**Phrasal Verbs List**

* **ask somebody out**

**invite on a date**

**Brian asked Judy out to dinner and a movie.**

* **ask around**

**ask many people the same question**

**I asked around but nobody has seen my wallet.**

* **add up to something**

**equal**

**Your purchases add up to $205.32.**

* **back something up**

**reverse**

**You'll have to back up your car so that I can get out.**

* **back somebody up**

**support**

**My wife backed me up over my decision to quit my job.**

* **blow up**

**explode**

**The racing car blew up after it crashed into the fence.**

* **blow something up**

**add air**

**We have to blow 50 balloons up for the party.**

* **break down**

**stop functioning (vehicle, machine)**

**Our car broke down at the side of the highway in the snowstorm.**

* **break down**

**get upset**

**The woman broke down when the police told her that her son had died.**

* **break something down**

**divide into smaller parts**

**Our teacher broke the final project down into three separate parts.**

* **break in**

**force entry to a building**

**Somebody broke in last night and stole our stereo.**

* **break into something**

**enter forcibly**

**The firemen had to break into the room to rescue the children.**

* **break something in**

**wear something a few times so that it doesn't look/feel new**

**I need to break these shoes in before we run next week.**

* **break in**

**interrupt**

**The TV station broke in to report the news of the president's death.**

* **break up**

**end a relationship**

**My boyfriend and I broke up before I moved to America.**

* **break up**

**start laughing (informal)**

**The kids just broke up as soon as the clown started talking.**

* **break out**

**escape**

**The prisoners broke out of jail when the guards weren't looking.**

* **break out in something**

**develop a skin condition**

**I broke out in a rash after our camping trip.**

* **bring somebody down**

**make unhappy**

**This sad music is bringing me down.**

* **bring somebody up**

**raise a child**

**My grandparents brought me up after my parents died.**

* **bring something up**

**start talking about a subject**

**My mother walks out of the room when my father brings up sports.**

* **call around**

**phone many different places/people**

**We called around but we weren't able to find the car part we needed.**

* **call somebody back**

**return a phone call**

**I called the company back but the offices were closed for the weekend.**

* **call something off**

**cancel**

**Jason called the wedding off because he wasn't in love with his fiancé.**

* **call on somebody**

**ask for an answer or opinion**

**The professor called on me for question 1.**

* **call on somebody**

**visit somebody**

**We called on you last night but you weren't home.**

* **call somebody up**

**phone**

**Give me your phone number and I will call you up when we are in town.**

* **calm down**

**relax after being angry**

**You are still mad. You need to calm down before you drive the car.**

* **not care for somebody/ something**

**not like (formal)**

**I don't care for his behaviour.**

* **catch up**

**get to the same point as somebody else**

**You'll have to run faster than that if you want to catch up with Marty.**

* **check in**

**arrive and register at a hotel or airport**

**We will get the hotel keys when we check in.**

* **check out**

**leave a hotel**

**You have to check out of the hotel before 11:00 AM.**

* **check somebody/ something out**

**look at carefully, investigate**

**The company checks out all new employees.**

* **check out somebody/ something**

**look at (informal)**

**Check out the crazy hair on that guy!**

* **cheer up**

**become happier**

**She cheered up when she heard the good news.**

* **cheer somebody up**

**make happier**

**I brought you some flowers to cheer you up.**

* **chip in**

**help**

**If everyone chips in we can get the kitchen painted by noon.**

* **clean something up**

**tidy, clean**

**Please clean up your bedroom before you go outside.**

* **come across something**

**find unexpectedly**

**I came across these old photos when I was tidying the closet.**

* **come apart**

**separate**

**The top and bottom come apart if you pull hard enough.**

* **come down with something**

**become sick**

**My nephew came down with chicken pox this weekend.**

* **come forward**

**volunteer for a task or to give evidence**

**The woman came forward with her husband's finger prints.**

* **come from some place**

