

1980's Slang

**Host A
Mystery
Party**

www.Host-Party.com

A guide to the casual language of
The Awesome Eighties.

-A-

As If - I'd rather not. "Hey why don't you go out with that guy in the Izod shirt?" "AS IF!"

Awesome - Something extremely good, and exceptional example. ie. "That movie was awesome."

-B-

Bad - Good. ie. "That movie was bad, man." Used by rapper stereotypes mostly.

Barney - An unattractive male. ie. "He is such a Barney."

Batcaver - Person who wears all black and listens to The Cure et al...

Bitchin' - Superb, excellent. ie. "That's a bitchin' Camaro."

Bodacious - beautiful. ie. "That is one bodacious babe."

Bogus - Not good. ie. "I just died. That's pretty bogus."

Bonus - Used to denote satisfaction or one's approval. ie. "My parents are going away next weekend, I'm throwing a party!" "Bonus!"

Boss - very cool. ie. "That version of the "Synchronicity" cover is boss!"

Bow-Head - Another name for preppie-usually a silly girl who wore a big bow in her hair. (Mid-to late eighties)

Brody - Police officer. ie. "Slow down there is a Brody over there" Origin is from Roy Shiders lead roll as the police officer who sets out to kill the rogue shark in Jaws.

-C-

Chill - To be calm. ie. "I'm chill."

Chill Pill - Take it easy. ie. "Take a Chill Pill! You're gonna get us all busted."

Chillin' - To be resting. ie. "I'm just chillin' with my homey's in my crib."

Cool - Something really good and hip. ie. "That's a cool shirt."

Very good, very hip. ie. "I just scored tickets to Bruce Springsteen" "Cool!"

Cool Beans - Cool, awesome, agreeable.

Crib - A homeboy's residence. ie. "I'm just chillin' with my homey's in my crib."

-D-

Damn Sam! - Wow. Unbelievable.

Deck - -To beat someone up...ie. "I'm gonna deck you if you play that damn Raffi album again!"

Def - Something very hip. ie. "That jam was def."

Deke - To fake someone out. ie. "I deked him out of his shoes"

Don't Have a Cow - Remain calm, don't get excited.

Dork - Someone who is not cool.

Dope - Very hip and with it. ie. "Those Addidas are dope!"

Dude - Someone who is cool. The opposite of a dork.. A greeting. Used with a close friend that is considered cool. ie. "Dude!" Origins of this context word can be traced to California. It was originally used in reference to a horse's penis.

Dudette - A woman who is cool. The opposite of a dork. Not as commonly used as dude.

Dudical - Used to describe a place or thing as cool as someone dubbed a "dude".

Dufus - Someone who acts stupid. ie. "Only a dufus would play with matches." or "Don't be a dufus."

Duh - Stupid. Usually used with the word "like"

Dweeb - Someone who is not cool. ie. "Bill Gates is a real dweeb."

-E-

Elite - A person who has achieved a high status in the BBSing culture. ie. "He has a 9600 BAUD modem, he's elite now."

Excellent - Superb.

Fer Sure - Definitely. ie. "Do you want to meet Duran Duran?" "Fer Sure!"

Five O - Police officer. ie. "Oh oh, chill, there's a Five O comin'"

Fly - Very hip and with it.

Fresh - Very new, used in reference to music a lot. ie. "His beat's real fresh"

Funky - Multiple meanings, 70's disco leftover.

-G-

Gag Me With a Spoon - Disgusting.

Geek - A person who is not hip, usually implies stupidity as well. ie. "Don't be such a geek!"

Generic - Of poor quality; poorly planned or executed. ie. "Hey man, do you like that new Atari game, Moon Patrol?" "Hell no, dude! That game is generic!"

Get Out - I don't believe you. ie. "I got tickets to Duran Duran." "Get Out!"

Goober - Snot. ie. "Eww. You've got a goober showing."

Something stupid. ie. "Don't be such a goober."

Gnarly - Exceptional. ie. "That move you just did with your board was gnarly."

Grodie - Disgusting. ie. "That garbage pail looks grodie."

Gross Me Out - Disgusting.

Grouse - Cool, its an Australian slang term. ie "That's so grouse man"

Gross Me Out the Door - Very Disgusting.

-H-

Heavy - A situation which is grave. ie. "This algebra test is heavy." Most notable use of this phrase was in Back to the Future by the lad character portrayed by Michael J. Fox. The origins of this use can be traced to the sixties when it referred to a close personal friend.

Heinous - Not good. ie. "That wipeout was heinous dude."

'Hood - Neighborhood. ie. "My homey's like to hang out with me in my 'hood"

Homeboy - A close friend. ie. "I like to hang with my homeboys at the mall."

