)
[piss poor \[B\]](#)
[play a mean game](#)
[pull through](#)
[put your best foot forward](#)
[shucks](#)
[sleep like a log](#)
[slip a notch](#)
[soldier on](#)
[start with a bang](#)
[stay in line](#)
[team player](#)
[that a boy/that a girl](#)
[the Peter Principle](#)
[the rest is history](#)
[tick over](#)
[tickety-boo](#)
[under the weather](#)
[well heeled](#)
[well off](#)

well-balanced

[get it together](#)

| | |
|---------------|---|
| well-designed | a humdinger |
| well-groomed | dapper Dan |
| well-known | chestnut |
| well-meaning | a sad sack |
| were | bully for you dates you eat crow eat your words the day of the family farm you can thank your lucky stars |
| west | Lotus Land |
| western | Bigfoot Sasquatch |
| wet | a babe in arms on your ass [B] out in left field the tender age of |
| whack | off kilter |
| what | a fly on the wall a penny for your thoughts a piece of my mind actions speak louder than words all wet at face value at stake beauty is in the eye of the beholder beg your pardon by gosh by the way call it quits call the shots can't believe my ears |

[can't believe my eyes](#)
[catch as catch can](#)
[catch the wave](#)
[catch you off guard](#)
[claim to fame](#)
[come again](#)
[come hell or high water](#)
[come on](#)
[come through](#)
[come to the point](#)
[comeuppance](#)
[compare notes](#)
[do your own thing](#)
[don't give me any of your lip](#)
[don't know which side your bread is buttered on](#)
[don't teach your grandmother how to suck eggs](#)
[down the pike](#)
[drain the swamp](#)
[dump on](#)
[eat crow](#)
[eat your words](#)
[eh](#)
[find yourself](#)
[follow me](#)
[follow the rules](#)
[follow through](#)
[get caught up](#)
[get it](#)
[get real](#)
[get this straight](#)
[get to the point](#)
[get your way](#)
[give him a taste of his own medicine](#)
[give you flack](#)
[give you static](#)
[give your word](#)
[go on](#)
[go with the flow](#)
[good grief](#)
[got the balls \[B\]](#)
[got what it takes](#)
[have it your way](#)

[haven't the foggiest](#)
[hemming and hahing](#)
[Hobson's choice](#)
[holy smoke](#)
[how's that again](#)
[huh](#)
[in her good graces](#)
[it appears to me](#)
[je ne sais quoi](#)
[joyride](#)
[keep a promise](#)
[keep the faith](#)
[keep up with the Joneses](#)
[keep you on track](#)
[King Shit on Turd Island](#)
[know the score](#)
[know which end is up](#)
[leave me hanging](#)
[left over](#)
[lose your tongue](#)
[make a clean breast of it](#)
[make an offer](#)
[make of it](#)
[mind go blank](#)
[no rest for the wicked](#)
[on moral grounds](#)
[one man's meat is another man's poison](#)
[own medicine](#)
[pardon me](#)
[pay him back](#)
[pay off](#)
[pay up](#)
[pick your brains](#)
[pinch](#)
[point of view](#)
[practice what you preach](#)
[public property](#)
[pull a few strings](#)
[pull your chain](#)
[pussyfoot around](#)
[put your money where your mouth is](#)
[read between the lines](#)

[read into](#)
[read my lips](#)
[read you](#)
[rise to the occasion](#)
[run the gamut](#)
[say my piece](#)
[say what](#)
[say what's on your mind](#)
[say your piece](#)
[scout's honor](#)
[second guess](#)
[sense of humor](#)
[serve notice](#)
[serve them right](#)
[set your sights](#)
[settle it](#)
[show your stuff](#)
[shut my mouth](#)
[so what](#)
[speak out](#)
[speak your mind](#)
[spoiled brat](#)
[suit yourself](#)
[take a stand](#)
[take care of business](#)
[take it back](#)
[take me seriously](#)
[take your word for it](#)
[talk shop](#)
[tell him where to get off](#)
[the buck stops here](#)
[the burning question](#)
[the dickens you say](#)
[the jig's up](#)
[the price you have to pay](#)
[the runaround](#)
[the talk of the town](#)
[there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip](#)
[time on your hands](#)
[toe the line](#)
[try me](#)
[turn about is fair play](#)

[turn yourself in](#)
[twist your words](#)
[up your alley](#)
[wait around](#)
[wait with bated breath](#)
[walk the talk](#)
[what a brain](#)
[what a dish](#)
[what a rigmarole](#)
[what a rush](#)
[what came over me](#)
[what-cha-ma-call-it](#)
[what gives](#)
[what goes around comes around](#)
[what in tarnation](#)
[what in the name of heaven](#)
[what in the world](#)
[what it boils down to](#)
[what the hell \[B\]](#)
[what the Sam Hill](#)
[what's cooking](#)
[what's eating you](#)
[what's going down](#)
[what's going on](#)
[what's-his-face](#)
[what's in it for me](#)
[what's new](#)
[what's the poop](#)
[what's up](#)
[what's what](#)
[what's your beef](#)
[what's your poison](#)
[who cares](#)
[wise to us](#)
[wysiwyg](#)
[you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink](#)

what-cha-ma-call-it

[thing-a-ma-bob / thing-a-ma-jig](#)

whatever

[do your utmost](#)
[eat out of the palm of your hand](#)
[go to great lengths/ go to any lengths](#)

