

# **A Dictionary of Slang**

**From Dave Sperling's ESL Cafe**

**<http://www.eslcafe.com>**

**Learn the words no one ever teaches you.**

This small collection of slang words was compiled by Dave Sperling, a wonderful ESL teacher who maintains an extensive website, Dave's ESL Café. It's worth a trip to <http://www.eslcafe.com> to look at the whole website.

Warning!

You may hear these words and wonder what they mean. Some of them are very common. Some are only used by a few people. Some are very bad words and you might offend other people if you use them. At work, it is especially important not to use these words. So be careful.

As we say in English, it is better to be safe, than sorry.

Invitation!

But many of these words are also fun. You can learn a lot about our culture by understanding the slang people use. So, enjoy this dictionary.

Go bonkers learning some killer new words.

**airhead**: stupid person.

"Believe it or not, Dave can sometimes act like an **airhead!**"

**amigo**: friend (from Spanish).

"I met many **amigos** at Dave's ESL Cafe."

**antifreeze**: alcohol.

"I'm going to need a lot of **antifreeze** tonight!"

**armpit**: dirty, unappealing place.

"This cheap motel is an absolute **armpit!**"

**ass [offensive] (1)**: backside.

"I fell on my **ass** on the ski slopes."

**ass (2)**: an unworthy and hated person, donkey.

"I cannot be friends when you act like an **ass.**"

**awesome**: great and impressive.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is truly **awesome!**"

**baby boomer**: a person born between the 1940s and the early 1960s.

"Dave Sperling was born in 1961, so he's considered a **baby boomer.**"

**ball (1)**: a fun time.

"I really had a **ball** in Dave's ESL class."

**ball [offensive] (2)**: a testicle.

"After getting kicked in the **balls**, his voice seemed much higher."

**bang**: a powerful effect.

"Japanese sake really has a **bang!**"

**barf (noun and verb)** vomit.

"My dog **barfed** all over the carpet." "Don't step on the **barf!**"

**bazillion**: an infinite number of something.

"Has Dennis really taught a **bazillion** students?"

**b-ball**: basketball.

"Do you wanna play **b-ball** with me?"

**beans:** money.

"I've worked for this company for ten years, but I still don't have **beans.**"

**beat:** tired.

"I'm really **beat** because I was awake all night."

**beemer:** a BMW.

"He wants to buy a **beemer** when he makes more money."

**biggie:** something important.

"I was hoping to get my homework completed, but it's no **biggie.**"

**biker:** a motorcycle rider.

"Dave used to be a **biker** until he got into a serious motorcycle accident."

**bitch [offensive] (1):** a very unpleasant woman.

"My boss can be such a **bitch** sometimes."

**bitch [offensive] (2):** complain.

"Stop **bitching** and finish your homework!"

**bitchy [offensive]:** moody.

"I like my friend Steve, even though he can be really **bitchy.**"

**bod:** body.

"Stalone has a great **bod!**"

**bonkers; go bonkers:** crazy.

"If Dave works too hard, he sometimes goes slightly **bonkers!**"

**booboo:** a mistake.

"I made a **booboo** on the last question of the exam."

**boob tube:** television.

"Benjamin is always in front of the **boob tube.**"

**booze:** alcohol.

"The ESL party was fun, even though there wasn't any **booze.**"

**bread:** money.

"Can I borrow some **bread**?"

**brew (1):** coffee.

"Every morning Dave needs a fresh cup of **brew**."

**brew (2):** beer.

"Do you want another **brew**, dude?"

**brewski:** beer.

"I love drinking **brewskies**!"

**B.S.:** bullshit; lies.

"I'm tired of listening to your **B.S.**"

**bull:** bullshit; lie.

"That's a bunch of **bull**!"

**bullshit [offensive]:** lie; dishonesty.

"I don't like people that **bullshit** me"

**buns [possibly offensive]:** the rear end; buttocks.

"Don't stare at my **buns**!"

**bushed:** extremely tired.

"I'm completely **bushed**."

**butt:** the buttocks.

"Stop sitting on your **butt** and help me wash the dishes!"

