

A P A R E N T ' S Q U I D E

T O

Teen Slang

2018 Edition

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Welcome to the World of Teen Slang

Lost? Confused? Unable to understand your teens? Don't worry; you're in good company. Keeping up with teen slang is nearly impossible. New words are constantly being introduced, thanks to the influence of music, the Internet, apps, and celebrities (not to mention regional vernacular!). You may feel overwhelmed and lost when listening to your children/grandchildren speaking, and it'll only get worse when reading social media posts and hashtags. Use this guide as a reference for what's widely popular right now in order to translate what teens are saying.

Fun, Harmless, Silly

Adulting = To do things a bona fide adult would do. "Adulting is no fun. Why do I have to give all my money to the government?!"

Aesthetic = The new "vibe." "I don't like this artist because I don't get her aesthetic." "I love the aesthetic of this Instagram account I just found."

Bae = Before Anyone Else; also a synonym for "babe" or "baby."

Basic = A way to describe someone who lacks originality and enjoys the most mainstream and predictable things.

Dead/dying = When something is so funny, you can't handle it. **Variation:** TD (to die); "That jacket is TD. Buy it!"

Done = To be completely over a task, person, emotion, or situation.

Extra = Over the top, excessive, dramatic. "I aspire to be this level of extra at my graduation."

Fam = Family, to denote one's actual family or one's closest friends.

Finesse = To perfect or smooth things out (either physically or emotionally). "I need to finesse my shoe collection." Can also be used to refer to a person's style.

Fire = Cool, awesome. "This party is fire!" Also denoted by the fire emoji.

FR = For Real.

GOAT = Greatest Of All Time.

Gucci = Good, cool.

Hundo P = One Hundred Percent.

IRL = In Real Life.

Keep it 100 = Be true to yourself and stick to your values (short for "Keep it 100% real"). Made mainstream recently by *The Bachelorette*'s Rachel Lindsay. **Synonym:** Trill (combo of "true" and "real.")

Live/living = When something is so incredible, it's finally making you "live." Could also be said to be giving you "life."

Like recent = Using one social media platform to tell one's followers to like his/her most recent post on another social media platform. Often seen as desperate. **Synonyms:** LB (like back), FB (follow back).

Lit = Cool, awesome. "This party is lit!" Can also mean to be drunk or high: "Let's get lit and jump off the roof!" (Not as cool of a word as "fire" these days.)

Narrative = Something you would not like to take part in. "I would v much like to be excluded from this narrative." [Popularized by Taylor Swift](#) in response to Kanye West and Kim Kardashian.

Neglect = To intentionally or unintentionally abandon someone in the middle of text message conversation for a prolonged period of time. “I totally fell asleep last night. I didn’t mean to neglect you!”

NMH = Nodding My Head, i.e. expressing agreement or approval.

P = Pretty. “That new Netflix show is p cool.”

RN = Right now.

RT = Retweet. Also used to show agreement (because typically people don’t retweet things they disagree with). “Do you like Taylor Swift’s new hair?” “Yessss, RT RT RT.”

SMH = Shaking My Head, i.e. expressing disagreement or disapproval.

Savage = To be hardcore, fierce, bada**. Can refer to arguments, takedowns, and a general disregard for consequences.

Ship = Short for “relationship.” Used to endorse/support a romantic coupling, even one that’s not reality. “I ship Ron and Hermione.” “I see a ship developing!” **Synonym: OTP** (One True Pairing).

Shook = To be so completely surprised, scared, or caught off guard that your body is shaking.

Snatched = Another slang term for looking good. E.g. “Your outfit is snatched.” Older, less-used synonyms: On fleek, on point.

Squad = Friend group. Often used as #squadgoals, meaning, “I hope my friends can someday be this cool!” **Newer, cooler synonym: Tribe.**

Straight Fire = Hot or trendy. “That outfit is straight fire!”

Suh = [A greeting](#); a combination of “sup” and “huh.”

Take the L = Take the loss. Can be used in any situation where one comes out behind.

Antonym: W (pronounced “dub”); “That’s a W!”

TBH = To Be Honest.

TFW = That Feeling When. “TFW you accidentally spill your Venti Frap all over your car.”

Turnt = Short for “turned up,” which means either really excited (“It’s New Year’s Eve, so of course I’m turnt!”) or drunk (“It was rough to go to brunch today because I was so turnt last night.”).

V = Very. “I’m v excited to binge *Stranger Things* 2 this weekend!”

Weak = Used to mean “That was funny!” Originates from that weak feeling you get when you laugh really hard.

