

Phrasal verb	Umschreibung/Übersetzung	Beispiel
abstain from sth.	etwas nicht tun	I abstain from voting.
account for sth.	explain the reason for sth. or the cause of sth.	Can you account for your expenses?
account for sb.	explain where s.o. is especially s.o. missing	They didn't account for the missing men and women.
add up	sum up	This adds up to 150 calories.
add up to	have a particular result or effect	Whether this adds up to any real help?
to adhere to	obey a rule or principle	You have to adhere to the safety instructions.
agree with	situations or decisions that are right for you	I agree with you on that issue.
aim at sth.	intend to achieve sth.	We are aiming at finding a solution.
allow for	consider and/or include sth. when you are making plans	In some cases there may be a need to introduce steps to allow for movement to a higher level.
allude to	mention sth.or s.o. in an indirect way	He constantly alludes to her incompetence.
apologise for	say sorry	You should apologise for your behaviour towards Amanda.
appeal to s.o.	you pledge for sth.	The company appealed to the supreme court to change the laws.
apply for	sich um etwas bewerben	Kevin applied for the job.
approve of	you agree to sth.	The chairman approved of the agreement.
arrive at	achieve an agreement	After hours of negotiating we finally arrived at a good solution.
bear with	be patient and wait	Bear with me for a bit longer. I can't be alone right now.
beat up	hurt s.o. badly	The burglars had beaten him up so badly that he had to go to hospital.

benefit from	have an advantage	It is mostly the rich who benefit from the new tax regulations.
believe in	an etwas glauben	Atheists do not believe in God.
belong to	etwas gehört (zu ...)	The bag belongs to Jim.
blow up	to destroy sth. with a bomb/explosion	I am going to blow up the building.

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break in on	interrupt s.o. doing sth. in approaching	Oh sorry, am I breaking in on your tea party?
break up	end a marriage or relationship	If you break up with me, I am going to follow you around and terrorise you!
bring about	make sth. happen	That hopefully will bring about an improvement in my situation.
bring along	bring s.o. or sth. somewhere	Can I bring Sharon along ?
bring up sth.	to address an issue	Please do not bring it up in the meeting, ok?
burst into	enter a room suddenly and without warning	He suddenly burst into the bedroom and caught her with another man.
be bursting with	(immer continuous) to have a lot of sth.	The young father was bursting with pride when his son said his name for the first time. They were bursting with laughter when the teacher came in.
call back	return a phone call	Please ask Tom to call me back when he comes home.
call by/in	stop at a friend's place for a short visit	I'll call by later when I go to town. I'll call in at Susan's later.
calm down	stop feeling angry, upset	You need to calm down first!
carry on	continue doing sth.	Carry on driving, I'll answer the call.

carry out	complete sth.	The plan was carried out with extreme precision.
collaborate with	work together with	I am not going to collaborate with this person.
come across sth.	discover sth. by chance	We were lucky to have come across the best restaurant in town.
come up with sth.	have an idea	He came up with a horrible scheme to kill his mother.
complain about	you disagree and you say that	Customers complained about the high prices.
contribute to	to add to sth. in helping, in discussing	I would like to contribute the following idea to our discussion:....

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count on	rely on s.o.	I can always count on my friends.
date back to	exists since a particular time	The building dates back to 1155.
dawn on	realise or understand sth.	It dawned on him that his boss had been lying to him about a promotion to motivate him.
deal with	handle a problem/situation	He was unable to deal with his loss.
delight in	you find delight in sth. = you get a lot of pleasure out of sth.	They delighted in drinking and smoking.
depend on	hängt ab von	It all depends on your decision!
deprive of	take sth. important away	London has been deprived of its glamour recently.
disagree with	not the same opinion	I strongly disagree with the solution you suggested last week.

discriminate against	jmd./etw. diskriminieren	The statement discriminates against women.
do without	manage to be without s.o. or sth.	He just can't do without a bottle of wine in the evening.
dress up	put on formal clothes	Make sure to dress up for my party!
drift apart	gradually losing someone; auseinanderleben	They were drifting apart since their first child had been born.
embark on	start sth. large or important or new	The investors decided to embark on his project because they trusted him. The settlers embarked on their journey and put their lives at risk.
expel from	ausschließen	He was expelled from school after he insulting the principal.
fall apart	sth. breaks; an organisation, system or agreement stops existing	The company fell apart after the founder had died.
fall behind	not keep up with a group of people or a person	He fell behind his classmates when he stopped doing his homework