**catch some rays:** get some sunshine.

"Let's go to the beach and catch some **rays**."

**cheesy:** cheap; outmoded.

"Why are you wearing such **cheesy** clothes?"

**chicken:** coward.

"Don't be such a **chicken**!"

**cool:** excellent; superb.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is totally **cool**!"

**cooler, the:** jail.

"If you drink and drive, you'll end up spending time in the **cooler**."

**couch potato:** a person who watches too much television.

"Why did I have to marry such a **couch potato**?"

**crap [offensive] (1):** something worthless.

"My furniture is a bunch of cheap **crap**."

**crap [offensive] (2):** excrement.

"Yuck! I stepped on dog **crap**!"

**crap [offensive] (3):** falsehoods and lies.

"I've had enough of your **crap**."

**deck:** to hit someone.

"His wife **decked** him when he came home with lipstick on his shirt."

**dicey:** unpredictable; risky.

"Gambling is a **dicey** occupation."

**dinero:** money (from Spanish).

"I wish I had more **dinero**!"

**dirt:** extremely bad person.

"My ex-boyfriend was **dirt**."

**dirty:** offensive; pornographic.

"Stop looking at the pictures in that **dirty** magazine!"

**dorky:** strange; peculiar.

"If you keep acting so **dorky**, you'll never get a girlfriend!"

**dude:** a male.

"That's really cool, **dude**!"

**dynamite:** powerful; excellent.

"Dave gave a **dynamite** presentation."

**dinosaur:** something old fashioned or out of date.

"I'd love to surf the Net, but unfortunately my computer is a **dinosaur**."

**el cheapo**: something cheap.

"Since I don't make much money, I always buy the **el cheapo** brand."

**evil**: great; excellent.

"Your car is really **evil!**"

**eyeball**: to stare long and hard at someone or something.

"Dave **eyeballed** his daughter's new boyfriend."

**eyepopper**: something or someone visibly astounding.

"Wow, that girl is truly an **eyepopper!**"

**fab**: fabulous.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is really **fab!**"

**face-off**: confrontation.

"I think it's time we had a **face-off.**"

**fart [offensive]**: to expel intestinal gas.

"It's embarrassing to **fart** on the first date."

**fender-bender**: small accident.

"This morning I had a **fender-bender** on the Ventura Freeway."

**flaky**: unpredictable.

"I waited four hours for my **flaky** friend to show up."

**flashback**: sudden memory.

"In Little Tokyo I had a **flashback** to my days living in Japan."

**flick**: movie.

"Let's go out tonight and watch a **flick.**"

**fox**: attractive, alluring person.

"Is it true that Dave is a **fox?**"

**freebie**: something that does not cost money.

"My trip to New York was a **freebie.**"

**French kiss [possibly offensive]**: kissing with the tongue.

"Dave's dog is always trying to **French kiss** him!"

**geek**: someone who works hard, is very intelligent, and not very attractive

"Bill Gates is kind of a **geek**."

**get it**: to understand something.

"Sorry, but I just don't **get it**."

**get naked [possibly offensive]**: to completely relax and have a good time.

"Let's **get naked** tonight!"

**glitch**: flaw.

"There must be a glitch in this **software**."

**go bananas**: go slightly mad.

"This project is causing me to **go bananas**!"

**gomer**: a dumb person.

"Stop acting like a **gomer**!"

**goof (1)**: a silly and foolish person.

"What a **goof** you are!"

**goof (2)**: make a mistake.

I really **goofed** on the test today."

**goof off (1)**: waste time.

"Stop **goofing off** and help me clean the house!"

**goof-off (2)**: someone who wastes time and isn't serious.

"A **goof-off** never does well in school"

**goof up**: make a mistake.

"Oh no! I really **goofed up**!"

**goofy**: silly.

"Kids always make me feel **goofy**!"

**grabbers**: hands.

"Have you washed your **grabbers**, Benjamin?"

**grand**: one thousand dollars.

"He's making over a hundred **grand** a year!"

**grass:** marijuana.

"Have you ever smoked **grass**?"

