

Do you know what “kip”, “knackered” and “going Dutch” mean? They’re three fairly common English slang expressions. Here are 50 useful English slang expressions to describe going out at night.

PLANNING THE NIGHT

NOT BE BOTHERED

If you “can’t be bothered” to do something, you don’t want to do it, often because you don’t have the energy or you’re feeling lazy.
“I can’t be bothered to go into town – let’s just go to the pub round the corner.”

KIP

A short sleep, often in the afternoon.
“I think I’ll have a kip before we head out.”

TO GET DOLLED UP

To put on nice clothes for a special occasion (usually for women).
“I’m going to get dolled up for the party.”

TO PUT YOUR FACE ON

To put make-up on (usually for women).
“Wait! I’ve got to put my face on!”

TO HAVE PRE-DRINKS

To have some drinks at home before going to a club or pub (often as a way of saving money!). Also, “to pre-drink”.
“Let’s have a few pre-drinks before going out!”

MAKE IT

If you can’t “make it” somewhere, you aren’t able to go there.
“Thanks for the invite, but I don’t think I can make it as I’ve got a conference to go to the next day.”

MEETING UP

A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES

People often use this expression when they

meet up with someone they haven’t seen for a long time.

“You’re a sight for sore eyes! Last time I saw you was at Brad’s wedding.”

YOU MUST BE MAD / YOU MUST BE MENTAL

People often use these expressions to say that they’d never do the thing they’re talking about. It’s a way of emphasising what you want to say.
“You must be mad if you think I’m going to drink that”, which means, “I’d never drink that!”

TO HANG OUT

If you “hang out” with people, you spend time with them, chatting, drinking, socialising, etc.
“We’re going to hang out with Jamie and Harriet before going to the party if you fancy coming along.”

TO TAKE A CHILL PILL / TO CHILL OUT

If you tell someone to “chill out”, you’re telling them to relax and be calm.
A: If we don’t leave soon, we’ll be late.
B: Chill out! We’ll be fine.

TO BE GUTTED

If you’re “gutted” about something, you’re unhappy and disappointed about it.
“I’m gutted they cancelled the concert. I was really looking forward to it.”

AT THE RESTAURANT

TO BE STARVING

To be really hungry.
“I hope the food comes soon. I’m starving.”

TO EAT A HORSE

If say you could “eat a horse”, you’re saying that you’re really hungry.
“Let’s order now. I’m so hungry I could eat a horse.”

TO SCOFF

If someone “scoffs” food, they eat all of it very quickly.
A: I didn’t get any of the starters.

B: That’s ‘cos Bryan scoffed them all.

TO WOLF DOWN

To eat food very quickly.
“You must have been hungry. You wolfed that pizza down in seconds!”

TO BE STUFFED

If you’re “stuffed”, you feel full because you’ve eaten too much.
“I never should have had that dessert. I’m stuffed.”

TO GO DUTCH

To divide a bill equally between the people who are there. For example, if there are two people, each pays 50% of the bill.
“Let’s go Dutch!”

TO DO A RUNNER

To leave a bar or restaurant without paying the bill.
“Quick, the waiter isn’t looking! Let’s do a runner!”

AT THE BAR/CLUB

KITTY

An amount of money that everyone contributes to and that is used to pay for drinks, etc.
“Everybody has to put ten euros into the kitty.”

TO SPLASH OUT

To spend a lot of money, often in order to celebrate something.
“Let’s get a bottle of champagne. I feel like splashing out.”

TO DOWN IN ONE

To drink all the contents of a glass without stopping or pausing.
“Look, everyone! I’m going to down this pint of beer in one.”

HIT THE SPOT

If something “hits the spot”, it’s perfect for you.
“Mmm... That cold beer really hit the spot.”

TO BE WASTED / PLASTERED / HAMMERED / SLAUGHTERED / PISSED (UK)

To be very drunk

“He can’t even stand up. He’s wasted!”

NOTE: In Britain “to be pissed” means to be drunk, but in the USA it means “to be angry”.