[make do](#)

wheat-producing

[wheatbelt](#)

wheatbelt

[breadbasket](#)

wheel

[a big shot](#)[as useless as a fifth wheel](#)[Denver boot](#)[lay rubber](#)[set of wheels](#)[the bottom fell out](#)[wheels](#)

wheeler-dealer

[movers and shakers](#)[wheeler-dealer](#)

when

[a clutch hitter \(baseball\)](#)[a word to the wise is sufficient](#)[absence makes the heart grow fonder](#)[age of majority](#)[at first glance](#)[at the hands of](#)[baby blues](#)[be there for me](#)[beat a dead horse](#)[behind your back](#)[break in](#)[break your fall](#)[buyer's market](#)[catch you at a bad time](#)[caught looking](#)[come out in the wash](#)[cool under pressure](#)[cross that bridge when I come to it](#)[dates you](#)[dirty thirties](#)[discretion is the better part of valor](#)[doesn't mince words](#)[easy come, easy go](#)[fair-weather friend](#)[Fibber McGee's closet](#)

[freeze-up](#)
[garage kept](#)
[God bless the Duke of Argyle](#)
[happy hour](#)
[hit the ground running](#)
[hold the purse strings](#)
[hold your hand](#)
[in the hole](#)
[in your prime](#)
[it never rains but it pours](#)
[Johnny on the spot](#)
[just-in-time](#)
[laugh it off](#)
[learn your place](#)
[love at first sight](#)
[make strange](#)
[miss your chance](#)
[musical chairs](#)
[nerves of steel](#)
[parachute](#)
[pass up](#)
[put to bed \(print media\)](#)
[red-faced](#)
[run a red light](#)
[run off at the mouth](#)
[save for a rainy day](#)
[say the word](#)
[shuck on down to the fraidy hole](#)
[snatch victory from the jaws of defeat](#)
[so to speak](#)
[soft market](#)
[take it like a man](#)
[take your time](#)
[take your turn](#)
[the age of majority](#)
[the benefit of the doubt](#)
[the day of the family farm](#)
[the moment of truth](#)
[the point of no return](#)
[the turning point](#)
[time flies when you're having fun](#)
[too little too late](#)

[when in Rome, do as the Romans do](#)
[when it comes to](#)
[when it rains it pours](#)
[when push comes to shove](#)
[when the chips are down](#)
[when the crunch comes](#)
[when the dust settles](#)
[when the going gets tough](#)
[where the rubber hits the road](#)
[where there's a will, there's a way](#)

whenever

[spotcheck](#)

where

[a level playing field](#)
[bash](#)
[behind your back](#)
[being there](#)
[Cabbagetown](#)
[can't put my hands on it](#)
[check-out](#)
[come full circle](#)
[Cowtown](#)
[end up](#)
[fill the gap](#)
[go nowhere fast](#)
[in plain view](#)
[know which end is up](#)
[learn your place](#)
[Lovers' Leap](#)
[set out](#)
[show you around](#)
[stay put](#)
[stop on a dime](#)
[take my place](#)
[the breaking point](#)
[watch your step](#)
[what the dickens](#)
[where angels fear to tread](#)
[where do they get off](#)
[where it's at](#)
[where the rubber hits the road](#)
[where's the loo](#)

[window on the world](#)

whether

[willy-nilly](#)

which

[heads or tails](#)[hit and run \(baseball\)](#)[hit and run \(traffic\)](#)[musical chairs](#)[take your pick](#)[what's your poison](#)

while

[at the hands of](#)[burned](#)[coffee talk](#)[crazy like a fox](#)[draw their fire](#)[fish and company stink after three days](#)[hemming and hahing](#)[kill a penalty \(hockey\)](#)[lay over](#)[make hay while the sun shines](#)[mount a comeback](#)[shoplifting](#)[strike out \(baseball\)](#)[time is of the essence](#)[too little too late](#)[wet the bed](#)

whine

[bellyache](#)

whip

[clean up on](#)

whirlwind

[dust devil](#)

whisker

[five o'clock shadow](#)

whisky

[rye](#)

whispered

[under my breath](#)

white

[fib](#)[honky](#)

[in writing](#)
[pinko](#)
[Saskatchewan pheasant](#)
[WASP](#)

whiz

[geez](#)
[golly gee](#)
[have to go](#)
[jeepers](#)
[take a leak \[B\]](#)
[take a pee \[B\]](#)
[wow](#)

who

[a babe in arms](#)
[a bar fly](#)
[a bar star](#)
[a barrel of laughs](#)
[a basket case](#)
[a bitch \[B\]](#)
[a brick](#)
[a budding genius](#)
[a cheap drunk](#)
[a chip off the old block](#)
[a clutch hitter \(baseball\)](#)
[a cut-up](#)
[a firm hand](#)
[a flash in the pan](#)
[a fresh pair of eyes](#)
[a good sport](#)
[a handful](#)
[a heavy hitter](#)
[a hotdog](#)
[a hothead](#)
[a hotshot](#)
[a kept woman](#)
[a lady-killer](#)
[a loose cannon](#)
[a man of few words](#)
[a nut case](#)
[a pain in the butt](#)
[a party to that](#)
[a quick study](#)