**originate in**

**The art of origami comes from Asia.**

* **count on somebody/ something**

**rely on**

**I am counting on you to make dinner while I am out.**

* **cross something out**

**draw a line through**

**Please cross out your old address and write your new one.**

* **cut back on something**

**consume less**

**My doctor wants me to cut back on sweets and fatty foods.**

* **cut something down**

**make something fall to the ground**

**We had to cut the old tree in our yard down after the storm.**

* **cut in**

**interrupt**

**Your father cut in while I was dancing with your uncle.**

* **cut in**

**pull in too closely in front of another vehicle**

**The bus driver got angry when that car cut in.**

* **cut in**

**start operating (of an engine or electrical device)**

**The air conditioner cuts in when the temperature gets to 22°C.**

* **cut something off**

**remove with something sharp**

**The doctors cut off his leg because it was severely injured.**

* **cut something off**

**stop providing**

**The phone company cut off our phone because we didn't pay the bill.**

* **cut somebody off**

**take out of a will**

**My grandparents cut my father off when he remarried.**

* **cut something out**

**remove part of something (usually with scissors and paper)**

**I cut this ad out of the newspaper.**

* **do somebody/ something over**

**beat up, ransack (BrE, informal)**

**He's lucky to be alive. His shop was done over by a street gang.**

* **do something over**

**do again (AmE)**

**My teacher wants me to do my essay over because she doesn't like my topic.**

* **do away with something**

**discard**

**It's time to do away with all of these old tax records.**

* **do something up**

**fasten, close**

**Do your coat up before you go outside. It's snowing!**

* **dress up**

**wear nice clothing**

**It's a fancy restaurant so we have to dress up.**

* **drop back**

**move back in a position/group**

**Andrea dropped back to third place when she fell off her bike.**

* **drop in/ by/ over**

**come without an appointment**

**I might drop in/by/over for tea sometime this week.**

* **drop somebody/ something off**

**take somebody/ something somewhere and leave them/it there**

**I have to drop my sister off at work before I come over.**

* **drop out**

**quit a class, school etc**

**I dropped out of Science because it was too difficult.**

* **eat out**

**eat at a restaurant**

**I don't feel like cooking tonight. Let's eat out.**

* **end up**

**eventually reach/do/decide**

**We ended up renting a movie instead of going to the theatre.**

* **fall apart**

**break into pieces**

**My new dress fell apart in the washing machine.**

* **fall down**

**fall to the ground**

**The picture that you hung up last night fell down this morning.**

* **fall out**

**separate from an interior**

**The money must have fallen out of my pocket.**

* **fall out**

**(of hair, teeth) become loose and unattached**

**His hair started to fall out when he was only 35.**

* **figure something out**

**understand, find the answer**

**I need to figure out how to fit the piano and the bookshelf in this room.**

* **fill something in**

**to write information in blanks, as on a form (BrE)**

**Please fill in the form with your name, address, and phone number.**

* **fill something out**

**to write information in blanks, as on a form (AmE)**

**The form must be filled out in capital letters.**

* **fill something up**

**fill to the top**

**I always fill the water jug up when it is empty.**

* **find out**

**discover**

**We don't know where he lives. How can we find out?**

* **find something out**

**discover**

**We tried to keep the time of the party a secret, but Samantha found it out.**

* **get something across/ over**

**communicate, make understandable**

**I tried to get my point across/over to the judge but she wouldn't listen.**

* **get along/on**

**like each other**

**I was surprised how well my new girlfriend and my sister got along/on.**

* **get around**

**have mobility**

**My grandfather can get around fine in his new wheelchair.**

* **get away**

**go on a vacation**

**We worked so hard this year that we had to get away for a week.**

* **get away with something**

**do without being noticed or punished**

**Jason always gets away with cheating in his maths tests.**

* **get back**

**return**

**We got back from our vacation last week.**

* **get something back**