**grub:** food.

"Where's the **grub**?!"

**grubby:** not clean.

"I always feel **grubby** in the morning."

**grungy:** unclean and stinky.

"**Grungy** people are not allowed in Dave's house!"

**gut:** a person's stomach; belly.

"Dave has a big **gut** because he loves chocolate ice cream and beer!"

**guts (1):** courage.

"It took a lot of **guts** to ask his boss for a raise."

**guts (2):** the nature of something.

"Let's get to the **guts** of Dave Sperling!"

**hairy:** difficult; dangerous.

"The steep and windy road was really **hairy**."

**hang a left:** make a left turn.

"**Hang a left** at the next corner."

**hang a right:** make a right turn.

"**Hang a right** at the next corner."

**head:** toilet.

"I really need to use the **head**!"

**hep:** sensible; informed.

"She's a really **hep** student."

**hickey:** a love bite on the skin.

"Wow! Is that a **hickey** on your neck?"

**hip:** sensible; informed.

"He really tries hard to be **hip**."

**hooker [possibly offensive]:** prostitute.

"You'll find a lot of **hookers** in the red light district."

**horny [possibly offensive]:** sexually stimulated; in the mood for sex.

"Red wine seems to make my boyfriend **horny**."

**hot (1):** popular.

"Brad Pitt is really **hot** now."

**hot (2):** sexy.

"Wow! Cindy Crawford is really **hot!**"

**humungous:** really big.

"American supermarkets are **humungous**."

**hungries, to have:** be hungry.

"I don't know about you, but I've got the **hungries**."

**hyper:** overly excited.

"Children often get **hyper** when they are tired."

**icky:** unpleasant.

"The food is really **icky** in the school cafeteria."

**I.D.:** identification.

"If you want to order a beer, you'll need your **I.D.**"

**I'm outta here:** I'm leaving; I'm departing.

"Sorry, but **I'm outta here**, dude."

**in:** fashionable.

"Ray-Ban sunglasses are really **in** now."

**ivories:** teeth.

"Tom Cruise has really beautiful **ivories**."

**jack around [possibly offensive]:** waste time.

"Will you please stop **jacking around?**"

**jam, in a (1):** trouble.

"If you're in a **jam**, I promise to help you."

**jam (2):** improvise (musically).

"I'd love to **jam** with Bon Jovi!"

**jamming, to be :** going well.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is really **jamming!**"

**jerk:** stupid or annoying person.

"How could you go out with such a **jerk?**"

**jillion:** an immense number.

"Do you really have a **jillion** problems?"

**jock:** someone good at sports.

"I've never been much of a **jock.**"

**john:** toilet.

"Where's the **john?**"

**K (k):** a thousand.

"I could retire with 100 **K (k)!**"

**kick back:** relax and enjoy.

"I wish I could **kick back** at the beach today."

**kick off:** die.

"My dog finally **kicked off.**"

**killer:** something exceptional or great.

"Wow, your boyfriend is **killer!**"

**knock:** condemn.

"Don't **knock** it unless you've tried it."

**knockout:** beautiful woman; handsome man.

"Benjamin is already a **knockout!**"

**kook:** strange person.

"Stop acting like a **kook!**"

**laid back:** relaxed; calm.

"I always feel **laid back** at the beach."

**lame**: incompetent.

"Dave is really **lame** when it comes to fixing his car."

**lip**: cheeky talk.

"My students are always giving me **lip!**"

**loser**: a bungling and worthless person.

"Why are you dating such a **loser?**"

**love handles**: excess fat around the waist.

"Is it possible for Dave to lose his **love handles?**"

**luck out**: to be lucky or fortunate.

"You really **luck out** by visiting Dave's ESL Cafe!"

**make waves**: cause problems.

"Teachers don't like students to **make waves.**"

**max, to the** : maximum.

"I'm happy to the **max.**"

**mega**: big.

"American restaurants serve **mega** portions of food."

**megabucks**: a large amount of money.

"It takes megabucks to live in Japan."

**mellow**: relaxed.

"I'm feeling very **mellow** this evening."

