

Jazz Age Slang Terms

Applesauce: flattery, nonsense

Baby: sweetheart

Baby grand: heavily built man

Baby vamp: an attractive or popular female

Balled up: confused, messed up.

Baloney: Nonsense!

Beat it: scam, get lost.

Bee's knee's: terrific

Beef: a complaint or to complain.

Beeswax: business

Bent: drunk

Big cheese: important person

Bootleg: illegal liquor

Breezer: a convertible car

Bump off: to kill

Bunny: a term of endearment applied to the lost, confused, etc.

Bus: any old or worn out car.

Cake-eater: a lady's man

Caper: a criminal act or robbery.

Cat's meow: great

Cheaters: eye glasses

Crasher: a person who attends a party uninvited

Crush: infatuation

Cuddler: one who likes to make out

Daddy: a young woman's boyfriend, especially if he's rich.

Darb: a great person or thing

Dewdropper: a young man who sleeps all day and doesn't have a job

Dogs: feet

Doll: an attractive woman

Dolled up: dressed up

Dough: money

Drug-store cowboy: a fashionably dressed idler who hangs around public places trying to pick up girls

Dumb Dora: an absolute idiot

Fire extinguisher: a chaperone

Flat tire: a bore

Floor-flusher: an insatiable dancer

Flour-lover: a girl with too much face powder

Giggle water: booze

Gin mill: a seller of hard liquor; a cheap speakeasy.

Gold-digger: a woman who pursues men for their money.

Goof: a stupid or bumbling person OR a boyfriend

Handcuff: engagement ring

Heebie-jeebies: "the shakes"

High hat: a snob

Hooch: booze

Icy mitt: rejection

Insured: engaged

Jake: great

Jalopy: a dumpy old car

Jeepers creepers: "Gee wiz!"

Joe: coffee

John: a toilet

Joint: establishment

Juice joint: a speakeasy

Keen: appealing

Kisser: the mouth

Lay off: cut the crap

Level with me: be honest

Line: a false story

Live wire: a lively person

Lollygagger: a young man who enjoys making out OR an idle person

Moonshine: homemade whiskey

Neck: to kiss passionately

Nifty: great, excellent

Old boy: a male term of address, used in conversation with other males.

On the lam: fleeing from police

On the up and up: legitimate, honest

Ossified: drunk

Owl: a person who's out late

Petting pantry: movie theater

Pinched: to be arrested

Pipe down: stop talking

Putting on the ritz: doing something in high style

Rag-a-muffin: a dirty or disheveled individual

Razz: to make fun of

Real McCoy: a genuine item

Rube: an unsophisticated country bumpkin

Rub: a student dance party

Sap: a fool, an idiot

Sheba: one's girlfriend

Sheik: one's boyfriend

Shiv: a knife

Skirt: an attractive female

Smarty: a cute flapper

Speakeasy: a bar selling illegal liquor

Spill: to talk

Spifficated: drunk

Stilts: legs

Stuck on: in love

Upchuck: to vomit

Whoopee: wild fun

