

LIST OF IDIOMS WITH THE VERB GET

idiom	meaning	example
get a kick out of something	to enjoy something/get pleasure out of something	I really get a kick out of fishing, I've been twice this week already.
get a lump in one's throat	the tight feeling in your throat due to sadness/emotion	We had lumps in our throats whilst watching that documentary on dairy farming.
get along swimmingly	be friendly with another person, get on well	Don't worry about the kids, they're getting along swimmingly.
get back together	resume a relationship with a previous partner	We'll never ever get back together.
get cold feet	get nervous and change one's mind about doing something	I didn't compete in the singing competition, I saw the audience and got cold feet.
get dolled up	dress in posh/elegant/fancy clothes	We should get dolled up and go to the casino.
get down on one knee	a marriage proposal	I'm going to take her to the top of the Eifel Tower then get down on one knee.
get down to business	start doing something with seriousness and determination	Let's have a quick coffee break, then we'll get down to business.
get engaged	a promise to get married	I've been with Reece for 12 years, but we're not engaged.
get fired	be dismissed from your job	Did you hear about Katie? She got fired for stealing.
get hitched	get married	I'm never getting hitched, I don't believe in marriage.
get in someone's hair	annoy someone	My little brother is getting in my hair, I'm trying to revise for my exams.
get into the swing of things	become accustomed to/comfortable with something	I've been in my new job for a few weeks now. I'm just starting to get into the swing of things.
get it in the neck	be severely told off/punished	Stop messing around! If our project isn't ready tomorrow, we'll get it in the neck.
get off on the wrong foot	begin a friendship badly	I always get off on the wrong foot with people. I think I come across a little arrogant.
get off one's high horse	stop acting like you are better than others	My sister needs to get off her high horse. She can't lecture me about skiving school.
get off someone's back	stop annoying/bothering someone	Sarah should get off Harry's back. He'll finish with her if she doesn't stop being annoying.
get off to a flying start	make a successful start	My juice bar didn't get off to a flying start, but it's gaining popularity.
get on like a house on fire	quickly become good friends and have a lot in common	We all got on like a house on fire at the dinner party.
get on one's nerves	annoy/irritate someone	My boyfriend got on my nerves, so I locked him in the conservatory.

idiom	meaning	example
get one over on someone	proving you are better than someone else by winning	My housemate keeps stealing my milk. She can't get one over on me, I've spat in it!
get one up on someone	gain an advantage over another person	I need to score today. If I can get one up on Cody, Laura will go out with me.
get one's goat	annoy or anger someone	It gets Mr Harrison's goat if you arrive late.
get one's hands dirty	do hard/manual work or something illegal	Karl will help you dig the hole, he loves getting his hands dirty.
get one's knickers in a twist	become angry/upset about something minor	Don't get your knickers in a twist. I'm only 5 minutes late.
get one's money's worth	get good value for the price you paid	I recommend booking Lilly's party at soft play land, you certainly get your money's worth.
get one's skates on	hurry up, be quick, stop procrastinating	Tell your brother to get his skates on. If he's late again, he'll be punished.
get one's teeth into something	get involved in a project/job/task etc. with great determination and effort	I really got my teeth into renovating the house. I can't wait to do it again.
get out of hand	a situation gets out of control	The party got out of hand very quickly. The Police arrived and shut it down.
get out of the wrong side of the bed	said to a person who is angry/irritable/bad-tempered	Sorry for shouting at you this morning, I must have got out of the wrong side of bed.
get serious with someone	not a casual relationship, an important relationship	George wants to go on holiday together, I'm not ready to get serious yet.
get someone good and proper	play a trick on or scare someone	M girlfriend tricked me into believing we were having triplets, she got me good and proper.
get someone's back up	make someone angry	Tilly is getting everyone's backs up. It wouldn't surprise me if she is removed from the panel.
get something off one's chest	tell someone your problems, worries, a confession etc.	Tell me what's wrong! You'll feel better when you get it off your chest.
get something off the ground	start operating/functioning	We need to get this project off the ground ASAP.
get/set the ball rolling	start a process	I want to sell my house. I'll call the estate agent and get the ball rolling tomorrow.
get the boot/get given the boot	get fired from your job	If you don't stop mucking around and do some work, you'll get the boot.
get the hump	become angry	Don't tease the dog, she gets the hump if you take her food.
get/give the lowdown	hear/tell someone the most important truthful facts	I heard Pete and Marge are getting divorced, get the lowdown when you see him at the footie.
get the sack	be dismissed from your job	If you continue to be late, you'll get the sack.
get the show on the road	begin/start doing something	I'll grab my coat and we can get the show on the road.
get the wrong end of the stick	misunderstand something	Holly has got the wrong end of the stick. It's not a date, just two friends having coffee.

idiom	meaning	example
get to grips with something	comprehend, understand the situation, start to deal with a problem	I've blitzed the bathroom, now I'll get to grips with the kitchen.
get wind of something	become aware of something (especially a secret)	The king got wind of the enemy's plan to invade and started assembling his troops.
if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen	if you can't cope with the pressure, stop doing it	My firm is the best in the UK. If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen.
like getting blood from stone	very difficult to get something from someone	Good luck trying to get your money back from Michael. It's like getting blood from a stone.

