

be off: get started  
     : be crazy  
 be away: be out of town  
     : get started  
 be around: be somewhere near  
 be through: be finished

blow (something) up: inflate;  
     destroy by explosion

blow (someone) up: reprimand  
     strongly

blow (something) out: extin-  
     guish with the breath

break (something) up: separate  
     into parts; smash; bring to  
     an end

break (something) down:  
     destroy

break (something) off: remove  
     by breaking

break (something) in: remove  
     the stiffness of a new ar-  
     ticle by use

break (someone) in: train in  
     new work

bring (someone) up: raise, edu-  
     cate

bring (a subject) up: mention

bring the house down: win wild  
     applause

bring (a plane, a bird) down:  
     destroy in flight

bring (fatigue, a headache) on:  
     cause

bring (something) on (some-  
     one): cause to befall

bring (something) off: accom-  
     plish successfully

bring (something) in: earn

bring (something) out: publish

break in: enter by force

break out: escape from confine-  
     ment; exclaim; develop  
     a rash

break out of (a place): es-  
     cape from

break out in (a rash): dev-  
     elop a rash

break away: escape; leave

break away from (some-  
     one): escape forcefully

break into (tears, song): begin  
     to (cry, sing)

bring up: end

bring up the rear: be last

bring (a young lady) out: introduce to society

bring (a patient) through: cure, save

bring (a patient) around: revive  
bring (a patient) to: revive

buy (something) up: buy a stock of something

buy (someone) off: bribe

buy (a business) out: buy ownership

buy (stock) in: accumulate through purchase

call (someone) up: telephone

call (someone) up: call to service

call (memories) up: recall

call (someone) down: reprimand

call (something) off: cancel

call up: telephone

call on (someone): visit

call on (someone) for something: ask  
call on (someone) to do something: ask

call for (someone): meet someone at his home  
in order to go to a place together  
call for (something): require

call out: exclaim

cheer (someone) up: console

calm (someone) down: soothe

care for (someone): love  
care for (someone, something): take care of

carry (war, business) on: conduct

carry (orders) out: fulfill  
carry (a project) through: finish  
carry (something) over: keep until a later date

carry on: continue working  
carry on: be emotional

catch up: overtake someone

catch up with (someone): overtake

catch on: understand

cheer up: become cheerful

cheer (someone) on: encourage

clear (something) up: clarify

clear (something) off: clear  
clear (something) out: clear

close (something) up: conclude; close completely

clear up: become sunny after cloudy or rainy weather

clear off: clear up

clear out: leave hastily

close up: close, lock a place

close (something) down: stop operating (of a business or factory)

close (something) out: sell, as of a stock of merchandise

come up: be mentioned

come up to (requirements, expectations): meet

come up with (someone): overtake

come down with (an illness): catch

come on!: come ahead!

come off: take place

come in for (discussion): be a subject for discussion

come out: result, end

come out: be revealed (as of the truth)

come out: be introduced to society (of a debutante)

come over: pay a casual visit

come over to (the other side): change sides

come through: materialize

come along: keep walking

come about: occur

come around: recover consciousness

come across: pay

come across (something): find by chance

close down: stop operating

come across (someone): meet by chance

come by: arrive casually

come by (something): receive, acquire

come into (an inheritance): inherit

cough (something) up: surrender something

cut (something) up: cut into pieces

cut (someone) off: disinherit

cut (something) out: stop, discontinue use of

cut in: interrupt

cut in on (someone): interrupt

cut down on (something): reduce the use of

dash (something) off: write quickly

do (something) up: wrap (a package); arrange (one's hair); launder (clothes)

do (someone) in: tire; kill

do (someone) out of (something): cheat someone

do (something) over: repeat; do or make anew

cough up!: pay, give, something

cut up: misbehave

cut off: take a shortcut

dash off: go away hastily

eat out: dine elsewhere than at home

fall in: line up (military)

fall in with (someone): meet by chance

fall in with (an idea): agree with

fall out: break formation (military); disagree

fall out with (someone): disagree with

fall down: fall; fail

fill (a form) out: write information requested

fill (a term) out: complete

fill (a form) in: like fill out

fill (something) up: fill completely

fix (something) up: repair; arrange

fix (someone) up: attend to

get (someone) up: awaken

get (someone) up: dress

get (something) up: organize

get (speed) up: accelerate

get (something) down: swallow

get (something) down: write

fill out: grow stout

fix up: dress

get up: arise

get down: descend

get down to (facts, business): attend seriously to

get on: mount

get on (something): mount

get on: progress

get on: cooperate, be friendly

get on with (someone): cooperate, be friendly

get along: get on

get along with: get on with

get off: depart

get off: escape, especially punishment

get off: descend, especially from a train

get off (something) descend from

get in: enter, esp. an automobile

get in (something): enter

get out: leave, esp. an automobile

get out of (a responsibility): escape, evade

get out of (order): stop functioning properly

get out of (a place): leave

get through: finish

get around: see and know many people and places;

