

# Phrasal verbs database

<b>ask after</b>	ask for news about: <i>Tony was asking after you and I told him you were fine.</i>	<b>check in</b>	register at a hotel or an airport: <i>Give me your passport and I'll go to the desk to check in.</i>
<b>back down</b>	stop demanding sth, stop saying that you will do sth: <i>It seemed as if the man was going to start a fight with the manager, but he eventually backed down.</i>	<b>check out</b>	leave a hotel: <i>All guests must check out by midday.</i>
<b>back out</b>	decide not to do sth you agreed to do: <i>But you promised to help me this weekend – you can't back out now!</i>	<b>check out</b>	investigate: <i>Let's check out that new website Bill was talking about.</i>
<b>bank on</b>	depend on sth happening: <i>I'm really banking on getting that job at the supermarket.</i>	<b>clear up</b>	become brighter and better (for weather): <i>If it doesn't clear up, then I'm afraid we may have to cancel the race.</i>
<b>break down</b>	stop working (for a machine, etc): <i>That's the third time our car's broken down this month!</i>	<b>close down</b>	stop operating (for companies): <i>What is the government doing about the fact that dozens of local businesses are closing down every month?</i>
<b>break out</b>	escape (from prison): <i>Reports are coming in that five prisoners have broken out of Pentonwood Prison.</i>	<b>come (a)round</b>	happen again (for regular events): <i>Christmas soon comes around, doesn't it?</i>
<b>break out</b>	start suddenly (for a war, fire, etc): <i>It seems that the fire broke out in the kitchen.</i>	<b>come (a)round (to)</b>	be persuaded to change your mind (about): <i>That's a good point. Maybe I'm coming round to your way of thinking.</i>
<b>bring forward</b>	change the date/time of an event so it happens earlier: <i>Because of recent events, the meeting has been brought forward to the 29<sup>th</sup>.</i>	<b>come across</b>	find sth or meet sb by chance: <i>I came across some old photographs while I was clearing out my desk.</i>
<b>bring in</b>	introduce a new law or system: <i>The government are planning to bring in a law banning hunting.</i>	<b>come by</b>	get sth, especially sth that is hard to get: <i>How did you come by that painting?</i>
<b>bring on</b>	cause (an illness, etc): <i>Being out in the fog always brings on my asthma.</i>	<b>come down with</b>	start to suffer from a minor illness: <i>After being out in the storm, Alice came down with a cold.</i>
<b>bring out</b>	produce and start to sell a new product: <i>Did you hear that REM have just brought out a new album?</i>	<b>come forward</b>	offer help or information: <i>After the police appealed for help from the public, a number of people came forward with useful information.</i>
<b>bring up</b>	look after a child until he or she becomes an adult: <i>Both Sarah's parents died when she was young and she was brought up by her grandmother.</i>	<b>come into</b>	inherit: <i>At the age of eighteen, Roger suddenly came into a fortune.</i>
<b>bring up</b>	start discussing a subject: <i>I hate to bring it up, but do you have that money you owe me?</i>	<b>come off</b>	succeed: <i>Well, I think it's a stupid plan and I'll be amazed if it comes off.</i>
<b>call for</b>	require, need: <i>The manager said that the situation called for some difficult decisions.</i>	<b>come on</b>	develop or make progress: <i>Your piano playing is really coming on, isn't it?</i>
<b>call for</b>	demand: <i>The farmers are calling for assistance from the government.</i>	<b>come on</b>	start to be broadcast: <i>That quiz show you wanted to watch comes on in half an hour.</i>
<b>call off</b>	cancel: <i>I hope they don't call the concert off because of this rain.</i>	<b>come out</b>	be published: <i>I can't wait until the next Harry Potter book comes out.</i>
<b>carry on</b>	continue: <i>You carry on painting this wall and I'll go and get some more brushes.</i>	<b>come round/to</b>	become conscious: <i>After a worrying few minutes, Sean started to come round and opened his eyes.</i>
<b>carry out</b>	perform an experiment, etc: <i>The investigators have been carrying out tests on the pieces of plane recovered after the accident.</i>	<b>come up with</b>	think of (an idea, a plan, etc): <i>Who do you think came up with the idea of the bicycle?</i>
<b>catch on</b>	become popular or fashionable: <i>You green hair is great, but I don't think it'll catch on!</i>	<b>count on</b>	rely on, trust: <i>Don't worry – you can count on me to help if you need it.</i>
<b>catch on</b>	understand: <i>Greg is really clever and always catches on in class very quickly.</i>	<b>cross out</b>	draw a line through sth written: <i>Danny realised that he'd made a spelling mistake and crossed the word out.</i>
<b>catch up with</b>	reach the same point/level as: <i>I ran a little faster to try to catch up with the others.</i>	<b>cut down (on)</b>	do less of (smoking, etc): <i>If you can't give up smoking, you could at least try to cut down.</i>
<b>chase after</b>	follow sb/sth quickly in order to catch them: <i>The shopkeeper ran out of the shop and chased after the shoplifter as he ran down the street.</i>	<b>cut down (on)</b>	reduce an amount of: <i>My doctor has advised me to cut down on fat.</i>
		<b>cut off</b>	make a place difficult or impossible to enter, leave or communicate with: <i>The snow meant that the village was cut off for over a month.</i>