**receive something you had before**

**Liz finally got her Science notes back from my room-mate.**

* **get back at somebody**

**retaliate, take revenge**

**My sister got back at me for stealing her shoes. She stole my favourite hat.**

* **get back into something**

**become interested in something again**

**I finally got back into my novel and finished it.**

* **get on something**

**step onto a vehicle**

**We're going to freeze out here if you don't let us get on the bus.**

* **get over something**

**recover from an illness, loss, difficulty**

**I just got over the flu and now my sister has it.**

* **get over something**

**overcome a problem**

**The company will have to close if it can't get over the new regulations.**

* **get round to something**

**finally find time to do (AmE: get around to something)**

**I don't know when I am going to get round to writing the thank you cards.**

* **get together**

**meet (usually for social reasons)**

**Let's get together for a BBQ this weekend.**

* **get up**

**get out of bed**

**I got up early today to study for my exam.**

* **get up**

**stand**

**You should get up and give the elderly man your seat.**

* **give somebody away**

**reveal hidden information about somebody**

**His wife gave him away to the police.**

* **give somebody away**

**take the bride to the altar**

**My father gave me away at my wedding.**

* **give something away**

**ruin a secret**

**My little sister gave the surprise party away by accident.**

* **give something away**

**give something to somebody for free**

**The library was giving away old books on Friday.**

* **give something back**

**return a borrowed item**

**I have to give these skates back to Franz before his hockey game.**

* **give in**

**reluctantly stop fighting or arguing**

**My boyfriend didn't want to go to the ballet, but he finally gave in.**

* **give something out**

**give to many people (usually at no cost)**

**They were giving out free perfume samples at the department store.**

* **give something up**

**quit a habit**

**I am giving up smoking as of January 1st.**

* **give up**

**stop trying**

**My maths homework was too difficult so I gave up.**

* **go after somebody**

**follow somebody**

**My brother tried to go after the thief in his car.**

* **go after something**

**try to achieve something**

**I went after my dream and now I am a published writer.**

* **go against somebody**

**compete, oppose**

**We are going against the best soccer team in the city tonight.**

* **go ahead**

**start, proceed**

**Please go ahead and eat before the food gets cold.**

* **go back**

**return to a place**

**I have to go back home and get my lunch.**

* **go out**

**leave home to go on a social event**

**We're going out for dinner tonight.**

* **go out with somebody**

**date**

**Jesse has been going out with Luke since they met last winter.**

* **go over something**

**review**

**Please go over your answers before you submit your test.**

* **go over**

**visit somebody nearby**

**I haven't seen Tina for a long time. I think I'll go over for an hour or two.**

* **go without something**

**suffer lack or deprivation**

**When I was young, we went without winter boots.**

* **grow apart**

**stop being friends over time**

**My best friend and I grew apart after she changed schools.**

* **grow back**

**regrow**

**My roses grew back this summer.**

* **grow into something**

**grow big enough to fit**

**This bike is too big for him now, but he should grow into it by next year.**

* **grow out of something**

**get too big for**

**Elizabeth needs a new pair of shoes because she has grown out of her old ones.**

* **grow up**

**become an adult**

**When Jack grows up he wants to be a fireman.**

* **hand something down**

**give something used to somebody else**

**I handed my old comic books down to my little cousin.**

* **hand something in**

**submit**

**I have to hand in my essay by Friday.**

* **hand something out**

**to distribute to a group of people**

**We will hand out the invitations at the door.**

* **hand something over**

**give (usually unwillingly)**

**The police asked the man to hand over his wallet and his weapons.**

* **hang in**

**stay positive (informal)**

**Hang in there. I'm sure you'll find a job very soon.**

* **hang on**

**wait a short time (informal)**

**Hang on while I grab my coat and shoes!**

* **hang out**

**spend time relaxing (informal)**

**Instead of going to the party we are just going to hang out at my place.**

* **hang up**

