



**to get rid of sth:** *i) to sell or throw away sth i ) to do sth to remove or take away an unpleasant thing (pain, a cough, a stain on your clothes) which is bothering you*

Why don't we get rid of it and buy a new one?

Take two of these tablets. They will get rid of the pain.

**get sth off the ground:** *to put sth (an idea or plan) into practice so that it starts to be successful*  
It was a wonderful idea but, to get it off the ground, we would have had to invest £20,000 each.

**to get sb down:** *make sb feel depressed*

The routine of a dead-end job was getting him down, driving him almost to despair.

**to get at:** *to insinuate; most commonly found in the question*

"What are you getting at?"; *What are you trying to say? (don't understand)* Are you indirectly criticising me or accusing me of sth?

I can't see what you're getting at, so could you put it more simply?

What are you getting at, saying that you do all of the work around here?

**to get by:** *to have enough money to pay your bills and buy the things you need to survive (food and clothes, etc)*

She earns only £75 a week. I don't know how she can get by on a salary like that.

**to get on (informal)** *to be getting old. If you're getting on, you're getting old (a bit)*

He's getting on (a bit) - he'll be 76 next birthday.

**to get out of (doing sth):** *to avoid doing sth you are supposed to do or you have previously arranged to do*

I am not really in the mood but I said I'd go to Mick's party and I don't think I can get out of it.

You are not getting out of doing the supermarket shopping this time.

**to get round sb:** *to persuade sb to do sth by being nice to them*

I could always get round my mother by buying her chocolates.

**to get round to doing sth:** *to finally find time to do sth*

I received the letter on Monday and finally got round to answering it on Friday.

**to get through to sb:** *to contact and talk to sb by telephone*

I can't get through to him. Every time I ring, I get his answering machine.

**to get up to:** *to do; most commonly found in the question What did you get up to...?*

"What did you get up to this weekend?" "Not much."

They boys are very quiet at the moment. I wonder what they are getting up to.

**I can't get over how:** *I can't believe how (used to express surprise)*

I can't get over how expensive everything is in this country these days.



**Complete the sentences with (an) appropriate preposition(s). Use the table above.**

1. What do you mean by what you just said? What are you getting .....?
2. They must be out. I've been trying to get ..... to them all evening, but no one is answering the phone.
3. He thinks that flowers will persuade me, but he won't get ..... me that easily.
4. I know I'm getting ..... when I start forgetting why I walked into a room!
5. I managed to get ..... doing the washing-up by telling him I was allergic to soapy water.
6. He hasn't done any revision yet. He really must get ..... some serious work.
7. I don't know how she makes ends meet. I couldn't get ..... on a salary like hers.
8. I don't know when I'll get ..... answering all these letters.
9. What did I get ..... this weekend? Nothing really. I just watched TV.
10. I can't get ..... how much she has grown. She was a child the last time I saw her.
11. The television was so old that we had to get ..... it.
12. It took a while for the business to get ..... the ground.