Be Aware Of

AF = As F***. Used to emphasize something: “It’s hot af in here.”

Cancel = To delete someone or something out of your life. “I cancelled that guy from Tinder. It wasn’t working out.”

Curve = To reject someone romantically or sexually.

FOMO = Fear Of Missing Out. Many teens feel this because of social media’s ability to highlight everyone else’s activities. **Antonym: JOMO** (Joy Of Missing Out, i.e. finding joy in one’s ability to commit to and enjoy one thing at a time.)

Gatsbying = Intentionally posting something to social media to attract one’s romantic

interest's attention. So named after the elaborate parties Gatsby threw to get Daisy's attention in *The Great Gatsby*.

Ghost = To stop responding to one's texts, messages, posts, etc., effectively disappearing from their digital world.

Haunt = To occasionally view, comment on, or like posts from someone with whom you were once romantically involved, as if to intentionally remind them, "Hey, I'm still here!" Typically the other person will feel creeped out.

HBIC = Head B**** In Charge.

Hunty = Combination of "honey" and "c***." It originated in the drag queen community as a slight insult, but it's starting to be used amongst groups of girls as a term of endearment.

Igging = Ignoring (made most famous by the song "Tunnel Vision" by Kodak Black).

Jocking = Copying someone else's style. From Bruno Mars' song "24K Magic."

Low Key = A warning that someone doesn't want everyone to know what they're saying. "Keep this low key." **Antonym: High Key** (i.e. not trying to hide it; straight up proclaiming it to the world).

Mooning = Using the "Do Not Disturb" mode (denoted by a tiny moon on iPhones), which turns off notifications, on a specific conversation so as to mute/ignore them.

Murk = To kill, dominate, etc. Often used in reference to video games.

Sip Tea = Mind one's own business. Usually means you don't want to get involved in the drama, but you have no problem watching it from the sidelines while comfortably sipping tea.

Salty = To be bitter/angry/upset. "She was salty because she lost."

Skurt = To leave.

Stan = Abbreviation of "stalker" and "fan"; refers to an overly obsessed, maniacal fan of a celebrity. (Also originates from the main character of Eminem's song "Stan.") "Those Taylor Swift stans are creeping me out."

Sus = Short for "suspect." "My bank card got declined. That's sus."

Throw Shade = Give someone a dirty look or say/post something mean about them.

Trash = When something or someone comes off as classless or tasteless. "Did you see the trash everyone is saying about Beyoncé?"

Vaguebooking = Intentionally posting vague Facebook status updates, either for attention or as a cry for help. E.g. "Wondering if there's a point to anything."

Woke = To be fully aware of current events; living in a state of awareness that is above expectations. "Stay woke, son!"

Red Flags

9 = Parent watching!

Breadcrumbs = Sending out flirtatious, but noncommittal text messages to members of the opposite sex in order to lure a sexual partner without expending much effort.

Break Green = To share marijuana with others.

Catfish = Someone who pretends to be someone they're not on social media, either for dating or sexual purposes.

CU46 = See You For Sex.

D = Short for d***. “She just wants the D.”

Down in the DM = Using private messages (DM=Direct Message) on social media to ask for nude photos and/or to filter through people to find a casual hookup.

GNOC = Get Naked On Camera.

Hooking up = Has various levels of meaning. Could refer to anything from making out to having sex.

Netflix and chill = A euphemism for hooking up. Someone uses the pretense of watching Netflix as a reason to hang out or “chill,” but really has no intention of actually watching anything.

NIFOC = Naked In Front Of Computer.

NP4NP = Naked Pic For Naked Pic.

NSFW = Not Safe For Work. Used to mark something as sexually inappropriate or explicit.

POS = Parent Over Shoulder.

Scarfing = Intentionally strangling oneself (with a scarf or other material) during sex or masturbation to decrease blood flow to the head and therefore increase pleasure during climax. Many young men have accidentally committed suicide while scarfing.

Smash = To have casual sex.

Stealthing = Secretly removing one’s condom during sex.

Thirsty = Desperate, eager for something; often refers to one’s sexual appetite or desire to gain attention on social media.

A Final Thought

As you can see, there’s a lot to keep track of! We hope knowing these terms helps you discern when your teens are just engaged in harmless fun and when they’re in need of intervention. *One caveat:* Teens are all about authenticity. They can smell inauthenticity a mile away. So carefully consider the choice to add these words to your vocabulary. Your teens may think it’s cool or funny that you’re using them . . . or they may find it totally uncool and therefore be embarrassed by your use of them.

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