

Common Phrasal Verbs: Movement

Phrasal verb	Meaning	Example
back up	move backwards	He backed the car up into the wall.
come back	return	He'll come back after the car is fixed.
come by	make a visit	Buster came by the garage yesterday.
come in/out	enter/exit	It came out of the shop in great shape.
drop in	make a casual visit	Mary will drop in to inspect the repairs.
fall down	drop to the ground	The jack fell down and the car moved.
get away	escape, leave	Mary got away just in time!
get in/out	enter/exit	The car quickly got out of the garage.
get on/off	embark/disembark	Buster quickly got on a bicycle.
go to	reach a destination	Mary goes to work on that bicycle.
go up/down	climb/descend	The car was going down the street faster and faster.
let in/out	allow to enter/exit	Mary asked: "Why did they let the car out ?"
move up/down	go to a higher/lower position, move up to	Buster was scared, but moved up to the car anyway.
run away	leave, escape	He's not one to run away from danger!
run into	have a collision	The car stopped when it ran into a brick house.
show up	appear, arrive	That is when Mary showed up .
sit down	take a sitting position	Buster was sitting down , trying to catch his breath.
stand up	move to an upright position	He stood up quickly when he heard an alarm.
turn around	change direction, rotate	Buster turned around and went the other way.
wake up	stop sleeping	He was happy to wake up from that weird dream.

Common Phrasal Verbs: Problems & Solutions

Phrasal verb	Meaning	Example
come around	change your mind	Douglas came around to Buster's idea.
come up with	create, produce	They had to come up with a film script.
figure out	understand, solve a problem	Douglas figured out most of the story.
find out	discover, learn	Buster just found out about it.
get down to	begin work	They got down to work immediately.
get it	understand	"The gag doesn't work. I don't get it ."
give up	abandon, renounce	They didn't give up and asked for help.
go over	review, practise	"Mary, can you go over the script?"
look for	search, examine	" Look for anything we could change."
look through	examine briefly	Mary looked through the pages.
mess up	create disorder	The page order was completely messed up .
move on	continue	Mary moved on even though the order was wrong.
plan for	make plans	Buster had planned for the script to be done today.
pull off	succeed, achieve a goal	"Finish the script today? You won't pull that off ."
set up	make ready	The cameras were already set up to start filming.
sort out	arrange, place in order	They finally sorted out the whole the movie structure.
sum up	make a summary	To sum up : the story was too complicated.
try out	test, be tested	"You should try out the gags before filming them."
watch out	be alert, take care	Mary always watches out for them.
work out	solve a problem, plan	She also works out all the problems in the script.

Common Phrasal Verbs: Using & Handling Objects

Phrasal verb	Meaning	Example
blow up	inflate, explode	The cake blew up in the oven.
break off	remove a part from, stop	Buster broke off the door to get into the house.
chop up	cut in smaller pieces	He can't use the knife to chop up the onion.
clean up	wash, make clean	He dropped it while cleaning up the kitchen.
come apart	become separated	The blade and handle just came apart .
dress up	put on formal clothes, disguise	Time to dress up for the gala now.
fall apart	go to pieces	His jacket fell apart when he put it on.
fill up	become full	Buster wanted to fill up his coffee mug.
pick up	take and lift	He picked up the coffeemaker.
put away	store in the appropriate place	It was empty, so he put it away .
put on	place clothes on yourself	Buster decided to put on a different jacket.
run out of	have no more	He was running out of time and would soon be late.
slow down	reduce speed	It was not time to slow down !
take off	remove clothes	Buster took off his jacket.
take out	remove	He took out another jacket from the closet.
throw away	discard, dispose of	Buster threw away the old jacket.
throw out	discard, dispose of	He will also throw out the cake later.
try on	check clothing fit	Maybe he should try on another jacket.
turn on/off	activate/deactivate	He turned on the lights to see better.
wash off	clean	The mess he made will not wash off easily

Common Phrasal Verbs: Tasks

Phrasal verb	Meaning	Example
carry on	continue	Buster carries on even if it's tough.
carry out	perform a task	He has to carry out many screen tests.
check out	examine, look at	Mary checks out every movie scene.
end up	reach an outcome	They end up with a final version.
finish up	complete an action	Once they finish up with a scene, they move on.
go on	continue, persevere	They go on to the following scene.
go over	examine, look at	Quickly, Mary goes over the movie scene again.
hurry up	go faster	They need to hurry up because of the deadline.
keep up	maintain, match speed	It can be difficult to keep up with the tight schedule.
look around	search, explore, visit	Mary looked around for a new location for the film.
look out	be alert, look outside	She also looks out for any possible problem.
start over	begin again	They have to start over with every new scene.

Common Phrasal Verbs: Using & Interactions

Phrasal verb	Meaning	Example
answer back	reply, reply rudely	The studio hasn't answered back yet.
ask for	make a request	Buster asked for a bigger budget.
break up	end a relationship, separate	He hopes it won't break up their friendship.
bump into	meet by chance	Buster bumped into Mary at lunch.
call back	return a phone call	The studio called back at that moment.
count on	depend on, trust	He's counting on good news.
get together	gather, assemble	They're getting together to discuss it.
hand in	give, submit	Buster handed in all the documents.
hand out	distribute	An assistant handed out copies to everyone.
kick out	expel, eject	No one got kicked out of the meeting, surprisingly.
pick on	tease, bully	They picked on each other and laughed.
rely on	depend on, trust	Buster relies on Mary for support.
run into	encounter, meet	They didn't run into any difficulties.
split up	separate	Buster and his girlfriend will not split up !

