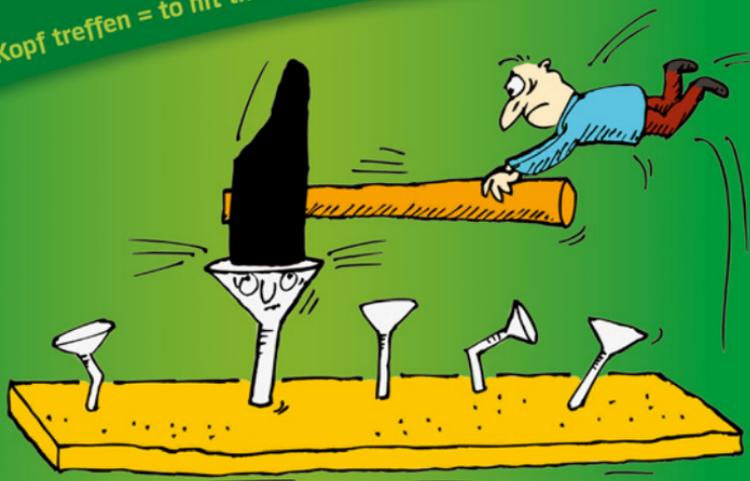


Hueber

den Nagel auf den Kopf treffen = to hit the nail on the head



Englisch

2000 Redewendungen

Deutsch – Englisch

Dach • etwas unter Dach und Fach bringen

arrangieren: to get sth fixed (coll), to get sth organized

At long last we got it fixed: We meet him in Brussels on Wednesday and go on together to Cologne.

fertig stellen: to get sth sewn up (coll) (einen Plan, Vereinbarung), to get sth finished off (coll), to get sth done

The lawyers worked all night trying to sew up the deal, but they got it done in the end.

Dachschaden • einen Dachschaden haben

to be not all there (coll), to be a few bricks short of a load (coll), to be a few sandwiches short of a picnic (coll), to have a screw loose (coll), to be bonkers (coll), to be crackers (coll), to be barking (coll), to be out of one's tree (coll), to be off one's head (coll), to be off the wall (coll), to be as nutty as a fruitcake

I listened to his idea, but I couldn't understand it at all. I don't think he's all there.

dahinterstecken • Wer / Was steckt da dahinter?

What's the catch? / What's behind this? / Who's behind this?

dalli! • Nun mal dalli dalli!

Buck up! (coll) / Get a move on!

Dampf • Dampf ablassen

to let off steam (coll)

He threw his slippers at the children – he didn't want to hit them, it was just to let off steam.

Dampf • Dampf dahinter machen

mit Volldampf: to (really) go (at / for) it (coll), to go at it flat out (coll), to go at it hell for leather (coll) (dated)), to do it with a will

He wasn't interested in this line of research at first, but now he's going at it hell for leather.

mehr Energie einsetzen: to put some oomphh into sth (coll)

The whole project was way behind schedule but the new manager has really put some oomphh into it.

Dämpfer • einen Dämpfer bekommen

to receive a dampener (coll), to be dampened, to be damped

Our spirits were much damped by the news of the defeat.

Dasein • sein Dasein fristen

to lead a miserable life; to eke out a miserable existence, to eke out one's days (in Armut)

After his wife left him he eked out a miserable existence living alone in a cottage.

Daumen • Däumchen drehen

to twiddle one's thumbs (coll)

The teachers were on strike and the students were left with nothing to do but twiddle their thumbs.

Daumen • den grünen Daumen haben

to have green fingers (coll)

She has plants all over her flat – all of them flourishing. She must have green fingers.

Daumen • die Daumen halten (drücken)

to keep one's fingers crossed (coll)

All my family kept their fingers crossed for me during my exams.

Daumen • über den Daumen peilen

to hazard a rough guess at (coll), to make a rough estimate of (coll), to give a ball-park figure (U.S.) (coll) (nur Anzahl)

I can hazard a rough guess at what it might cost.

davon • auf und davon

off, off and away (coll), up and off (coll)

As soon as school was over the children were off and away.

Decke • die Decke fällt jmd auf den Kopf

to feel shut in

It had been raining all day, and it was impossible to go outdoors. By five o'clock the children were beginning to feel shut in.

