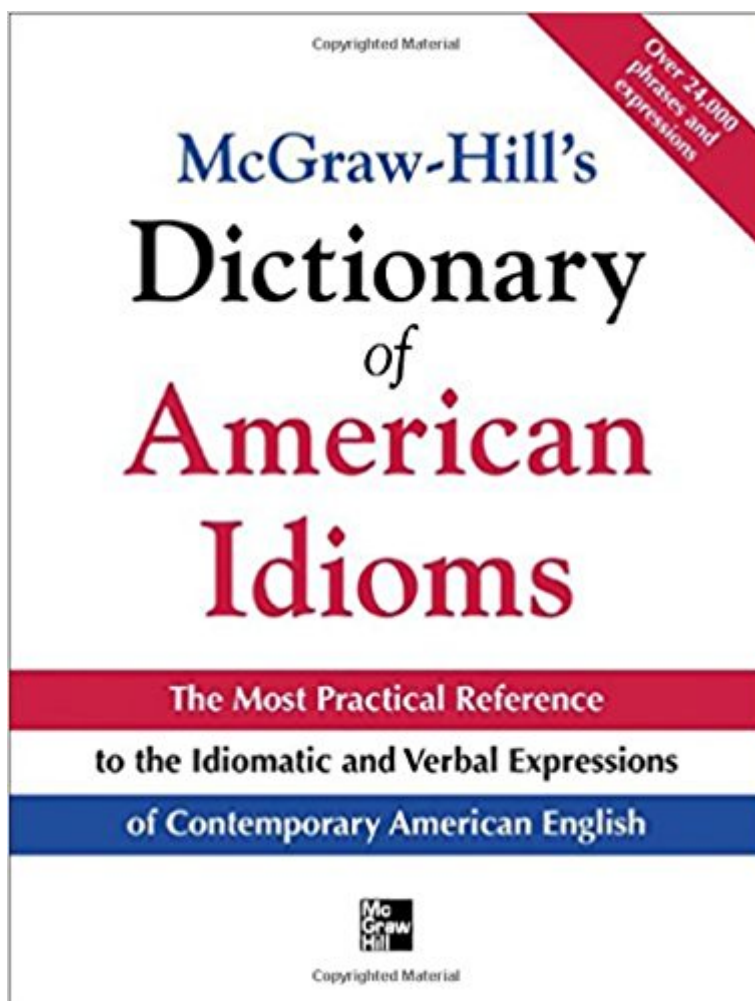


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# McGraw-Hill's Dictionary Of American Idioms And Phrasal Verbs



## Synopsis

The most in-depth, comprehensive book of common idioms and phraseology available From proverbial expressions ("the best things in life are free") to idiomatic expressions ("the best of both worlds") to the all-too-familiar clichés ("the best-case scenario"), idioms are not only embedded in our language, but they are also a colorful reflection of our American culture. McGraw-Hill's Dictionary of American Idioms embraces the fullest breadth of these idioms in one comprehensive reference that is a must-have for both ESL learners and native speakers. Providing the most comprehensive treatment of American phraseology available, particularly in the area of verbal expressions, McGraw-Hill's Dictionary of American Idioms features: More than 24,000 entries Concise definitions of each entry and sense, followed by one or two example sentences Idiomatic phrases, proverbial expressions, and clichés Guidance on the tone appropriate for a select phrase as well as its origin Thorough treatment of variation, of particular help to ESL learners A comprehensive Phrase-Finder Index

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The most comprehensive, in-depth guide to common American idioms and phraseology available The hardest part of getting the hang of a language is making sense of its idioms. From proverbial expressions such as "a stitch in time saves nine," to idioms such as "dead ringer," to such common verbal phrases as "put out" and "take on," these colorful constructions, so abundant in American English, seem to serve no other purpose than to frustrate and confuse. But don't despair! Thanks to

the efforts of noted lexicographer Richard A. Spears, mastering American English idioms has never been easier. McGraw-Hill's Dictionary of American Idioms and Phrasal Verbs covers the full breadth and scope of idiomatic American English, making it an essential companion to standard desk dictionaries. An invaluable resource for ESL students, as well as writers, scholars, and public speakers, this reference combines in one volume the two most perplexing aspects of American English phraseology--idioms and phrasal verbs--providing ready access to the complete meanings and varying usages of thousands of common terms and verb constructs. Outstanding features include: More than 24,000 entries and 27,000 senses Idiomatic phrases, proverbial expressions, and clichés Concise definitions, plus one or more example sentences for each phrase Sources (e.g., the Bible, Shakespeare, etc.) and origins (e.g., Rural, Nautical) Guidance on the correct tone and social context Uniquely thorough treatment of variation (e.g., to get, to have, or to give the low-down) A comprehensive Phrase-Finder Index of more than 60,000 entries--let's you locate phrases by key words, including common particles in two-part verbs

Richard A. Spears, Ph.D., was a professor of linguistics at Northwestern University before he turned to editorial work. He has authored more than 150 books and articles on various aspects of language. His main interest is in phrasal dictionaries and references designed for language learners.

A lot of people, like me, do not read the product description carefully. I thought this dictionary would be on the smaller side. But now that I received it I see that this is NOT a "pocket dictionary" by any means Check the dimensions (I did not). Here they are:Product Dimensions: 7 x 1.5 x 9.9 inchesShipping Weight: 3.6 poundsIt is quite heavy, since it is over 1,000 pages!All that being said, as an ESL teacher, I can honestly say I have never seen a more comprehensive phrasal verb/idiom dictionary. It is a great dictionary for people who need to learn phrasal verbs and idioms.

American English is full of phrasal verbs, preposition verbs, and phrasal-prepositional verbs that can drive non-English speakers crazy. The price of this book, as advertised (about \$14), is worth the investment for the wealth of information you get about American idioms and phrases. However, you do not learn the language by sitting on, or putting the book under your pillow. You have to use it! Nothing replaces active reading, writing, and speaking the language.The text has two sections: the dictionary, and the phrase-Finder Index. These two and the learner's desire to communicate in English will take you far.Kuddos to Richard for putting such a wonderful publication for the benefit of

many.PS: English is my second language.

The McGraw-Hill Dictionary of American Idioms and Verbal Phrases is head-and-shoulders above the competitive publications on the market. It's certainly the most inclusive, and the awesome phrase finder index in the back makes life so easy! I went through a host of "peer" versions before finding "the real thing." Don't waste your money on the other publications, even if you pay less.

good

Every Idioms and slang dictionary that I have bought for the kindle do NOT have an indexed search feature like the normal dictionaries made for the kindle and as such I have found these dictionaries to be close to worthless. You have to go thru the dictionary page by page and hope to find what you are looking for. I expected better from McGraw-Hill's.

This book is one of the most comprehensive I've ever seen when it comes to Idioms and Phrasal Verbs. It gives not only the explanation about the listed terms, but also includes usage examples. At the end of the book, there is a reference index which helps to find any expression contained in there. If you know at least one word from the phrase you are looking for, then you may find it listed and then you just go to the proper page for the necessary details. If you are a language learner or simply a language lover, it is a book that you should have on your shelf.

One of the best reference books in my personal library. Happy to have it.

Not enough being so complete with more than 24.000 entries, the phrasal verbs and idioms are very well organized. Information is also precise and well presented, with plenty of real usage examples. The Phrase Finder, at the end, is very useful for a more complete and objective search. The printing, the paper and the cover are very good also, making this book a good choice for people willing to expand vocabulary and comprehension of contemporary American English.

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