Homey - A friend. see Homeboy. A greeting. "Hey homey, don't play that" Widespread use can be attributed to the show "In Living Color" which had the demented clown (portrayed by Daymon Wayons) whose catch phrase was "Homey don't play that" in response to a situation he didn't approve of.

-J-

The Joint - Very cool. Seems to be primarily an East Coast term, started by rappers. ie: "The Sugar Hill Gang is the joint!"

-K-

Kickin' - Fun, exciting, and cool. ie. "This is a kickin' party"

Killer - very cool. ie. "Your blue lip gloss is killer!"

Kiss My Grits - A more polite way of saying "kiss my ass." Origins of phrase trace back to the seventies on "Alice's Diner", it was a carry over for a few years into the eighties.

K-RAD - Very radical. Origins of phrase trace to the eighties BBS scene which is where most of the usage stemmed from.

-L-

Like - Used as a modifier, really has no definition. ie. "I was all like, No Way" Used mostly in Valley Girl speak, it was the most widely used aspect of this stereotype.

Like, oh my God! - Wow. Unbelievable.

-M-

Major - Really cool. ie. "That song sounds major"

Make Me Barf - A way to signal disgust with a situation. Sometimes used as "Make me wanna barf." ie. "I just bought a new Englebert Humperdink album." "Oh, don't play it. That'll make me barf."

McFly - Someone has just done something very stupid. ex: "Nice move McFly" origin is the 80's movie, Back to the Future.

Melvin - To pull another person's underwear upwards in a jerking motion until it wedges between one's butt-crack. This is done from behind the person in order to keep them defenseless.

Mint - Excellent, memorable, "priceless. "How was your weekend?" "Mint, best yet!"

-N-

Nice Play Shakespeare - That was a really stupid action.

No Shit Sherlock - Stating the obvious. I already know that.

No Way - Not going to do that. "Do your homework!" "No Way!"

-P-

Poser - An imposter whose intent is to fit in with a more acceptable social group. ie. "Marky Mark was such a poser, he pretend to be from the ghetto when he was really a middle class preppie."

Preppie - A person who dressed in upscale clothing and acted snobbish towards people not in the same social standings. ie. "That guy wearing the Izods is such a preppie."

Psyche - Ha! Fooled you! ie. Person offers an ice cream cone, and then pulls it away, he would then yell "Psyche!". Origins can be traced to an Eddie Murphy comedy sketch.

-R-

Rad - Short for radical.

Radical - Something extremely hip, almost awesome ie. "His moves are quite radical."

Rippen, Rips - Something very cool. ie. "That Firebird ripps man"

-S-

Smooth move, X-Lax - That was a really stupid action.

Solid - Affirmative. ie. "So we're going at eight?" "Yeah, solid."

Stellar - very cool. ie. "Your blue lip gloss is stellar!"

Stoked - Very excited. ie. "I am so stoked, I just found twenty bucks on the ground."

-T-

To The Max - Used in conjunction with any adjective that you want to emphasize. ie "That chick is annoying to the max!"

Totally Awesome - Something truly exceptional, not flawed in any ways. "That was like, totally awesome."

Totally Tubular - A really cool move in skateboarding.

Trippendicular - Something that is totally amazing.

-V-

Val - Short for Valley Girl. ie. "I'm a Val, I know, but it's ok because I come from a real cool part of Encino."

-W-

"Way", "No Way" - An exchange between two people when one believes something the other does not. ie. "I saw your girlfriend with another guy" "No Way" "Way" "No Way" "Way"

Way Cool - Very cool. ie. "The A-Team is way cool."

Whatever - Universally used for anything that leaves even an ounce of doubt in your mind. Usually used in a condescending tone by a Valley Girl. ie. "So she said, 'I really like your purse' and I'm like 'Whatever!'"

Wicked - Excellent or great. ie. "That movie was wicked"

Word - Word means "Yes, I agree with what you're saying, and will re-emphasize it." ie: Person 1: "That dweeb is grody to the max." Person 2, in agreement: "Word." Synonyms: "I know that's right," and "I heard that."

-Y-

Yeah! That's the ticket" - That sounds correct. Usually an indication that an explanation was just created. Originated from Saturday Night Live sketch with Jon Lovitz who was a habitual liar in the sketch.

Yo - A greeting. ie. "Yo homey, what's happening?"

Yuppie - A person who is a white collar worker who has possessions of an expensive nature and flaunts them. ie. "You see that guy in the Saab, he's such a yuppie." Origins trace back to the beginning of the decade when the "Yuppie Handbook" was written identifying the breed. Yuppie came from the acronym YUP, which stood for Young Urban Professional.