

HEAD IDIOMS AND EXPRESSIONS

idiom	meaning	example
at loggerheads	involved in a conflict/dispute	The company are at loggerheads over what to do with the leftover money.
bang one's head against a brick wall	try to achieve something that is impossible to achieve	Stop banging your head against a brick wall, you'll understand equations eventually.
big headed	an arrogant person	My cousin is a top actor. He's really down to earth and not big headed.
can't make head nor tail of something	can't understand/make sense of something	We can't make head nor tail of our neighbours. One minute they're friendly, the next, they ignore us.
come to a head	a situation reaches a climax	Tensions came to a head in the town and violence erupted.
drum something into someone's head	tell/teach by frequently repeating until you remember/understand	Miss has drummed all the formulas into our heads ready for the test.
egghead	an intellectual person	Brian is such an egghead. He gets full marks on every test.
give someone a heads up	warn someone of impending difficulty/danger	Can you give Leon a heads up if the fuel gets below 20%?
go to one's head	something makes you feel more important than others	Now Richard is in charge, I'm afraid the power will go to his head.
have a head for heights	someone isn't afraid of heights	I have a head for heights so I'm starting my own window cleaning business.

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have eyes in the back of one's head	someone who knows everything you are doing	I can't cheat in Miss Johnson's class, she has eyes in the back of her head.
have one's head in the clouds	someone is unaware/living in a dream world	Leon's head is in the clouds, he won't be a millionaire by the time he's 25.
have one's head screwed on	be sensible, have common sense	My son has his head screwed on, but my daughter has a crazy side.
head and shoulders above	superior, better than	We won 7-0, we were head and shoulders above the other team.
head for the hills	flee, quickly depart	I'm going to take my dad's bottle of rum and head for the hills.
head over heels	madly in love	I was head over heels for her, but she broke my heart.
head start	start earlier than the others or have an advantage	I've got a head start over the other competitors as I've worked for the company before.
headhunt	persuade a person from another company to work for you	I'm going to headhunt someone for the manager's position. I need someone with experience
heads will roll	someone will get in trouble and be severely punished for doing something bad	The case didn't go to court as vital evidence was destroyed. Heads will roll.
hit the nail on the head	describe someone/something exactly correct	Craig hit the nail on the head when he said we need to rebrand the company.
in one's head	you have imagined something	No one hates you! It's all in your head.
in over one's head	involved in a situation that has become too difficult, risky	Layla wants marriage and kids. I'm too young, I'm in over my head.

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keep one's head above water	survive in difficult times, especially with money	The first part of the year was difficult, now we're keeping our heads above water.
like a bear with a sore head	annoyed, grumpy, irritable	Get me a coffee! I'm like a bear with a sore head today.
off the top of one's head	recall something from memory	I've got a new number, but I can't remember it off the top of my head.
old head on young shoulders	a young person who acts/speaks like an older person	I trust Calum not to drink and drive, he's an old head on young shoulders.
on one's own head be it	you take the consequences of your reckless actions	I told him not to eat shellfish as he's allergic. If he does, on his own head be it.
pig-headed	someone is stubborn and refuses to change their mind	My husband is so pig-headed. He won't let me drive as he thinks women are bad drivers.
scratch one's head	be puzzled	Everyone is scratching their heads. No one can figure out the new photocopier.