move about despite  
obstacles  
get around (something):  
evade  
get around (someone): get  
the better of  
get to (a place): arrive at  
get away: depart  
get away with (something):  
escape consequences of  
get by: succeed with minimum  
effort or accomplish-

get by with (something):  
succeed with  
get over (something): re-  
cover from

get back: return; retreat  
get together: meet

get (something) over with: fin-  
ish  
get (something) over: finish  
get (something) back: recover  
get (something) together: prep-  
are quickly

(So long as the sense allows, the intransitive expressions with **get** may have transitive use with related meanings, as **get up**, **get (someone) up**; **get on**, **get (someone) on**, etc.

give (something) up: sacrifice  
give (someone) up: surrender

give up: surrender

give in: surrender

give in to (someone): sur-  
render to

give out: become exhausted

give (something) away: give;  
reveal (a secret)  
give (someone) away: betray a  
secret about someone  
give (the bride) away: part of  
the marriage ceremony  
give (something) back: return  
give (a garden) over to  
(weeds): surrender to

go on: take place; continue  
go on with (something):  
continue with

go off: explode

go along: accompany someone  
go along with (someone):  
accompany

go at (something): attack

go for (something, some-  
one): attack; be attract-  
ed to

go over: succeed

go over (something): ex-  
amine

go back on (a promise): fail  
to fulfill

hold up: endure, last; stop, wait

hold up under (something):  
endure

hold (someone) up: rob  
(1) hold (someone) up as (a  
model): offer for com-  
parison

hold (something) up: delay  
(1) hold (something) up to  
(someone): reprove

hold (expenses) down: avoid ex-  
cessive expenses

hold (a job) down: keep  
 hold (someone) in: restrain  
 hold (something) in: repress  
 hold (hope) out: offer  
 hold (something) over keep  
 hold (something) over  
 (someone): use certain  
 knowledge as a threat

hold on: wait  
 hold off: refrain from doing  
 something  
 join up: join (an organization)  
 join up with (an organiza-  
 tion) enlist in, be-  
 come a member of  
 join in: participate  
 join in with (someone):  
 participate  
 join with (someone) in (a  
 project, action): partic-  
 ipate with

keep (something) up: continue  
 keep (something) up: maintain

keep (expenses) down: avoid ex-  
 cessive expense

keep up: maintain a pace, main-  
 tain appearances  
 keep up with (someone):  
 keep pace with

keep on: continue  
 keep off: remain outside  
 keep out: remain outside  
 keep back: maintain a distance  
 keep away: maintain a distance

lay off: stop working  
 lay off (someone): stop an-  
 noying

leave (something) out: omit  
 leave (lights, water, radio) on:  
 leave (burning, running)  
 leave (lights, etc.) off: exting-  
 uished  
 leave (lights) out: extinguished

leave off: stop  
 let up: diminish, stop  
 let on: pretend, reveal the truth

let (someone) down: disappoint  
 let (a garment) down: lengthen  
 let (someone) off: allow to get  
 out of a vehicle; excuse  
 from a punishment or  
 obligation  
 let (a shout, a breath) out: utter,  
 eject  
 let (a garment) out: enlarge  
 let (someone) in: permit to enter  
 let (someone) in for (some-  
 thing): allow some-  
 thing to happen to  
 someone

lie down: rest horizontally, take  
 a nap  
 lie down on (a job): shirk  
 lie in: be confined for the birth  
 of a child

listen to (someone, something): conventional preposition

listen in: listen to a conversation or radio broadcast

listen around: note what is said by many people

lock (someone, something) up: imprison, put in a locked place

lock (someone) in: imprison, confine

look (something) up: search for

look (someone) up: look for and visit

look up to (someone): admire

look down on (someone): scorn

look on: watch

look on (something) as: consider as

look out: take care

look out for (something): take care of; be on guard against

look out for (someone): take care of; be on guard against

lock up: lock all doors and windows of a house

look around: examine a place; search without specific objective

look around for (something): seek here and there

look away: avert one's gaze

look after (someone): take care of

look for (something): seek

look at (something): regard

look like (something): resemble

make (something) up: prepare; compensate for, invent, improvise

make (one's mind) up: decide

make (oneself) up: apply cosmetics

make (something) out: fill out (a form); decipher

make out: succeed

make out that: pretend that

make off: escape, run away

make off with (something): steal, escape with

make (property) over: deed to another

make (a garment) over: remake

move (something) up: set ahead  
(in order or time)

move (someone) up: promote

move up: move forward or upward

move on: keep moving

move out: remove from a house

move over: move to one side

pass (something) up: fail to take,  
use, attend, etc.