**end a phone call**

**He didn't say goodbye before he hung up.**

* **hold somebody/ something back**

**prevent from doing/going**

**I had to hold my dog back because there was a cat in the park.**

* **hold something back**

**hide an emotion**

**Jamie held back his tears at his grandfather's funeral.**

* **hold on**

**wait a short time**

**Please hold on while I transfer you to the Sales Department.**

* **hold onto somebody/ something**

**hold firmly using your hands or arms**

**Hold onto your hat because it's very windy outside.**

* **hold somebody/ something up**

**rob**

**A man in a black mask held the bank up this morning.**

* **keep on doing something**

**continue doing**

**Keep on stirring until the liquid comes to a boil.**

* **keep something from somebody**

**not tell**

**We kept our relationship from our parents for two years.**

* **keep somebody/ something out**

**stop from entering**

**Try to keep the wet dog out of the living room.**

* **keep something up**

**continue at the same rate**

**If you keep those results up you will get into a great college.**

* **let somebody down**

**fail to support or help, disappoint**

**I need you to be on time. Don't let me down this time.**

* **let somebody in**

**allow to enter**

**Can you let the cat in before you go to school?**

* **log in (or on)**

**sign in (to a website, database etc)**

**I can't log in to Facebook because I've forgotten my password.**

* **log out (or off)**

**sign out (of a website, database etc)**

**If you don't log off somebody could get into your account.**

* **look after somebody/ something**

**take care of**

**I have to look after my sick grandmother.**

* **look down on somebody**

**think less of, consider inferior**

**Ever since we stole that chocolate bar your dad has looked down on me.**

* **look for somebody/ something**

**try to find**

**I'm looking for a red dress for the wedding.**

* **look forward to something**

**be excited about the future**

**I'm looking forward to the Christmas break.**

* **look into something**

**investigate**

**We are going to look into the price of snowboards today.**

* **look out**

**be careful, vigilant, and take notice**

**Look out! That car's going to hit you!**

* **look out for somebody/ something**

**be especially vigilant for**

**Don't forget to look out for snakes on the hiking trail.**

* **look something over**

**check, examine**

**Can you look over my essay for spelling mistakes?**

* **look something up**

**search and find information in a reference book or database**

**We can look her phone number up on the Internet.**

* **look up to somebody**

**have a lot of respect for**

**My little sister has always looked up to me.**

* **make something up**

**invent, lie about something**

**Josie made up a story about why we were late.**

* **make up**

**forgive each other**

**We were angry last night, but we made up at breakfast.**

* **make somebody up**

**apply cosmetics to**

**My sisters made me up for my graduation party.**

* **mix something up**

**confuse two or more things**

**I mixed up the twins' names again!**

* **pass away**

**die**

**His uncle passed away last night after a long illness.**

* **pass out**

**faint**

**It was so hot in the church that an elderly lady passed out.**

* **pass something out**

**give the same thing to many people**

**The professor passed the textbooks out before class.**

* **pass something up**

**decline (usually something good)**

**I passed up the job because I am afraid of change.**

* **pay somebody back**

**return owed money**

**Thanks for buying my ticket. I'll pay you back on Friday.**

* **pay for something**

**be punished for doing something bad**

**That bully will pay for being mean to my little brother.**

* **pick something out**

**choose**

**I picked out three sweaters for you to try on.**

* **point somebody/ something out**

**indicate with your finger**

**I'll point my boyfriend out when he runs by.**

* **put something down**

**put what you are holding on a surface or floor**

**You can put the groceries down on the kitchen counter.**

* **put somebody down**

**insult, make somebody feel stupid**

**The students put the substitute teacher down because his pants were too short.**

* **put something off**

**postpone**

**We are putting off our trip until January because of the hurricane.**

* **put something out**

**extinguish**

**The neighbours put the fire out before the firemen arrived.**

* **put something together**

