

Common American Idioms

a dime a dozen
a penny for your thoughts
a picture is worth a thousand words
a sight for sore eyes
absence makes the heart grow fonder
Achilles's heel
actions speak louder than words
add fuel to the fire
add insult to injury
against the grain
all thumbs
apple of my eye
around the clock
at the drop of a hat
back seat driver
back to square one
ball and chain
barking up the wrong tree
beat around the bush
beef up
best of both worlds
beyond the pale
birds of a feather flock together
bite off more than you can chew
blessing in disguise
blind leading the blind
break a leg
break my heart
break the ice
brownie points
burn the midnight oil

butter you up
butterflies in my stomach
bury the hatchet
by the skin of your teeth
can't judge a book by its cover
catch a cold
caught between a rock and a hard place
caught with your hand in the cookie jar
chew the fat
chip on your shoulder
clear the air
close but no cigar
cool as a cucumber
cost an arm and a leg
count on someone
cross that bridge when you come to it
cry me a river
cry over spilled milk
curiosity killed the cat
cut corners
cut to the chase
devil's advocate
dog days of summer
don't bite the hand that feeds you
don't count your chickens
before they're hatched
down in the dumps
down to Earth
drastic times call for drastic measures
dressed to the nines
dropping like flies

drink like a fish
eat crow
eat your words
elephant in the room
Elvis has left the building
every cloud has a silver lining
extend an olive branch
eyes are bigger than your stomach
eyes in the back of my head
fall off the wagon
feeding frenzy
feeling under the weather
ferret out
fit as a fiddle
friends in high places
get cold feet
get off my back
get off your soapbox
getting a second wind
give the cold shoulder
good Samaritan
green thumb
grin like a Cheshire cat
go bananas
go out on a limb
got off scot-free
have a ball
have a field day
head in the clouds
heard it through the grapevine
heart of gold

Common American Idioms

hit the books
hit the ground running
hit the nail on the head
hit the sack
hold your horses
hot potato
in hot water
in the doghouse
in the heat of the moment
in the palm of my hand
in the same boat
it's all in your head
it's Greek to me
it takes two to tango
jump on the bandwagon
keep something at bay
keep your chin up
kill two birds with one stone
knock me over with a feather
know it by heart
know the ropes
last straw
leave no stone unturned
lend an ear
let sleeping dogs lie
let the cat out of the bag
lock, stock, and barrel
mad as a hatter
make a long story short
method to the madness
missed the boat

Montezuma's revenge
needle in a haystack
nose to the grindstone
not my cup of tea
not playing with a full deck
off your rocker
on a high horse
on pins and needles
on the back burner
on top of the world
once in a blue moon
out of the woods
parting shot
pie in the sky
piece of cake
put your best foot forward
pull some strings
pull the wool over your eyes
pulling your leg
put the cart before the horse
raining cats and dogs
red-letter day
red tape
right on the money
run it up the ladder
sleep like a log
slush fund
snowball effect
speak of the devil
spill the beans
steal your thunder

stick a fork in it
straight from the horse's mouth
swan song
take with a grain of salt
take a raincheck
taste of your own medicine
the apple doesn't fall far
from the tree
the ball's in your court
the jig is up
the short end of the stick
the straw that broke the camel's back
the way the cookie crumbles
the whole nine yards
thick as thieves
three sheets to the wind
throw caution to the wind
tickled pink
time flies when you're having fun
to get along swimmingly
to know someone inside and out
to see eye to eye
tongue-tied
turn over a new leaf
turn the house upside down
wade through
wild goose chase
wolf in sheep's clothing
worth one's salt
wrong side of the bed
your guess is as good as mine

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