[a redneck](#)
[a rolling stone gathers no moss](#)
[a sitting duck](#)
[a soft touch](#)
[a sucker for punishment](#)
[a thorn in my side](#)
[a three-bagger](#)
[a tower of strength](#)
[a wolf in sheep's clothing](#)
[a wordsmith](#)
[all talk and no action](#)
[an airhead](#)
[an easy mark](#)
[backroom boys](#)
[bad date](#)
[bad news](#)
[bag lady](#)
[beggars can't be choosers](#)
[bigmouth](#)
[binner](#)
[bite the hand that feeds you](#)
[blabbermouth](#)
[black sheep](#)
[bleeding heart](#)
[blue-collar worker](#)
[book worm](#)
[boozing buddies](#)
[bosom buddy](#)
[bottle man](#)
[bozo](#)
[buzz-kill](#)
[canary](#)
[car buff](#)
[catch a ride](#)
[chain smoker](#)
[chairman of the boards \(hockey\)](#)
[cheap skate](#)
[cherry picker \(hockey\)](#)
[chicken](#)
[Christmas graduate](#)
[comeback kid](#)
[couch potato](#)

[cowpoke](#)
[crack shot/salesman etc.](#)
[crack this case](#)
[crackpot](#)
[dance with the one who brought you](#)
[dead-eye Dick](#)
[deadhead](#)
[death row](#)
[dimwit](#)
[DINKS](#)
[dipstick](#)
[disk jockey \(DJ\)](#)
[do a favor](#)
[dog in the manger](#)
[don't know him from Adam](#)
[doughhead](#)
[dove](#)
[draft dodger](#)
[drop-in](#)
[dude](#)
[dumbbell](#)
[dumbo](#)
[eager beaver](#)
[eagle eyes](#)
[fair-weather friend](#)
[fall on deaf ears](#)
[feel a draft](#)
[fence sitter](#)
[figurehead](#)
[flatfoot](#)
[flip you for it](#)
[fool around](#)
[fraidy cat](#)
[fresh legs](#)
[front man](#)
[get revenge](#)
[girl Friday](#)
[gofer](#)
[granola](#)
[half-pint](#)
[happy camper](#)
[has-been](#)

[hatchet man](#)

[have an affair](#)

[hawk](#)

[head \(headbanger\)](#)

[headhunter](#)

[health nut](#)

[heart is in the right place](#)

[high roller](#)

[his nibs](#)

[his own man](#)

[hit man](#)

[hold-out](#)

[in the loop](#)

[inside joke](#)

[it's now or never](#)

[jack of all trades](#)

[jive ass \[B\]](#)

[jock](#)

[Johnny-come-lately](#)

[joker](#)

[junkie](#)

[kick some ass](#)

[King Shit on Turd Island](#)

[klutz](#)

[know which side your bread is buttered on](#)

[knucklehead](#)

[lame duck](#)

[landlubber](#)

[late bloomer](#)

[lay the blame](#)

[lazy bones](#)

[lesser lights](#)

[lifer](#)

[liveware](#)

[look over your shoulder](#)

[loud mouth](#)

[lucky dog](#)

[motormouth](#)

[name-dropper](#)

[Net surfer](#)

[no-show](#)

[nut](#)

[partners in crime](#)

[party-pooper](#)

[peer sneer](#)

[penny pincher](#)

[people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones](#)

[pinhead](#)

[pinko](#)

[piss on them \[B\]](#)

[popcorn brain](#)

[power user](#)

[preach to the choir/preach to the converted](#)

[preppy](#)

[prima donna](#)

[proby](#)

[pusher](#)

[rabble-rouser](#)

[rat fink](#)

[repay in kind](#)

[rob the cradle](#)

[rotter](#)

[scaredy cat](#)

[scratch your head](#)

[seek revenge](#)

[self-made man](#)

[self-starter](#)

[shit disturber \[B\]](#)

[show-off](#)

[showboat](#)

[shut-in](#)

[skins game](#)

[sleepy head](#)

[slowpoke](#)

[smartass \[B\]](#)

[smooth talker](#)

[snowbirds](#)

[so what](#)

[soul mate](#)

[sounding board](#)

[sour puss](#)

[spin the bottle](#)

[spoiled brat](#)

[spoilsport](#)