**assemble**

**I have to put the crib together before the baby arrives.**

* **put up with somebody/ something**

**tolerate**

**I don't think I can put up with three small children in the car.**

* **put something on**

**put clothing/ accessories on your body**

**Don't forget to put on your new earrings for the party.**

* **run into somebody/ something**

**meet unexpectedly**

**I ran into an old school-friend at the mall.**

* **run over somebody/ something**

**drive a vehicle over a person or thing**

**I accidentally ran over your bicycle in the driveway.**

* **run over/ through something**

**rehearse, review**

**Let's run over/through these lines one more time before the show.**

* **run away**

**leave unexpectedly, escape**

**The child ran away from home and has been missing for three days.**

* **run out**

**have none left**

**We ran out of shampoo so I had to wash my hair with soap.**

* **send something back**

**return (usually by mail)**

**My letter got sent back to me because I used the wrong stamp.**

* **set something up**

**arrange, organize**

**Our boss set a meeting up with the president of the company.**

* **set somebody up**

**trick, trap**

**The police set up the car thief by using a hidden camera.**

* **shop around**

**compare prices**

**I want to shop around a little before I decide on these boots.**

* **show off**

**act extra special for people watching (usually boastfully)**

**He always shows off on his skateboard**

* **sleep over**

**stay somewhere for the night (informal)**

**You should sleep over tonight if the weather is too bad to drive home.**

* **sort something out**

**organize, resolve a problem**

**We need to sort the bills out before the first of the month.**

* **stick to something**

**continue doing something, limit yourself to one particular thing**

**You will lose weight if you stick to the diet.**

* **switch something off**

**stop the energy flow, turn off**

**The light's too bright. Could you switch it off.**

* **switch something on**

**start the energy flow, turn on**

**We heard the news as soon as we switched on the car radio.**

* **take after somebody**

**resemble a family member**

**I take after my mother. We are both impatient.**

* **take something apart**

**purposely break into pieces**

**He took the car brakes apart and found the problem.**

* **take something back**

**return an item**

**I have to take our new TV back because it doesn't work.**

* **take off**

**start to fly**

**My plane takes off in five minutes.**

* **take something off**

**remove something (usually clothing)**

**Take off your socks and shoes and come in the lake!**

* **take something out**

**remove from a place or thing**

**Can you take the garbage out to the street for me?**

* **take somebody out**

**pay for somebody to go somewhere with you**

**My grandparents took us out for dinner and a movie.**

* **tear something up**

**rip into pieces**

**I tore up my ex-boyfriend's letters and gave them back to him.**

* **think back**

**remember (often + to, sometimes + on)**

**When I think back on my youth, I wish I had studied harder.**

* **think something over**

**consider**

**I'll have to think this job offer over before I make my final decision.**

* **throw something away**

**dispose of**

**We threw our old furniture away when we won the lottery.**

* **turn something down**

**decrease the volume or strength (heat, light etc)**

**Please turn the TV down while the guests are here.**

* **turn something down**

**refuse**

**I turned the job down because I don't want to move.**

* **turn something off**

**stop the energy flow, switch off**

**Your mother wants you to turn the TV off and come for dinner.**

* **turn something on**

**start the energy, switch on**

**It's too dark in here. Let's turn some lights on.**

* **turn something up**

**increase the volume or strength (heat, light etc)**

**Can you turn the music up? This is my favourite song.**

* **turn up**

**appear suddenly**

**Our cat turned up after we put posters up all over the neighbourhood.**

* **try something on**

**sample clothing**

**I'm going to try these jeans on, but I don't think they will fit.**

* **try something out**

**test**

**I am going to try this new brand of detergent out.**

* **use something up**

**finish the supply**

**The kids used all of the toothpaste up so we need to buy some more.**

* **wake up**

**stop sleeping**

**We have to wake up early for work on Monday.**

* **warm somebody/ something up**