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finish off	complete the last bits and pieces of sth. you have started	I am going to finish off the job tomorrow.
focus on	concentrate on	You should focus on your tasks a bit more.
get sth. across	successfully communicate an idea	It is not always easy to get your message across .
get along/on with sb.	gut mit jmd. auskommen	Since he turned 16 I get along/on really well with my younger brother.
get away	escape, Strafe entgehen	He was so good at lying that he got away with the crime.

get by	to have enough money or enough knowledge to muddle through	My salary is quite low but I still earn enough to get by .
get off	to leave a bus, train, plane, or boat	Don't forget to get off the bus at central station.
give away	give something for free	I gave away all my comic books to my nephew.
glance at	look at	When she woke up she stayed in bed and glanced at the ceiling, thinking of her mother.
hint at	suggest sth. in an indirect way	There was nothing in his early childhood to hint at his future career.
identify with	sich mit jmd./etw. identifizieren	Teenagers strongly identify with their idols.
improve on	to do sth. in a better way	In order to improve on swimming, you need to practice every day.
insist on	to demand sth. that you want and you fight for it verbally	They insist on loyalty.
live up to	you fulfil expectations	She actually managed to live up to her high expectations.
long for	desire sth.	She desperately longed for a piece of chocolate.

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look after	take care of s.o. or sth.	Could you please look after my cat while I am on holiday?
look into	discover the facts about a problem	Police inquiry urged to look into racism.
look for	search	If you are looking for your glasses, they are on the kitchen table.

make of s.o.	think of sth.	He did not know what to make of the strange look she had given him right before he left the apartment.
make up for	replace sth. that broke or got lost; reconcile	She had no idea how to make up for the pain she had caused him.
marvel at	bestaunen	She marvelled at her brother's brilliant acting on stage.
object to	feel or say that you dislike sth. or s.o.	Most people object to death penalty.
opt in/out	to be part or no part of an activity	Schools and housing associations can opt out of local authority control.
pass away	to die	My father has passed away last week.
pick out	choose	Pick out your favourite dish for Christmas.
point at	auf jmd./etw. zeigen	When the teacher asked who had just thrown the paper plane the whole class pointed at Tom.
point out	to highlight sth.	As you have rightly pointed out , we have no idea where the money for the new building is supposed to come from.
pretend to	so tun als ob	He pretended to love her but had only been interested in her money.
put behind	forget about it and live on	It's an experience he is glad to put behind him.
quarrel with	have an argument with s.o.	What was your quarrel with him all about?
queue up	wait in line one person after the other	The British love to queue up .

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reach out for	try very hard to achieve a better or new situation	Refugees reach out for a better and peaceful life.
reason with	try to convince s.o.	Da Silva said he had tried to reason with the fans but they had drawn guns.
refer to	sich auf etw. beziehen/auf etw. verweisen	This is what we refer to as a good Christian action.
reflect on/upon	think hard about sth.	He lived to reflect on what he described as the 'luckiest escape of my life'.
ring up	phone s.o.	I'll ring up Steve and ask him if he has got time tonight.
see about	arrange for sth. to be done	No, I think she's gone to see about a divorce.
settle down	start living in a new place, where you stay for a longer period of time	I could imagine to settle down in the south of Europe.
settle for	accept sth. with compromises	We settled for the best offer he was ready to make.
shout at	jmd. anschreien	Stop shouting at your sister!
show off	to boast	He showed off with his new car. It was horrible.
shut down	to close/end sth.	They shut down the factory.
shy away from	avoid doing sth. because you are not confident enough to do it	He had always shied away from public speeches.
stand out	sth. can easily be noticed	You stand out with your red hair

stare at	continually look at sth.	Don't stare at the woman like that.
subject to	sth. undergoes sth.	The report has been subjected to detailed analysis.
succeed in	be successful in sth.	She succeeded in her job and was promoted three times in one year.

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taken aback	abgestoßen sein von	I was taken aback by his brutal response.
take advantage of	use sth. to your own advantage	She always takes advantage of the situation.
take after	jmd. nachgeraten/ähneln	He takes after his father in looks and manner.
talk back	contradict	She doesn't talk back to her father.
talk into	convince s.o. to do sth. he/she does not want to do	I talked him into buying a new car.
talk over	discuss sth.	We talked it over and the problem is solved.
tell from	infer a conclusion from present evidence	I could tell from his facial expression: He didn't like the idea.
turn down	ablehnen	She was offered a job but turned it down .
use up	verbrauchen, leer machen	You can use up the milk. I have to go shopping anyway.
walk away	leave	She walked away from me.
work out	figure out	We couldn't work out why they looked so sad.