

“Stick” Phrasal Verbs - Definitions

stick around: to stay around; to stay in a place for awhile

- You can go ahead and go home if you're tired. I'll probably stick around for a few more minutes.
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stick by / stick with: to stay with someone or give them support in a difficult time; to stay with a story, plan, or opinion and refuse to change it.

- Friends are the people who stick by you even in the worst of times.
 - Even though the police had evidence that he was guilty, Sean stuck by his story and refused to confess.
 - The president stuck by (stuck with) his policies, even though most of the population was against them.
 - Telemarketers are usually told to stick with their scripts because they tend to make more sales that way.
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stick out (also: stand out, “stick out like a sore thumb”): If something “sticks out”, it is easily noticeable (because it is strange, big, or better than the rest, for example)

- At the music festival, a few bands really stuck out and made an impression.
 - Stanley always sticks out in a crowd because he is over 7 feet tall.
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stick up for: to support or defend someone

- That was so nice of you to stick up for me when the teacher accused me of cheating!
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stick together: To support and defend friends/colleagues, to remain loyal (similar to “sticking by” someone)

- Policemen always stick together and never **turn** each other **in***

**turn (x) in = to report someone to the police for committing a crime*

"Stick" Phrasal Verbs - Worksheet

Fill in the blanks with the correct words to complete these "stick" phrasal verbs.

1. When the baseball player was accused of cheating, his coach _____ him in the press and insisted that the player was innocent.
2. I know you don't like teaching English, Brian, but if you _____ for three more years, you will be able to **pay off** all of your student loans!
3. Companies try to design catchy brand logos so their products will _____ among all the other similar products.
4. Pat: I think that road is a shortcut. We might be able to save some time.
Penny: We're not in a hurry. Let's just _____ the map.
5. Ethel and Edgar have been married for over 50 years. They have _____ through good times and bad times, through thick and thin.
6. Zack: We should go to school! We're going to be late!
Mike: It's OK. When the teacher asks why we're late, we'll say we got a flat tire. If we both _____ the story, we won't get into trouble.