Random Thoughts 34

# Colloquial Expressions[[1]](#footnote-1)

## Run around like a chicken with its head chopped off.

We use this to describe a situation in which things are hectic[[2]](#footnote-2) and you are forced to hurry about with barely time to think about what you are doing.

## Tie the knot

To **tie the knot** means to get married. Example: Jim and Sue finally **tied the knot** after being engaged for more than a year.

## Keep a stiff upper lip

This has traditionally been used to describe an attitude of British people in remaining resolute[[3]](#footnote-3) and unemotional when face with adversity[[4]](#footnote-4).

## Tuckered out

This means to be exhausted, very tired. Example: I’m all **tuckered out** from doing spring cleaning.

## Spring fever[[5]](#footnote-5)

This describes a feeling of restlessness and excitement felt at the beginning of spring.

## Put [one’s] foot in [one’s] mouth

This means to say something foolish, embarrassing, or tactless[[6]](#footnote-6). Example: Charlie **put** his **foot** in his **mouth** when he called his wife by his old girlfriend’s name.

## Flog [beat] a dead horse[[7]](#footnote-7)

This means a particular effort is a waste of time as there will be no outcome. Example: Asking the boss for a raise is like **beating a dead horse**.

## Get under [one’s] skin[[8]](#footnote-8)

This is used to describe something that is very annoying and irritating. Example: Her constant complaining about my poor driving really **gets under my skin**.

1. Expressions used in ordinary conversation that are not formal or literary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 慌ただしい [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. 断固 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 逆境 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 春先のもの憂さ[落ち着かない気分] [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. へまな、不精巧 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. 無駄な事をする [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. 何かにイライラさせられる [↑](#footnote-ref-8)