

CARDS/GAMBLING IDIOMS AND SAYINGS

idiom	meaning	example
above board	legal, honest	I've got a new business opportunity. It's all above board, would you like to know more.
across the board	including everything and everyone in a particular group	New punctuality rules apply across the board. If you're late, your wages will be docked.
call a spade a spade	talk about something truthfully even if it's not polite	Mickey calls a spade a spade. He's a bit blunt but at least he's honest.
cash in one's chips	quit or exchange your winnings for money	The business isn't making money, we should cash in our chips in and move on.
chip in	each person contributes labour/money to a cause	If you have the party at your house, we'll chip in with the cleaning.
have an ace up one's sleeve	have a secret advantage	I'll get the job. I have an ace up my sleeve; my dad is friends with the boss.
hit the jackpot	the best prize, great success	I found an antique vase worth millions in my attic. I've hit the jackpot.
hold all the aces	have all the power/advantages	If Kieron gets promoted, he'll hold all the aces. He'll be a nightmare to work for.
put one's cards on the table	be honest and open about one's feelings/ideas/intentions	He put his cards on the table and told me he didn't love me anymore.
under the table	in secret as it's usually illegal	I gave the interviewer some money under the table. Hopefully, I get the job.



gambling