**increase the temperature**

**You can warm your feet up in front of the fireplace.**

* **warm up**

**prepare body for exercise**

**I always warm up by doing sit-ups before I go for a run.**

* **wear off**

**fade away**

**Most of my make-up wore off before I got to the party.**

* **work out**

**exercise**

**I work out at the gym three times a week.**

* **work out**

**be successful**

**Our plan worked out fine.**

* **work something out**

**make a calculation**

**We have to work out the total cost before we buy the house.**

**30 Common Phrasal Verbs**

**1 To call around**

**To contact multiple people.**

**Example: Roy called around to find a nearby mechanic.**

**2 To call [x] off**

**To cancel.**

**Example: We called the party off. or We called off the party.**

**3 To check [x] out**

**To verify a person or thing. When regarding a person, this phrase can also be flirtatious.**

**Example: I’ll check the contract out. or I’ll check out the contract.**

**4 To clean [x] up**

**To clean a general area.**

**Example: John cleaned the living room up. or John cleaned up the living room.**

**5 To dive into**

**To occupy oneself with something.**

**Example: I’ll dive into that new TV show later tonight.**

**6 To dress up**

**To wear nice clothes.**

**Example: Abed dressed up for the presentation.**

**7 To end up**

**To eventually become a certain way, or find oneself in a situation.**

**Example: He ended up taking the job.**

**8 To fill [x] up**

**To fill something completely.**

**Example: Bruce filled his wine glass up. or Bruce filled up his wine glass.**

**9 To find out**

**To discover.**

**Example: Let me know when you find out the answer.**

**10 To get [x] back**

**To have something returned.**

**Example: Rodger got his pencil back from Lenny. or Rodger got back his pencil from Lenny.**

**11 To get away with**

**To escape punishment or some other unpleasantness.**

**Example: Shirley got away with cheating on the test.**

**12 To get along**

**To be friendly with one another.**

**Example: Franny gets along with Kristin.**

**13 To give [x] away**

**To donate something or to give it up for free.**

**Example: Mindy gave her prized doll collection away. or Mindy gave away her prized doll collection.**

**14 To give up**

**To accept defeat.**

**Example: Carin felt like giving up.**

**15 To give [x] up**

**To cease consuming or doing something, often a habit.**

**Example: Merlin gave chocolate up or Merlin gave up chocolate.**

**16 To go over**

**To review.**

**Example: Marie went over the writing assignment.**

**17 To leave [x] out**

**To omit.**

**Example: Rosie left the graph out of the presentation. or Rosie left out the graph from the presentation.**

**18 To let [x] down**

**To disappoint somebody.**

**Example:Sally let Mark down when she showed up late.**

**19 To look after**

**To take care of someone or something.**

**Example: Thank you for looking after me when I was sick.**

**20 To pull [x] up**

**To bring up bring something nearer.**

**Example: Eugene pulled the document up on his computer. or Eugene pulled up the document on his computer.**

**21 To put [x] on**

**To add something to your person or an object.**

**Example: I always put my backpack on before leaving the house. or I always put on my backpack before leaving the house.**

**22 To put up with**

**To tolerate or condone.**

**Example: Jeff put up with Janice’s cynical attitude.**

**23 To run out of**

**To drain the supply of something.**

**Example: Maria ran out of paper towels and had to go to the store.**

**24 To see to**

**To make sure something is done.**

**Example: I’ll see to watering the plants.**

**25 To take after**

**To resemble, usually used to describe parents and their children.**

**Example: Li takes after his father.**

**26 To take [x] out**

**To move something outside.**

**Example: Please take the garbage out before you leave. or Please take out the garbage before you leave.**

**27 To think [x] over**

**To consider something.**

**Example: Yosef thought Rosie’s situation over. or Yosef thought over Rosie’s situation.**

**28 To throw [x] away**

**To dispose of something.**

**Example: Could you throw that burrito away? or Could you throw away that burrito?**

**29 To top off**

**To fill something to the top.**

**Example: May I top off your beverage?**

**30 To wait on**

**To serve.**

**Example: Billie waited on the table of customers.**

**Source: Internet**