TO HAVE HAD ONE TOO MANY

If you say that someone has had “one too many”, you’re saying that they’ve had too much alcohol. The “one” refers to a glass of beer / wine / whisky, etc.
“You should go home. I think you’ve had one too many.”

TO GET THE DRINKS IN

To buy drinks for everyone in the group you’re with.
“I think it’s my turn to get the drinks in. What are you having?”

ROUND

A “round” of drinks is a selection of drinks for everyone in the group you’re with.
“I’ll get this round! / It’s my round!”

TIGHT / STINGY

If you say that someone is “tight”, you’re saying that they never spend money.
“He never gets anyone else a drink. He’s just so tight.”

TO SPLIT THE COST

If you “split the cost” of something, you share the cost, often dividing it in half.
“Let’s split the cost!”

THE PARTY

HOUSE-WARMING PARTY / HOUSE-WARMING

A party someone has soon after moving into a new house/flat.
“We moved in last Thursday, and we’re having the house-warming party on Saturday night if you want to come along.”

TO GATECRASH

To go to a party you weren’t invited to.
“They gatecrashed a party in the town centre.”

Objective: To learn some English slang.

Think about it!

Do you use a lot of slang when speaking in your language? In what situations do you use slang, and in what situations should you avoid it? Is English slang difficult to learn? Why? Why not? Why is it a good idea to learn English slang?

TO ROCK

If something "rocks", it's great / fantastic.

"This party rocks!"

TO BE AWESOME

To be great / fantastic.

"The party was awesome!"

TO BE LAME / TO SUCK

If something is "lame" or if it "sucks", it's terrible.

"This party is totally lame!"

TO CHECK OUT

If you tell A to "check something (or someone) out", you're telling A to look at that thing or person.

"Check out that guy on the dance floor – he's really cute."

TALENT

This word is used to refer to attractive people in general.

A: Shall we go?

B: No way! There's loads of talent here.

LOOKING FOR LOVE

TO BE ON THE PULL

If someone is "on the pull", they're looking for "romance".

"Mark split up with his girlfriend last week so I think he's on the pull."

FIT / HOT

Good-looking

"Wow! That guy over there is really fit!"

TO CHAT SOMEONE UP

To talk to someone in a playful, fun way because you think they're attractive.

"I think that girl was trying to chat me up!"

TO BE IN LUCK

If you're "in luck", someone seems to be interested in you.

"I think I'm in luck – he asked for my phone number."

TO SNOG

To kiss someone intimately and for a long time.

"They were snogging."

TO FANCY SOMEONE

To find someone attractive.

"I really fancy him. I think he's gorgeous!"

GOING HOME

TO HIT THE ROAD / TO GET GOING / TO GET MOVING / TO MAKE TRACKS

To leave a place / to go home

"I think I'm going to hit the road. I've got to get up early tomorrow."

TO HAVE A BLAST

If you "have a blast", you have a great time.

"I had a blast last night! Let's do it again sometime!"

KNACKERED / SHATTERED

If you're "knackered", you're very tired.

"I'm going home. I'm knackered!"

TO HIT THE SACK / HAY

To go to bed

"I can't wait to get home and hit the sack."

TO SHARE A CAB

If you "share a cab" with someone who is going in the same direction as you, you both take the same taxi and divide the cost.

"I don't fancy walking home. Why don't we share a cab?"

THE NEXT DAY

NOT REMEMBER A THING

If you "can't remember a thing", you can't remember anything.

"Did I make a fool of myself last night? I can't remember a thing."

THUMPING HEADACHE

If you've got a "thumping headache", your head is hurting a lot.

"I've got a thumping headache. Have you got an aspirin?"

TO FACE THE MUSIC

To deal with the consequences of something bad that you've done.

"I got drunk and swore at my boss last night. On Monday I'll have to face the music."

TO TAKE IT EASY

To relax.

"I've got a terrible hangover. I think I'm gonna go and lie down and take it easy." ☆

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