[squealer](#)
[stag](#)
[stick-in-the-mud](#)
[straight from the horse's mouth](#)
[straight man](#)
[sucker](#)
[sweater girl](#)
[take advantage of](#)
[take revenge](#)
[team player](#)
[the butt of the joke](#)
[the early bird gets the worm](#)
[the goat](#)
[The Great White Hope](#)
[The Grim Reaper](#)
[The Group of Seven](#)
[the inside track](#)
[the life of the party](#)
[the middleman](#)
[the odds-on favorite](#)
[the spitting image](#)
[the squeaky wheel gets the grease](#)
[the underground](#)
[there's one born every minute](#)
[tough customer](#)
[tube head](#)
[turn the tables on](#)
[turncoat](#)
[twinkle toes](#)
[unsung hero](#)
[wall flower](#)
[what the hay](#)
[what's the big idea](#)
[wheeler-dealer](#)
[windbag](#)
[wingnut](#)
[work the room](#)
[workaholic](#)
[world beater](#)
[yellow belly](#)

whoever

[first come, first served](#)

| | |
|---------|--|
| whole | all the livelong day can't see the forest for the trees everything but the kitchen sink jump in with both feet kit and caboodle on the whole pay the shot the big picture the long and the short of it the whole ball of wax the whole nine yards the whole works |
| whom | spin the bottle |
| whoopee | make out neck |
| whose | birder flatliner |
| whup | open up a big can of whoop-ass |
| why | account for cat got your tongue figure out for the life of me how come it's beyond me scratch your head what did I do to deserve this what the hay what the heck what the hell [B] what was I thinking of what's the big idea what's your beef why in the name of... why in the world |
| wicked | no rest for the wicked |

[what did I do to deserve this](#)

wide

[by a country mile](#)

[Internet](#)

widely

[grinning like a bushel basketful of possum heads](#)

wiener

[hotdog](#)

[throw on a dog for you](#)

wife

[better half](#)

[ex](#)

[pussy whipped](#)

[what's good for the goose is good for the gander](#)

wig

[VIP](#)

wild

[a shot in the dark](#)

[all around Robin Hood's barn](#)

[bash](#)

[devil-may-care](#)

[go crazy](#)

[go hog wild](#)

[go wild](#)

[have a fling](#)

[it's a zoo in there](#)

[live it up](#)

[out of control](#)

[pell-mell](#)

[sow wild oats](#)

[wingding](#)

[wingy](#)

wildest

[that takes the cake](#)

will

[a bad taste in my mouth](#)

[a firm hand](#)

[a fool and his money are soon parted](#)

[a new lease on life](#)

[a soft touch](#)

[ad lib \(ad libitum\)](#)

[and that's that](#)

[be there or be square](#)
[beg your pardon](#)
[bet you dollars to donuts](#)
[Bob's your uncle](#)
[bye for now](#)
[catch you later](#)
[cry me a river](#)
[dog in the manger](#)
[don't make waves](#)
[fall on deaf ears](#)
[flattery will get you nowhere](#)
[future looks bright](#)
[give him an inch and he'll take a mile](#)
[give him enough rope and he'll hang himself](#)
[have one on me](#)
[heads will roll](#)
[if you can't cut it, you can't stay](#)
[in your corner](#)
[it's a matter of life and death](#)
[it's all over but the crying](#)
[keep your fingers crossed](#)
[kiss the blarney stone](#)
[lame duck](#)
[light at the end of the tunnel](#)
[lips are sealed](#)
[make an offer](#)
[makes no difference](#)
[milk it](#)
[Murphy's Law](#)
[no questions asked](#)
[no skin off my nose](#)
[not long for this world](#)
[nothing ventured, nothing gained](#)
[out of sight, out of mind](#)
[play a prank on](#)
[promise the moon](#)
[pussy whipped](#)
[put you through the mill](#)
[rocks socks](#)
[second guess](#)
[see it coming](#)
[self-starter](#)

[sentence to death](#)
[serve notice](#)
[show promise](#)
[skins game](#)
[snatch victory from the jaws of defeat](#)
[so help me](#)
[so much as](#)
[spin the bottle](#)
[spoilsport](#)
[stag](#)
[stand up and be counted](#)
[take a poll](#)
[test your metal](#)
[that'll be the day](#)
[that'll be the frosty Friday](#)
[the devil makes work for idle hands](#)
[the Lord helps those who help themselves](#)
[the luck of the draw](#)
[the more the merrier](#)
[the way to a man's heart is through his stomach](#)
[there's one born every minute](#)
[this one is on me](#)
[wait around](#)
[waste not, want not](#)
[weak-kneed](#)
[what's in it for me](#)
[won't see you stuck](#)
[won't tell a soul](#)
[you can't sell anybody if you don't love everybody](#)
[you reap whatsoever you sow](#)
[you snooze, you lose](#)

willing

[a game one](#)
[good for a loan](#)
[really deaf](#)
[rough and ready](#)

willy-nilly

[take its course](#)

wimp

[chicken](#)
[pipsqueak](#)
[pussyfoot around](#)

[suck](#)[wimpy](#)[wuss](#)

wimpy

[lily-livered](#)

win

[a blowout](#)[a shoo-in](#)[a sure bet](#)[bat a thousand](#)[bat five hundred](#)[dark horse](#)[do or die](#)[double or nothing](#)[draw first blood](#)[eat out of the palm of your hand](#)[give and take](#)[give me a break](#)[go all the way \(sports\)](#)[haven't got a hope in hell](#)[hit paydirt](#)[in over your head](#)[in the running](#)[in your corner](#)[kick some ass](#)[lucky streak](#)[make a clean sweep](#)[nip and tuck](#)[no contest](#)[out to win](#)[play a mean game](#)[pull it off](#)[pull it out](#)[run circles around you](#)[shellack](#)[skins game](#)[snatch victory from the jaws of defeat](#)[sour grapes](#)[stay alive](#)[steal your heart](#)[stop at nothing](#)[strike it rich](#)