pass (something) on: give  
another person

pass (something) off: circulate  
something false

pass (something) in: hand or  
deliver to the person in au-  
thority

pass (something) out: distribute

pass (something) over: give (to  
another person)

pay (bills) up: pay in full

pay (someone) out: get revenge

pay (someone) back: repay; get  
revenge

pay (money) out: pay

pass on: die

pass on (something): decide  
about.

pass out: lose consciousness

pass over (something): omit

pay up: pay what is owed

pay for (something): con-  
ventional preposition

pep (someone) up: encourage

pep up: show more energy

pick (something) up: recover  
something that has fallen

pick up: improve in health; in-  
crease in activity

pick (something) out: select  
play (someone) up: give im-  
portance to

play up to (someone): make  
friendly advances

play on one's sympathy:  
appeal to

play (something) down: min-  
imize importance of

play (a tied game) off: play a  
deciding game

play (something) out: play to  
the end

pull up: stop  
pull in: arrive

pull out: depart

pull over: move to one side;  
bring a car to a stop  
at the curb

pull through: recover

pull (something) off: succeed in  
a trick, robbery, etc.

put (something) up: put away

put (someone) up: lodge

(I) put (someone) up for (of-  
fice): propose

put (something) up for  
(sale): offer

(I) put (someone) up to (some-  
thing):

put (a riot) down: suppress

put up (for the night): lodge

put up with (someone):  
stand, endure

(1) put (an action) down to  
(bad manners): attribute to

put (clothing) on: don (ponerse)

put on (airs): assume an air of importance

put (something) off: postpone  
put (someone) off: delay dealing with

put (hours of works) in: do, perform

(1) put (a boat) in at (a place): land, take shelter

put (someone) out: expel

put (someone) out: trouble, annoy

put (oneself) out: inconvenience  
put (something) out: extinguish

put (something) over: succeed in

put (an idea) over: convey convincingly

(1) put (something) over on (someone): deceive

put (a call) through: make a telephone call

put (a law) through: have a law passed

put (a project) through: obtain approval

put (something) away: save, put in proper place

put in at (a place): make a stop at

put (someone) away: bury  
put (something) across: convey

convincingly; succeed in  
put (something) by: save  
quiet (someone) down: soothe

ring (someone) up: call by telephone

ring (someone) off: silence

run (a debt) up: incur  
run (a flag) up: raise  
run (someone) down: slander  
run (someone) down: hit (with a car)

run (someone) over: take someone somewhere by car or boat

run (something) down: locate by search

run (copies) off: print

run (someone) across: take somewhere

quiet down: become quiet

ring up: call by telephone

ring off: end a call; stop talking

ring out: ring or sound loudly

run down: stop (of a spring mechanism)

run over (someone): hit (with a car)

run on: talk endlessly

run out: become exhausted

run out of something: have no more of

run across (someone): meet by chance

run into (someone): meet by chance; collide with

run away: escape

run along: go away

run (something) through: subject to a process, as in manufacturing

see (someone) off: accompany to point of departure

see (someone) through: help to the end of a task, illness, etc.

see (something) through: finish

(1) see (someone) about (something): consult about

set (something) up: establish; assemble (an apparatus)

set (someone) up: treat

set (someone) up: give a feeling of importance or well-being

set (something) down: write

set (something) off: cause to explode

set (something) off: show off by contrast

set (plants) out: transplant

run through (something): examine quickly, as a book; use up quickly

see through (someone): see in a true light

see through (something): understand

see about (something): attend to

see to (something): attend to

see here: pay attention, listen

set out: start

set out after (someone): pursue

set out for (somewhere): depart for

(1) set (someone) on (someone): urge to attack

set in: begin (of a disease or condition)

