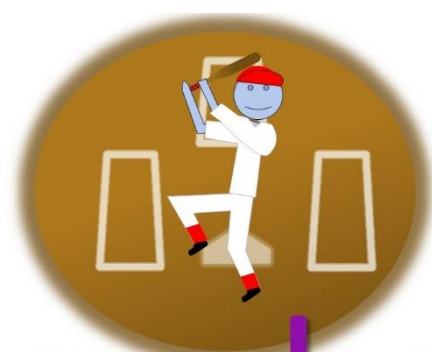


BASEBALL IDIOMS

idiom	meaning	example
ballpark figure	an approximate figure	The ballpark figure is 500 guests, it could be a lot more.
bat for someone	support/help/defend someone	Do you think you could bat for me and speak to your boss? I really need this job.
bat for the other team	homosexual	Do you think Stanley bats for the other team? He's never had a girlfriend.
drop the ball	make a mistake, neglect someone/something	I dropped the ball! The buyer pulled out last minute, I'm in big trouble.
first base	kissing	I've been flirting outrageously with a guy at work. I think we'll reach first base soon.
hit a home run	do something that is very successful	Our latest product is selling like crazy. We've hit a home run.
in full swing	operating fully, the level of activity is at its highest	I love this time of year; the football season is in full swing.
keep one's eye on the ball	stay focused	We need to keep our eye on the ball, our final exams start in a month.
knock it out of the park	do something very well	He needs to knock it out of the park with his next few shots.
off base	incorrect, mistaken	You seem a little off base today class. Perhaps because we're nearing the end of term.
on a winning streak	had lots of recent successes	I might buy a lottery ticket, I'm on a winning streak at the moment.
on the ball	alert, focused, efficient	You haven't been on the ball recently. Are you having problems at home?

idiom	meaning	example
pitch an idea	offer ideas to be discussed	I pitched a few holiday ideas to the missus, but she didn't like any of them.
play hardball	be ruthless and do anything necessary to get what you want	Let's play hardball with the suspect. We need to find out where he dumped the body.
right off the bat	immediately, from the beginning	I knew right off the bat it was a bad idea.
step up to the plate	come forward and take responsibility especially in times of crisis	Two employees have quit. I need everyone to step up to the plate to ensure orders are done.
strike a chord	trigger a reaction/emotion/response	I'm hoping my article on knife crime will strike a chord with younger readers.
strike out	put a line through text or do something new	Please strike out any food you have an allergy to.
take a rain check	a nice way of refusing an invitation on this particular occasion	Can I take a rain check on drinks after work? I've had a really tough day.
three strikes and you're out	after you commit three offences, you will be punished	I need to behave at school this term. They are bringing in a three strikes and you're out rule.
throw a curveball	surprise someone with a problem/situation/issue etc. which causes difficulties	She threw me a curveball and told me she was 4 months pregnant.
touch base	communicate with someone	The camping trip was great, I got to touch base with some old friends.



baseball