[take a round out of](#)

[take by storm](#)

[take you to the cleaners](#)

[The Great White Hope](#)

[the heat is on](#)

[the odds-on favorite](#)

[there's no tomorrow](#)

[try your luck](#)

[underdog](#)

[when the chips are down](#)

[whup your ass](#)

[win big](#)

[win by a nose](#)

[win going away](#)

[win the hearts](#)

wind

[a breath of wind](#)

[a snootful](#)

[cut the cheese \[B\]](#)

[let a fart \[B\]](#)

[look up a dead horse's ass \[B\]](#)

winded

[out of wind](#)

[play out](#)

window

[break and enter](#)

[break into](#)

wine

[drink up](#)

wing

[in my care](#)

[on the wing](#)

winner

[number one](#)

[shoot-out \(sports\)](#)

[the balance of power](#)

[winner take all](#)

winning

[a long shot](#)

[a lucky streak](#)

[horse shoes up his ass \[B\]](#)

[how goes the battle](#)

[winning isn't everything; it's the only thing](#)
[winning streak](#)

wino

[lush](#)

[tank](#)

winter

[a howling blizzard](#)

[bundle up](#)

[long johns](#)

[snowbirds](#)

wipe

[clean up on](#)

[whip you](#)

[whup your ass](#)

wire

[in the nick of time](#)

[jerk off \[B\]](#)

[tight race](#)

wise

[a word to the wise is sufficient](#)

[know your way around](#)

[nobody's fool](#)

[onto us](#)

[penny wise, dollar dumb](#)

[penny wise, pound foolish](#)

[street smarts](#)

[street wise](#)

[wasn't born yesterday](#)

wiser

[bigger than life](#)

wish

[back at ya](#)

[break off](#)

[eat your heart out](#)

[if only](#)

[just as soon](#)

[long for](#)

[same to you](#)

[spotcheck](#)

[stop on a dime](#)

[time on your hands](#)

[what was I thinking of](#)

[wishful thinking](#)

wished

[back at ya](#)

wishes

[cheers](#)

[kowtow](#)

[under your thumb](#)

wishing

[green with envy](#)

[sick to death](#)

wit

[match wits](#)

[scare the life out of me](#)

with

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[B] bad language

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| you" | chimo |
| you're | come off it get out go on go tell your mother she wants you read you rest on your laurels you've got to be kidding |
| you've | give her go all-out |
| young | a babe in the woods cut my teeth on greaser grow up have a fling hip hop (generation) new legs prairie oyster puppy love rob the cradle sow wild oats still wet behind the ears the tender age of young at heart yuppie |
| your | a black mark a bull in a china shop a little bird told me a pinch to grow an inch add insult to injury ahead of the game all-out all spruced up all your eggs in one basket |

[around the bend](#)
[as sick as a parrot](#)
[back out](#)
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[bang for your buck](#)
[bare your soul](#)
[beat your time](#)
[blow a kiss](#)
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[bomb around](#)
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[break a promise](#)
[break out in a rash](#)
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[burn up](#)
[bury the hatchet](#)
[call off the dogs](#)
[can't have it both ways](#)
[carry your weight](#)
[cast your vote](#)
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[catch your eye](#)
[change your mind](#)
[change your tune](#)
[charity begins at home](#)
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[check your bags](#)
[chill out](#)
[clean up your act](#)
[clean up your plate](#)
[close to the vest](#)
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[come down to earth](#)
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[get her way](#)

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[give you the gears](#)
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[go for broke](#)
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[go through the roof](#)
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[how goes it](#)
[hurl](#)
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[if looks could kill](#)
[in the back of my mind](#)
[in the doghouse](#)
[in your corner](#)

[in your mind's eye](#)
[in your prime](#)
[it has your name on it](#)
[it's not what you know, it's who you know](#)
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[laugh up your sleeve](#)
[laugh yourself silly](#)
[let this chance go by](#)
[live and let live](#)
[lose favor](#)
[lose it](#)
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[make your head spin](#)
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[mind your P's and Q's](#)
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[throw a tantrum](#)

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[you're only as good as your last shift](#)
[your lip](#)
[your number is up](#)
[your turn](#)

yourself

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[on your own](#)
[pull yourself together](#)
[push the envelope](#)
[put your best foot forward](#)
[roll with the punches](#)
[step on your dick](#)
[strike out on your own](#)
[the Lord helps those who help themselves](#)
[won't tell a soul](#)
[your own worst enemy](#)

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[pimple pole](#)
[preppy](#)
[skinhead](#)

youthful

[young at heart](#)

yuppie

[moppie](#)

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[Idiom Home](#)

Legend:

[B] bad language

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Idiom Definition Index Z

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| | down under |
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Idioms A