**mickey-mouse**: unimportant; time-wasting.

"I'm sick of this **mickey-mouse** job."

**monkey bite**: a kiss that leaves a mark on the skin.

"I don't want any **monkey bites** tonight, okay?"

**munch out**: to eat voraciously.

"Let's **munch out** on a large pizza!"

**nada**: nothing (from Spanish).

"I know **nada** about politics."

**neat**: cool; great.

"Isn't my new car **neat**?"

**noid**: someone that's paranoid.

"Why are you so **noid**?"

**nuke (1)**: nuclear weapon.

"This world had too many **nukes**."

**nuke (2)**: destroy; delete.

"Sorry, but I accidentally **nuked** your e-mail message."

**nuke (3)**: cook something in the microwave oven.

"Can you **nuke** this frozen pizza for me?"

**nut (1)**: odd or crazy person.

"Why are you always acting like a **nut**?"

**nut (2)**: someone passionate about something.

"I'm a nut about **computers**."

**nuts [offensive]**: testicles.

"Don't ever kick me in the **nuts**."

**okay**: decent.

"My boss is an **okay** person."

**OK**: decent.

"Dave is an **okay** person."

**pad**: someone's home.

"Can I sleep at your **pad** tonight?"

**party**: celebrate.

"Let's **party** tonight!"

**party animal**: someone that loves parties.

"Dave has been known to sometimes be a **party animal**."

**paws**: hands.

"Get your **paws** off me!"

**peanuts:** very little money.

"I love my job, but the pay is **peanuts.**"

**pee:** to urinate.

"I always have to **pee** after drinking beer."

**pickled:** drunk.

"He got **pickled** on vodka."

**pig out:** eat too much.

"Dave is famous for **pigging out** on chocolate ice cream."

**piss:** to urinate.

"My dog **pissed** on me!"

**pissed (off):** angry; upset.

"I'm really **pissed (off)** at you."

**plastered:** drunk.

"Why does he always get **plastered?**"

**pad:** someone's home.

"Can I sleep at your **pad** tonight?"

**poop, the (1):** knowledge; information.

"What's the **poop** on Michael Jackson?"

**poop [offensive] (2):** defecation; shit.

"Be careful not to step on dog **poop.**"

**poop out:** get tired and quit.

"I got **pooped out** after spending eight hours at Disneyland."

**pot (1):** toilet.

"Who's on the **pot?**"

**pot (2):** marijuana.

"It's easy to buy **pot** in the big city."

**pro:** someone who's good at something; professional.

"She's really a **pro** at golf."

**psycho**: crazy person.

"Stay away from that **psycho!**"

**puke**: vomit.

"Alcohol makes some people **puke.**"

**pumped (up)**: excited.

"I'm really **pumped (up)** about Dave's ESL Cafe!"

**puss**: the face.

"My girlfriend slapped me right on the **puss.**"

**Quarterback**: leader.

"Dave is the **quarterback** of Dave's ESL Cafe."

**quick and dirty**: done fast, but not well.

"The mechanic did a **quick and dirty** repair on my car."

**racket (1)**: noise.

"Small kids can make a lot of **racket.**"

**racket (2)**: something that's dishonest or deceptive.

"The Tobacco Industry is quite a **racket.**"

**racket (3)**: an occupation.

"I've been in the ESL **racket** for fourteen years."

**rank**: give someone a difficult time.

"She's always **ranking** her teacher."

**rat**: a despicable person.

"I thought I loved you, but now I know you're really a **rat.**"

**razz**: annoy someone.

"Will you please stop **razzing** me?"

**rear (end)**: buttocks.

"Dave fell on his **rear (end).**"

**riot, a** : something or someone very funny.

"Jim Carrey is a **riot!**"

**rip off (1):** stealing.

"Someone **ripped off** my car."

**rip off (2):** fraud.

"I paid \$10,000 for my computer. What a **rip off!**"

**rocking:** great; excellent.

"Dave's ESL class is really **rocking!**"

**rubbish:** nonsense; not true.

"That rumor is a bunch of **rubbish.**"

**rug rat:** a child.

"Dave has a couple of **rug rats** at home."