(1) settle (something) on (someone): make a monetary provision for

settle up: pay what is owed  
settle down: begin to live a normal, quiet life; marry

show (someone) up: reveal one's shortcomings

show up: appear, arrive; make a good appearance

show (someone) in: conduct into a place

show (someone) out: conduct out of a place

show off: make a good appearance; make a vain display

show (someone) around: guide

sign (someone) up: contract

sign (someone) on: employ

sign (someone) off: discharge

sign (someone) in: indicate one's return by signing a register

sign (something) in: indicate return of something by signing

sign (someone) out: indicate

sign up: accept employment

sign on: join a work crew

sign off: stop talking (esp. in radio broadcasting)

sign in: indicate arrival by signing a register

sign in (something): literal meaning, as in a book

sign out: indicate departure by signing a register

one's departure by signing  
a register

sit up: sit erect; raise oneself to  
or be in a sitting pos-  
ture as opposed to ly-  
ing down; remain out  
of bed at night  
sit down: seat oneself; be seated,  
be sitting

sit (a dance) out: fail to dance;  
remain seated during a  
dance

sit around: be idle  
sit through (something):  
remain despite bore-  
dom

stand (someone) up: fail to ap-  
pear at an engagement

stand up: rise; stand erect  
stand up to (someone): op-  
pose courageously  
stand up for (someone): de-  
fend  
stand down: descend, as from a  
platform

stand (someone) off: hold at a  
distance

stand (something) off: hold at  
a distance

stand by: be ready, at hand  
stand out: excell  
stand around: be idle; watch

stick (someone) up: rob  
stick (something) down: fasten  
firmly

stick up for (someone):  
defend

stick around: remain near  
stick together: act as a unit,  
support one another

take (a bearing, a joint) up:  
tighten  
take (something) up with  
(someone): consult so-  
meone about some-  
thing

take (a garment) up: shorten  
begin study or discussion of  
take (a study, a subject) up:  
take (something) down: write  
what is heard

take (responsibilities) on: as-  
sume

take (someone) off: mimic, imit-  
ate

take (time) off: rest from work  
take (someone) in: deceive  
take (a garment) in: tighten  
take (something) in: absorb un-  
derstand

take (insurance) out: arrange  
for, buy

take (something) out on  
(someone): take unwar-  
anted revenge on

take up (space, time): oc-  
cupy  
take up with (someone):  
become friends with

take on: express grief

take off: depart (esp., airplanes)

take out after (someone):  
start in pursuit of

take (a responsibility) over: assume charge of  
take (something) back: repossess oneself of; retract  
take (something) away: remove; deprive of

take over: assume charge

take to (someone, something): like  
take after (someone): resemble  
talk (something) up: praise  
talk (something) down: belittle  
talk (something) out: settle by discussion  
talk (someone) out of: (something): obtain something by flattery or argument  
talk (something) over: discuss

talk about (something): discuss  
talk around (something): allude to indirectly  
talk to (a subject): speak concerning (parliamentary)  
talk back: answer impertinently  
talk away: talk heedless of listener's interest  
talk along: talk continuously

tear (something) up: tear to pieces  
tear (something) down: destroy  
tear (something) off: write rapidly  
tear (oneself) away: leave  
tear away: leave unwillingly; leave in haste  
tear in: enter in haste  
tear out: leave in haste  
tear around: run about; lead a wild life  
tear along: run or drive very fast

think (something) up: originate  
think (something) out: ponder to a conclusion  
think (something) over: consider  
think (something) through: ponder to a conclusion

think about (someone, something): have in mind; consider

throw (something) up: abandon  
throw (one's hands) up: admit defeat  
throw (a suggestion) out: mention, make  
throw (something) out: discard  
throw (something) away: discard  
try (something, someone) out: test

throw up: vomit

try (a garment) on: test for fit or appearance  
 try (something) over: attempt for the first time, as a piece of music  
 try (something) through: like try (something) over

try for (something): attempt to get

turn (something) up: discover  
 turn (something) down: refuse  
 turn (lights, radio) down: reduce brilliance, volume  
 turn (something) on: put in operation  
 turn (something) on (someone): direct toward  
 turn (something) off: put out of operation

turn (a reprimand) off: react with indifference

turn (something) in: deliver to authorized person

turn (something) out: produce  
 turn (someone) out: expel  
 turn (someone) away: refuse admittance

turn (someone) around: reverse the position of

turn up: appear, arrive

turn on (something): depend on

turn on (someone): turn and attack

turn in: go to bed

turn out: end, result; attend

turn around: reverse one's position

turn (something) over to someone: deliver to  
 use (something) up: consume  
 wait up: await without going to bed: await  
 wait around: wait in expectation  
 wait for (someone): conventional preposition

wind (something) up: tighten the spring of a mechanism

write (something) up: write a description or analysis of  
 write (something) down: make written note of  
 write (a loss) off: recognize by appropriate bookkeeping entry

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