Each of the following is a link to a page containing ten idioms:

[a babe in arms](#)

[a basket case](#)

[a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush](#)

[a blank look](#)

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[a caution](#)

[a close shave](#)

[a daredevil](#)

[a dog's breakfast](#)

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[a fifth wheel](#)

[a foregone conclusion](#)

[a ghost of a chance](#)

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[a lady-killer](#)

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[a lucky streak](#)

[a nail-biter](#)

[a paltry sum](#)

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[a pocket of resistance](#)

[a regular guy](#)

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Idioms B

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[babe](#)

[back out](#)

[backside](#)

[bag and baggage](#)

[ball her \[B\]](#)

[bang on](#)

[bare your soul](#)

[bat five hundred](#)

[be there](#)

[beat it](#)

[beck and call](#)

[beg off](#)

[behind your back](#)

[bend over backwards](#)

[best of both worlds](#)

[better to have loved...](#)

[beyond the pale](#)

[big rig](#)

[bigmouth](#)

[bitch](#)

[bitten by the same bug](#)

[black out](#)

[blind date](#)

[blow chunks](#)

[blow sky high](#)

[blow you away](#)

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[booze](#)

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[bring home the bacon](#)

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[Idiom Home](#)

Legend:

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Idioms C

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[c'est la vie](#)

[call it quits](#)

[camel toes \[B\]](#)

[can't hold a candle](#)

[Canuck](#)

[carry out](#)

[cash and carry](#)

[cat's ass](#)

[catch as catch can](#)

[catch the wave](#)

[caught dead](#)

[cave in](#)

[change for the better](#)

[charley horse](#)

[check out](#)

[cheek](#)

[chestnut](#)

[chickens come home to roost](#)

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[chow](#)

[clam](#)

[clean up on](#)

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[Idiom Home](#)

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Idioms D

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[dark horse](#)

[date](#)

[dead even](#)

[dead set against](#)

[death wish](#)

[dense](#)

[did good](#)

[dig deep](#)

[dilly](#)

[dipstick](#)

[discombobulated](#)

[do a 180](#)

[do lunch](#)

[do up](#)

[dodge a bullet](#)

[dog tired](#)

[don't borrow trouble](#)

[don't go away mad; just go away](#)

[don't know which end is up](#)

[don't put all your eggs in one basket](#)

[done to a turn](#)

[double take](#)

[down for the count](#)

[down the line](#)

[down under](#)

[drag it out](#)

[draw attention to](#)

[dress down](#)

[drive around](#)

[drive you to drink](#)

[drop dead](#)

[drop off](#)

[drum up](#)

[dude](#)

[Dumpster diving](#)

[dying to know](#)

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[Idiom Home](#)

Legend:

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Idioms E

Each of the following is a link to a page containing ten idioms:

[each to his own](#)

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[even keel](#)

[ex](#)

[eyes peeled](#)

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[Idiom Home](#)

Legend:

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Idioms F

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[fast track](#)

[feast or famine](#)

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[fever breaks](#)

[fight fire with fire](#)

[fill me in](#)

[find fault](#)

[fingers the size of bananas](#)

[firm market](#)

[first pancake is always spoiled](#)

[fix you](#)

[flat broke](#)

[flip](#)

[flunk out](#)

[follow me](#)

[for a dog's age](#)

[for heaven's sake](#)

[for the life of me](#)

[fraidy cat](#)

[fresh](#)

[from hand to mouth](#)

[from the get-go](#)

[fuck that noise \[B\]](#)

[full of it \[B\]](#)

[funny in the head](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Legend:

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Idioms G

Each of the following is a link to a page containing ten idioms:

[gab](#)

[gathering dust](#)

[get a bang out of](#)

[get a life](#)

[get along](#)

[get back at](#)

[get down to brass tacks](#)

[get high](#)

[get into trouble](#)

[get lost](#)

[get off the ground](#)

[get out](#)

[get reamed out](#)

[get the green light](#)

[get this monkey off my back](#)

[get under my skin](#)

[get your act together](#)

[get your hopes up](#)

[get yours](#)

[give a black eye](#)

[give her credit](#)

[give it a rest](#)

[give me a dingle](#)

[give no quarter](#)

[give you a hard time](#)

[give you static](#)

[give your word](#)

[gnashing of teeth](#)

[go around with](#)

[go by the name of](#)

[go for](#)

[go hungry](#)

[go off the deep end](#)

[go over](#)

[go tell your mother she wants you](#)

[go to hell in a handbasket](#)

[go with the flow](#)

[going great guns](#)

[golly](#)

[good day](#)

[good head](#)

[goodies](#)

[gospel truth](#)

[got my eye on](#)

[got you by the short hairs](#)

[grandfather](#)

[greasy spoon](#)

[green with envy](#)

[groaty to the max](#)

[grow up](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms H

Each of the following is a link to a page containing ten idioms:

[hack/hacker](#)

[had it up to here](#)

[half-bad](#)

[half the battle](#)

[hand me down](#)

[hands are tied](#)

[hang out](#)

[happy as a peacock](#)

[hard feelings](#)

