

Slang of the 1920s

Slang	Meaning	Slang	Meaning
All My Whiskers	nonsense!	hoofs	to dance
all wet	wrong, incorrect	horsefeathers	nonsense!
and howl	definitely!	hotsie-totsie	very good
audies	sound movies	hyper	excited, thrilled
banana oil	nonsense!	jalopy	an old car
barnstorm	tour the country during airplane shows	Jane	a plain girl
bathtub gin	homemade gin	jinny	a speakeasy
bee's knees	great!	juice-joint	a speakeasy
berries, the	the best	keen	attractive, good
between a rock and a hard place	in a difficult situation	kisser	the mouth
big cheese	and important person	lickety-split	quickly
bim	girl friend	lousy	bad, inferior
blind dragon	chaperone	lug	a dull man
blind pig	a speakeasy	main drag	main street
blotto	drunk	malarky	lies, nonsense
bootleg	make or sell illegal liquor	nitwit	idiot
breeze in	drop in unexpectedly	nuts	nonsense!
bug wash	hair oil	park	made out in a car
bull session	group discussion	pash	passion
bunk	nonsense!	pip-squeak	a useless person
caper	a robbery	rah-rah	overly enthusiastic
car hop	waitress at a drive-in restaurant	raspberries	nonsense!
cat's, the	outstanding	ricky tick	ragtime music of 20's
cat's, meow	outstanding	ritzey	elegant
cat's pajamas	good, super	rock	a dollar
cheaters	eyeglasses	sad sack	an odd person
chopper	submachine machine	sheba	girl friend
crush	being infatuated with	sheik	handsome man
darb	excellent	sloppy	messy
dig dirt	to gossip	smooch	kiss/hug
divine	nice, enjoyable	speakie	a movie with sound
do in	to eat a ---	struggle buggy	car
fat cat	wealthy person	stuffy	prudish
flapper	uninhibited women, a style of dressing	swell	fine
flick	movie	talkie	movie with sound
fridge	refrigerator	tin Lizzie	Model T Ford
gaga	crazy, silly	white cow	vanilla milkshake
get hot!	Dance! Go for it!	wise up	become aware, learn
giggle-water	whiskey, liquor	wish book	catalog
goon	a thug, ruffian	wowser	prude, self-righteous person
governor	father, one's superior		
grand	good		
ham-and-egger	ordinary person		
high hat	to snub someone		