**runs, the:** diarrhea.

"Oh no! I've got **the runs!**"

**scarf:** to eat.

"I can easily **scarf** an entire banana split."

**screw up:** to make a mistake.

"I **screwed up** on the driving test, so I didn't pass."

**screw-up:** a person who makes a mistake.

"Why are you such a **screw-up?**"

**scum:** a despicable individual.

"Don't hang around with that kind of **scum.**"

**shades:** sunglasses.

"Those are really cool **shades!**"

**shoot some hoops:** play basketball.

"Let's shoot some **hoops!**"

**silks:** clothing.

"Those are really awesome **silks!**"

**smarts:** intelligence.

"It takes a lot of **smarts** to become a doctor."

**snookered**: cheated.

"I got **snookered** into buying swamp land in Florida."

**solid (1)**: really good; cool.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is totally **solid!**"

**solid (2)**: consecutive.

"It's been raining for seven **solid** days."

**specs**: eyeglasses.

"I didn't know that you wore **specs.**"

**split**: to leave.

"Let's **split** from here now."

**spunk**: spirit.

"She might be small, but she's got a lot of **spunk.**"

**stoned (out)**: drunk from drugs or alcohol.

"I'm really **stoned (out)**, dude!"

**street smart**: knowledgeable about city life.

"Since Dave is from Los Angeles, he's very **street smart.**"

**suck**: to be bad or unacceptable

"That song really **sucks!**"

**technicolor yawn, to do a** : vomit.

"My dog just did a **technicolor yawn** all over the carpet!"

**thou**: thousand.

"I need to borrow a hundred **thou.**"

**threads**: clothing.

"My wife spent \$900 on new **threads.**"

**ticker (1)**: the heart.

"My grandfather has a bad **ticker.**"

**ticker (2)**: a watch.

"Wow! That's a really cool **ticker!**"

**tints**: sunglasses.

"You have to wear **tints** in California."

**totally**: really; completely.

"That's **totally** awesome, dude!"

**to the max**: maximum.

"I studied **to the max.**"

**turkey (1)**: failure; flop.

"Thank goodness that Dave's ESL Cafe is not a **turkey!**"

**turkey (2)**: dumb person.

"**Turkeys** are not allowed to work for this company."

**turn-off**: something that repulses a person.

"Bad breath is a real **turn-off.**"

**umpteen**: many; countless.

"I've asked you **umpteen** times to show me the money!"

**unlax**: relax.

"Dave needs to definitely **unlax** with his family."

**upchuck**: vomit.

"She got sick and **upchucked** three times."

**uptight**: nervous; anxious.

"Why are you so **uptight?**"

**vanilla (1)**: plain.

"She drives a **vanilla** car."

**vanilla (2)**: Caucasian.

"The Midwest is too **vanilla** for me."

**wad**: roll of money.

"It's dangerous to carry a big **wad** in your pocket."

**wasted (1)**: killed.

"A lot of people get **wasted** in the streets of New York."

**wasted: (2) drunk.**

"He got **wasted** Saturday at the party."

**wheels:** car; motorcycle.

"If you want to live in Los Angeles, you've got to get some **wheels**"

**whitebread:** plain; boring.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is definitely not **whitebread**!"

**whiz (1):** someone who shows a special talent for something.

"Einstein was a **whiz** in Physics."

**whiz [offensive] (2):** to urinate.

"I really have to take a **whiz**."

**wimpy:** weak.

"Don't be so **wimpy**!"

**winks, get some:** sleep.

"I really need to get some **winks**"

**wrongo:** wrong.

"That is totally **wrongo**!"

**yank (1):** bother; harass.

"Stop **yanking** me, okay?"

**Yank (2):** a Yankee; an American.

"Dave is a **Yank**."

**zero:** an unimportant person.

"If you don't work hard, you'll end up a **zero**."

**zip (1):** nothing.

"I don't know **zip** about you."

**zip (2):** energy; vigor.

"I need something that will give me more **zip**."

**zit:** pimple; acne.

"Teens often have a lot of **zits**."