[hard sell](#)

[harum-scarum](#)

[hatchet man](#)

[have a case of](#)

[have a fling](#)

[have a say](#)

[have an inkling](#)

[have it made](#)

[have the final say](#)

[have you over](#)

[haywire](#)

[head is spinning](#)

[hear me out](#)

[heavy foot](#)

[hell to pay \[B\]](#)

[hey](#)

[high and mighty](#)

[higher than a kite](#)

[history](#)

[hit me](#)

[hit the bar](#)

[hit the road/trail](#)

[hold a candle](#)

[hold out for](#)

[hold your drinks](#)

[hole up](#)

[honest-to-goodness](#)

[hooker](#)

[horse feathers](#)

[hot and bothered](#)

[hot topic](#)

[how are you fixed for](#)

[how so](#)

[hungover](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms I

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[I smell where you're stepping](#)

[if the shoe fits, wear it](#)

[in a blue moon](#)

[in a jiffy](#)

[in a stew](#)

[in cahoots](#)

[in dribs and drabs](#)

[in his good books](#)

[in no time](#)

[in seventh heaven](#)

[in the bag](#)

[in the driver's seat](#)

[in the least](#)

[in the nick of time](#)

[in the slammer](#)

[in trouble](#)

[in your prime](#)

[into fitness/dancing etc.](#)

[it ain't over till it's over](#)

[it never fails](#)

[it works](#)

[it's a toss-up](#)

[it's in the bag](#)

[it's your turn](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms J

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[jack me around](#)

[jerk me around](#)

[jog your memory](#)

[joke is on you](#)

[jump at the chance](#)

[jump to conclusions](#)

[just a titch](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms K

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[kaput](#)

[keep an eye out](#)

[keep it up](#)

[keep them straight](#)

[keep you in mind](#)

[keep your head above water](#)

[kick a habit](#)

[kick the weed](#)

[kill off](#)

[kiss it off](#)

[knock](#)

[knock up \[B\]](#)

[know the ropes](#)

[kowitz](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms L

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[lady-killer](#)

[lap of luxury](#)

[last me](#)

[laughing](#)

[lay low](#)

[lay you](#)

[lean times](#)

[leave you holding the bag](#)

[lefty](#)

[let go of](#)

[let sleeping dogs lie](#)

[letter-perfect](#)

[life is not all guns and roses](#)

[light up](#)

[like a hawk](#)

[like nobody's business](#)

[lip off](#)

[live it up](#)

[loaded](#)

[long arm of the law](#)

[look down your nose at](#)

[look sharp](#)

[loose ends](#)

[lose it](#)

[lose your marbles](#)

[Lotus Land](#)

[lovelies](#)

[luck of the Irish](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms M

Each of the following is a link to a page containing ten idioms:

[mad about](#)

[make a big to-do](#)

[make a fuss](#)

[make a pitch](#)

[make do](#)

[make it](#)

[make mincemeat of](#)

[make sense](#)

[make tracks](#)

[make your bum hum](#)

[makes no difference](#)

[mayday \(m'aidez\)](#)

[mend fences](#)

[milk it](#)

[mind your manners](#)

[miss your chance](#)

[moneybags](#)

[mop the floor with us](#)

[Mother Nature](#)

[move over](#)

[Murphy's Law](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms N

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[nada](#)

[name-dropper](#)

[neck](#)

[nervous breakdown](#)

[new money](#)

[nitwit](#)

[no-frills](#)

[no matter how you slice it](#)

[no rhyme or reason](#)

[no way](#)

[not a question of](#)

[not long for this world](#)

[notch below](#)

[number one](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms O

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[odd one](#)

[off kilter](#)

[off the shelf](#)

[off your high horse](#)

[old coot](#)

[on a roll](#)

[on deck](#)

[on moral grounds](#)

[on parade](#)

[on speaking terms](#)

[on the brink](#)

[on the fringe](#)

[on the market](#)

[on the run](#)

[on the throne](#)

[on time](#)

[on your toes](#)

[one false move](#)

[onto something](#)

[open to question](#)

[out loud](#)

[out of here \(outa here\)](#)

[out of my head](#)

[out of sight, out of mind](#)

[out of the picture](#)

[out of tune \(music\)](#)

[out to lunch](#)

[over the hill](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

[Idiom Home](#)

Legend:

[B] bad language

Be interactive:

Idioms P

Each of the following is a link to a page containing ten idioms:

[P's and Q's](#)

[paint a picture](#)

[part company](#)

[pass out](#)

[patch things up](#)

[pay my respects](#)

[pay your dues](#)

[peek-a-boo](#)

[perfect stranger](#)

[phooey](#)

[pick up the pace](#)

[piddly](#)

[pig](#)

[pin money](#)

[pinhead](#)

[piss in the pickles \[B\]](#)

[pissed off \[B\]](#)

[plastered](#)

[play along](#)

[play havoc with](#)

[play on my heart strings](#)

[play the stock market](#)

[plump full](#)

[pointed questions](#)

[poontang \[B\]](#)

[popcorn brain](#)

[pound the pavement](#)

[powers that be](#)