Decke • an die Decke gehen

to go through the roof (coll), to blow one's top (coll), to do a wobbly (coll), to fly off the handle (coll)

When he found out how badly his son had behaved at school he went through the roof.

Decke • vor Freude an die Decke springen

(to be ready) to jump for joy

When we heard the news about the baby we were ready to jump for joy.

Decke • unter einer Decke stecken

to be hand in glove with sbd (coll), to be in cahoots with sbd (coll), to be in league with sbd

It was only later on that we realised that the two of them had been in cahoots with each other from the very beginning.

Decke • sich nach der Decke strecken

to make the best of it (coll), to make the best of a bad job (coll), to cut one's coat according to one's cloth (dem vorhandenen Geld entsprechend handeln)

When the government reduced the department's research grant we had to cut our coat according to our cloth and make the best of a bad job.

Deckmantel • unter dem Deckmantel

under the guise of

He was able to flirt with the daughter under the guise of visiting her parents. Denkste!

Says you! (coll)

Deut • keinen Deut besser als jmd sein

to be no whit better than sbd

The new government is no whit better than the old one.

deutsch • auf gut Deutsch gesagt

in plain English (coll), putting it bluntly (coll), to be perfectly frank (coll)

They're being polite about it, but in plain English they are saying they don't want to come.

dick • gemeinsam durch dick und dünn gehen

to stick together through thick and thin (coll)

The two friends were resolved to stick together through thick and thin.

dick • dick auftragen

to lay it on thick (coll), to lay it on with a shovel, to exaggerate, to show off (coll)

He told us about his daughter's violin playing at the concert – exaggerating wildly as usual.

Dickkopf • einen Dickkopf haben

to be pigheaded (coll), pigheadedness (coll)

He prolonged the negotiations for four hours through sheer pigheadedness.

**Dieb • Man hängt keinen Dieb, bevor man ihn hat. (prov)**

Don't count your chickens before they are hatched. (prov)

diebisch • sich diebisch freuen

to gloat, to take malicious pleasure in sth

He gloated over their misfortunes.

Diener • einen Diener machen

to take a bow, to bow

Little boys were taught to bow and little girls were taught to curtsy.

Diener • Diener zweier Herren sein

to be a servant of two masters (bibl), to have divided loyalties

"No man can be a servant of two masters."

Dienst • Dienst ist Dienst, und Schnaps ist Schnaps.

Don't mix business and pleasure.

Ding • ein krummes Ding drehen

to commit a criminal offence:

Einbruch: to do a job (coll), Raub mit Waffen: to blag (coll),

Raub mit oder ohne Waffen: to do a snatch (coll), Geld vom Arbeitgeber

zu stehlen: to have one's hand in the till (coll), to be on the fiddle (coll)

That burglar was so clever he did one job a week for twelve years without getting caught.

Ding • Jedes Ding hat zwei Seiten. (prov)

There are always two sides to the coin. (prov)

Ding • Gut Ding will Weile haben. (prov)

All in good time. Rome wasn't built in a day.

Dinge • guter Dinge sein

to be in a really good mood (coll)

I was in a really good mood today, until you came to me with that piece of news.

Dinge • über den Dingen stehen

to be above it all (coll)

Whenever we have to talk about practical details he is simply above it all and can't be bothered with it.

Dinge • nicht mit rechten Dingen zugehen

to work sth (for sbd) (coll), to pull strings (coll), to fiddle sth (for sbd) (coll)

His uncle worked that promotion for him.

Dingsbums

What's his/her/its name (coll), what's his/her/its face (coll), thingummy (coll), what-do-you-call-it (coll)

doppelt • Doppelt (genäht) hält besser. (prov)

to do a belt-and-braces job (coll), to make assurance doubly sure (Shakespeare: Macbeth)

I'll do a belt-and-braces job and send a telegram and leave a message on his answerphone machine.

Dörfer • böhmische Dörfer

to be double Dutch

It's Greek to me. (Shakespeare: Julius Caesar)

Dorn • ein Dorn im Auge sein

Anblick: to be an eyesore

That is a thorn in my flesh!

Draht • auf Draht sein

to be mustard (coll)

wachsam: to be on one's toes (coll), to be on the ball (coll)