

Colloquial/Slang English

A-L

A	Argue the toss	Fierce, long lasting argument
	Argy-bargy	Arguing, maybe physical conflict as well
	All to cock	It's all gone wrong
	All to pot	Same as above
	Screaming abdabs	Gone crazy
	AC/DC	Bisexual
B	Backhander	Bribe
	Back in the day	A very long time ago
	Bad egg	Bad man: he's a bad egg
	Bang on	Absolutely spot on/accurate
	Bang on about	Keep talking about the same thing
	Bang out of order	Completely in the wrong: he's bang out of order
	Barnet	Your hair (Barnet Fair CRS)
	Barney	Having an argument, row
	Beeb	The BBC: also known as Auntie
	Beer goggles	How the opposite sex look better when you're drunk
	Bevvy/booze	Alcoholic drink
	Blighty	An old fashioned name for England
	Boffin	Archetypal scientist/academic Having little common sense
	The bollocks	The best
	Box clever	Work in a clever manner
	The business	Something that's really good
	Butcher's	Look (butcher's hook CRS)
C	Carry the can	To take responsibility for something
	Chap	Informal name for man
	Char	Tea
	Chat up	Flirt with the opposite sex
	Cheap as chips	Very cheap
	Cheers	Salutation when drinking alcohol
	Chelsea tractor	Big 4x4 vehicle
	Chick flick	Movie for women
	Chick lit	Books for women – from literature
	Chocolate teapot	Something which is useless: like a chocolate teapot
	Chuffed	Pleased with something
	Clapped out	Ruined, of no further use
	Claret	Blood
	Codger	Informal name for old man
	Currant bun	The sun CRS
	Curtains	The end of something
	Cushy number	An easy job
D	Daft as a brush	Stupid
	Dead cert	Absolute favourite as in horse racing
	Dear John	A Dear John letter is a note from a woman telling her man she's left
	Deep shit	In really serious trouble

	Diamond geezer	A really good bloke Cockney/London
	Dog and bone	Telephone CRS
	Do me a favour	You're laughing at me
	Donkey's years	A very long time
	Down in the dumps	Depressed
	Dropdead gorgeous	Really attractive
	Ducking and diving	Answer to question, 'What have you been doing?' They don't want to answer clearly Up to no good perhaps
	Dosh	Money, also dough, also bread, also wedge, also cash, also ackers, also lolly, also readies
E	Easy touch	To fool someone easily
	Effing and blinding	Swearing
	Earned	Good earner Made money easily
	Eager beaver	Someone who's very enthusiastic
F	Fancy	Fancy someone think they're attractive
	Fiddle	To cheat someone as in, he's on the fiddle
	Fit	Normally physically fit, but also really attractive, as in, she's fit
	Fit as a butcher's dog	Physically very fit
	Fitted up	To be convicted of something you haven't done Also to be framed
	Flicks	Movies
	Flying fuck	Couldn't give a flying fuck Couldn't care at all
	For crying out loud	Expression of frustration
	For Pete's sake	As above
	Forty winks	To have a nap, short sleep
	Putting your face on	Women putting on make-up, also putting on slap, putting on your warpaint
G	Gaffer	The boss
	Gannet	Greedy eater (after the bird)
	Geek	Man obsessed with technology as in, he's a computer geek
	Gee-gees	Horses (racing terminology as in, betting on the gee-gees)
	Get hitched	Get married
	Gift of the gab	To have a smooth way with words, a charmer
	Girlie mag	Pornographic magazine
	Give it some welly	Give it all you've got, hundred percent effort, as in, Go on, give it some welly
	Go ballistic	Get really, really angry
	Good egg	A good man
	Go straight	To work honestly after being in crime
	Go to the dogs	To go downhill in life as in, he's gone to the dogs. His life is at rock bottom
	Gridlock	When traffic is jammed up completely
H	Hair of the dog	Having a first drink, the next day, after having been drunk
	Happy bunny	Someone who's exceptionally happy
	Hen pecked	A man whose wife dominates him as in, he's hen pecked. We also say, She wears the trousers
	Her indoors	The wife
	Hit the hay	Also, hit the sack to go to bed (a bit old fashioned)

I	In deep shit	In really bad trouble
	Inside	In prison
	Insider dealing	Helping a friend by shares, using inside/privileged information
	In the altogether	Naked also in your birthday suit, also starkers,
	In the club	Pregnant also, she's got a bun in the oven, also up the duff, also knocked up
	In the doghouse	No one's speaking to you because you've done something bad
	Item	A couple who are very close, as in, they're an item
J	Jack it in	Stop doing something, usually leaving a job
	Jack the Lad	A young man (usually) who's crafty, lives on the edge, takes risks (usually applying to behaviour with women, girls)
	Jesus wept!	Exclamation of frustration
	Jobsworth	Someone who's useless at work because they always do as they're told
	Jock	Scotsman
	Josh	Playing around as in, he's just joshing
K	Keep your pecker up	Don't allow yourself to get down hearted when things go wrong
	Keep your hair on Kip	Don't lose your temper as in, alright, keep your hair on Sleep
	Knackered	Worn out either a machine or a person
	Knee high to a grasshopper	When you were young, and very small
	Kushty	Everything's looking good, going well
L	Leftfield	Unusual thinking, as in, that's a bit leftfield
	Leg it	To get away fast, to run away fast
	Legit	Legitimate/legal
	Legless	Really drunk, unable to stand up
	Like a pig in straw/ shit	Very happy with the situation/circumstances
	Like it or lump it	It's going to be like this like it or lump it
	Liquid lunch	A lunch which is just alcohol and no food
	Load of crap/ load of bollocks	Rubbish, absolute rubbish
	Loo	Toilet, as in I've got to go to the loo
	Lost it	Lost your temper badly, as in, he's really lost it

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