[press into service](#)

[prima donna](#)

[public property](#)

[pull punches](#)

[pull up your socks](#)

[pure luck](#)

[put 'em up](#)

[put down](#)

[put it](#)

[put on the dog](#)

[put the kibosh on](#)

[put up or shut up](#)

[put your foot in your mouth](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms Q

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[quake in his boots](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms R

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[rabbit](#)

[railroad](#)

[raise your hand against](#)

[rap your knuckles](#)

[razzle-dazzle](#)

[read my lips](#)

[rearend](#)

[reject out of hand](#)

[ride his coattails](#)

[right on the money](#)

[ripped off](#)

[Rock](#)

[roll in the hay](#)

[root of the problem](#)

[row of beans](#)

[ruddy](#)

[run amuck](#)

[run-in](#)

[run out of patience](#)

[run up](#)

[rustbucket](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms S

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[sabre rattling](#)

[salty](#)

[save your skin/neck](#)

[say your piece](#)

[scaredy cat](#)

[scrape by](#)

[screw loose](#)

[second wind](#)

[see me for dust](#)

[seeing things](#)

[sell the farm](#)

[serious coin](#)

[set in her ways](#)

[set up shop](#)

[settle in](#)

[shake a habit](#)

[sharp](#)

[shekel](#)

[shit list \[B\]](#)

[shitty \[B\]](#)

[shoot-out](#)

[shooting match](#)

[shortchange](#)

[shove it \[B\]](#)

[showdown](#)

[shut my mouth](#)

[sicker than a dog](#)

[silver spoon](#)

[sit the fence](#)

[skaters](#)

[skoal](#)

[sleep it off](#)

[slip away](#)

[slow as molasses...](#)

[small talk](#)

[smidge/smidgeon](#)

[snap a picture](#)

[snowball](#)

[so small you had to back out to change your mind](#)

[soft pedal](#)

[solid as the Rock of Gibraltar](#)

[SOS](#)

[spaced out](#)

[spell disaster](#)

[spike the ball](#)

[spirit away](#)

[split up](#)

[spring for](#)

[square up](#)

[stand away](#)

[stand to lose](#)

[start out](#)

[stay in line](#)

[step aside](#)

[stick-in-the-mud](#)

[stiff](#)

[stone's throw](#)

[straight dope](#)

[strapped](#)

[strictly for the birds](#)

[string a line](#)

[strung out](#)

[suck it up](#)

[suicide pass](#)

[sure as shit](#)

[sweat it](#)

[swell](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

[Idiom Home](#)

Legend:

[B] bad language

Be interactive:

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Idioms T

Each of the following is a link to a page containing ten idioms:

[tail between his legs](#)

[take a dive](#)

[take a load off your feet](#)

[take a round out of](#)

[take advantage of](#)

[take charge](#)

[take in](#)

[take it like a man](#)

[take my hat off to](#)

[take on a new light](#)

[take sides](#)

[take the pulse](#)

[take up the slack](#)

[take your pulse](#)

[takes one to know one](#)

[talk it up](#)

[tangle with](#)

[tear a strip off](#)

[tell him off](#)

[test drive](#)

[that a boy/that a girl](#)

[that's life](#)

[the apple doesn't fall far from the tree](#)

[The Big Apple](#)

[the breaking point](#)

[the cart before the horse](#)

[the devil makes work for idle hands](#)

[the eye of the storm](#)

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[the sin bin \(hockey\)](#)

[the take](#)

[the upper hand](#)

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[there's something rotten in the state of Denmark](#)

[think straight](#)

[threads](#)

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[tons](#)

[toodles/toodle-oo](#)

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[touch it with a ten-foot pole](#)

[tough act to follow](#)

[tough times](#)

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[trifle with me](#)

[try your darndest](#)

[tune me out](#)

[turn in](#)

[turn the air blue](#)

[turn you on](#)

[twig to that](#)

[two cents' worth](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms U

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[U-turn](#)

[under my care](#)

[under way](#)

[up and coming](#)

[up shit creek \[B\]](#)

[up to par](#)

[upchuck](#)

[use up](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms V

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[vale of tears \(valley of tears\)](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms W

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[wack](#)

[wait up](#)

[walk a straight line](#)

[want a piece of me](#)

[wash out](#)

[watch me like a hawk](#)

[water-cooler talk](#)

[way to go](#)

[weather the storm](#)

[went through the roof](#)

[what a brain](#)

[what-if](#)

[what was I thinking of](#)

[what's new](#)

[wheels fall off](#)

[where do they get off](#)

[white knuckles](#)

[whup your ass](#)

[wimp](#)

[window of opportunity](#)

[wipe out](#)

[with bells on](#)

[without a word of a lie](#)

[woof your cookies](#)

[work cut out for](#)

[work things out](#)

[world is your oyster](#)

[wouldn't be caught dead](#)

[wreak havoc](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms X

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[X Generation](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms Y

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[ya](#)

[yin yang](#)

[you can thank your lucky stars](#)

[you need money to make money](#)

[your goose is cooked](#)

[yuppie](#)

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Idioms Z

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[zoo](#)

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