

PHRASAL VERBS WITH 'PICK'

phrasal verb	meaning	example
pick apart	criticise/find faults with something	Stop picking apart my food! Cook your own dinner if you don't like it.
pick at	scrape with your fingers, constantly criticise or eat very little	If you keep picking at that scab, it will never heal.
pick off	remove individuals from a group or pull something off a surface	Who has picked all the icing off the cake?
pick on	be nasty to someone	I was picked on when I was a child, now I'm handsome and successful. Who is laughing now?
pick out	select from many options	I picked out a nice blue dress to wear with my new boots.
pick through	look for something amongst a lot of things/ a mess	The investigators are picking through the wreckage for clues.
pick up	improve, collect or lift from the floor	Sales have picked up this month, I may have to hire more staff.
pick up after	clean someone else's mess	I've picked up after the kids all weekend, I deserve wine.
pick up on	notice something	My boyfriend picked up on my bad mood and bought me my favourite chocolates.

