

Idiom	Meaning	Example
A piece of cake	Something very easy to do	The math test was a piece of cake.
Bite the bullet	To endure a painful experience with courage	I had to bite the bullet and tell my boss I was resigning.
Break a leg	Good luck	Before the performance, the director told the actors to break a leg.
Hit the nail on the head	To describe exactly what is causing a situation or problem	You really hit the nail on the head with that analysis.
Burn the midnight oil	To work late into the night	I had to burn the midnight oil to finish the report.
Cost an arm and a leg	Very expensive	Buying a new car can cost an arm and a leg.
Cry over spilled milk	To lament what cannot be undone	I made a mistake, but there's no use crying over spilled milk.
Cut to the chase	Get to the point	Let's cut to the chase and discuss the main issue.
Don't count your chickens before they hatch	Don't make plans for something that might not happen	She's already planning her vacation, but she hasn't been approved for leave yet. Don't count your chickens before they hatch.
Fish out of water	Someone who is out of their element	At the fancy party, he felt like a fish out of water.
Green thumb	A talent for gardening	My grandmother has a green thumb; her garden is always flourishing.
Head in the clouds	Someone who is not paying attention	John always has his head in the clouds during math class.
Jump on the bandwagon		After seeing the success, many companies decided to jump on the

	To adopt a popular activity or trend	bandwagon and create their own version of the product.
Kick the bucket	To die	He's not going to kick the bucket anytime soon; he's in good health.
Let the cat out of the bag	To reveal a secret	Sarah accidentally let the cat out of the bag about the surprise party.
Miss the boat	To miss an opportunity	I missed the boat on getting tickets to the concert; they sold out in minutes.
On the ball	Someone who is alert and quick to understand	The new employee is really on the ball; she learned the job in record time.
Out of the blue	Unexpectedly	He called me out of the blue to invite me to the wedding.
Put all your eggs in one basket	To invest everything in one plan	Diversify your investments; don't put all your eggs in one basket.
Rain cats and dogs	Heavy rain	We had to cancel the picnic because it started raining cats and dogs.
Spill the beans	To disclose a secret	I won't spill the beans about the surprise party; I promise.
Take the bull by the horns	To face a problem directly	Instead of avoiding the issue, she decided to take the bull by the horns and address it.
Under the weather	Feeling sick	I can't come to work today; I'm feeling a bit under the weather.
Wild goose chase	A futile pursuit	Searching for his lost keys in the park turned into a wild goose chase.
X marks the spot	The exact location	We finally found the treasure; X marks the spot on the map.

You can't have your cake and eat it too	You can't have everything	If you spend all your money on clothes, you won't have any left for entertainment. You can't have your cake and eat it too.
Zip your lip	Be quiet	The teacher told the students to zip their lips during the exam.
A dime a dozen	Very common	Those souvenirs are a dime a dozen; you can find them anywhere.
Back to the drawing board	To start over	The project didn't work out, so it's back to the drawing board.
Cold feet	Nervous or hesitant	He got cold feet and decided not to go through with the plan.
Don't cry over spilled milk	Don't waste time worrying about things that have already happened and cannot be changed.	Yes, you made a mistake, but don't cry over spilled milk. Learn from it and move on.
Elephant in the room	An obvious problem that people are avoiding	The financial issues were the elephant in the room during the family meeting.
Feather in one's cap	An achievement to be proud of	Winning the championship was a feather in his cap.
Get the ball rolling	To start a process	Let's get the ball rolling on this project; we've wasted enough time.
Hit the hay	To go to bed	I'm tired; I think it's time to hit the hay.
In hot water	In trouble	He found himself in hot water after missing the deadline.
Jumping on the bandwagon	Joining others in doing something popular or trendy	Many companies are jumping on the bandwagon and incorporating sustainable practices.

Kill two birds with one stone	Accomplish two things with a single action	By working from home, she could kill two birds with one stone—save time on commuting and spend more time with her family.
Leave no stone unturned	Examine every possible option	The detective promised to leave no stone unturned in the investigation.
Make a long story short	Summarize a lengthy explanation	To make a long story short, we missed the train and had to take a taxi to the airport.
Nip it in the bud	Stop a problem at an early stage	When you notice a conflict arising, it's best to nip it in the bud before it gets out of hand.
Out of the frying pan and into the fire	Escaping one problem, only to find yourself in another	I thought changing jobs would solve my stress, but it was like jumping out of the frying pan and into the fire.
Play it by ear	Handle a situation without a definite plan	We don't have a schedule; let's just play it by ear and see where the day takes us.
Quick as a cat	Very fast or agile	The new sports car can accelerate as quickly as a cat.
Raining buckets	Heavy rain	We had to postpone the outdoor event because it was raining buckets.
See the light at the end of the tunnel	To see signs of improvement or the end of a difficult situation	After months of hard work, I finally see the light at the end of the tunnel with this project.
The ball is in your court	It's your turn to make a decision or take action	I've given you all the information; now the ball is in your court.
Up in the air	Uncertain or undecided	The date for the meeting is still up in the air; we need to confirm everyone's availability.

Veg out	To relax or do nothing	After a busy week, I just want to veg out on the couch and watch movies.
When pigs fly	Something that will never happen	If I ever voluntarily go skydiving, you can expect me to do so when pigs fly.

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