

COLD IDIOMS AND EXPRESSIONS

idiom	meaning	example
as cold as ice	unfriendly or very cold	Your hands are as cold as ice, put your gloves on.
blood runs cold	be terrified/frightened	The screams of the trapped workers made everyone's blood run cold.
blow hot and cold	keep changing your attitudes towards something	Ryan keeps blowing hot and cold. One minute he loves me, the next he ignores me.
catch one's death (of cold)	become ill with a serious cold	Tell Sammy to dry her hair before she goes out, she'll catch her death of cold.
cold hard cash	physical cash in your hand	Someone offered me cold hard cash for my old table and chairs.
cold sweat	perspiration caused by anxiety/fear/shock/pain etc.	I woke up in a cold sweat, I had a nightmare about my exams.
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.
give someone the cold shoulder	ignore someone/be unfriendly on purpose	The girlfriend is giving me the cold shoulder. I must have done something wrong.
go cold turkey	completely stop taking a substance	I've quit smoking. It was easy, I just went cold turkey.
in cold blood	deliberately, ruthlessly, without emotion	Joey was killed in cold blood whilst walking home from a party.
in the cold light of day	think about emotional matters when you are calmer	In the cold light of day, I think I overreacted. I must call him and apologise.

idiom	meaning	example
leave out in the cold	exclude, not informed	Don't leave me out in the cold, tell me what's going on!
out cold	unconscious/in a deep sleep	The kids are out cold, they've been running around in the sun all day.
stone cold	very cold	I woke up this morning and the rabbit was stone cold in his hutch.
stone cold sober	not intoxicated, completely sober	I couldn't get drunk last night, I was stone cold sober all night.
throw cold water on	discourage, reduce enthusiasm	I hate my job; my boss is always throwing cold water on my ideas.

