

# Digital Slang Cheat Sheet

## 0-9

### The 100 Club

A title reserved for those who get at least 100 likes on a Facebook or Instagram post. If a picture doesn't help a poster reach this status, the poster might delete it out of embarrassment.

### 5EX

"Sex." This version of the word won't get caught in content filters.

## ABC

### A/S/L

"Age/Sex/Location." Used in chat forums as a shorthand way to find out about the other person.

### AF

"As f--k." Used to emphasize a specific feeling or quality. For example, someone could be "excited AF!"

### Bae

"Before anyone else." It's a term of affection for a significant other or crush (used as a noun).

### Bumble

Sometimes called the "feminist" dating app, Bumble works like Tinder — with a twist: Users browse photos of other users, swiping right on the ones they like, left on the ones they don't. If both users swipe right, then the female user can start a chat.

### Cook session

When one or more kids gangs up on another kid on social media.

### Cringe pics

Super-awkward photos that are cringe-inducing. Can be used to blackmail others; may be uploaded for public viewing to online forums such as Reddit and Imgur.

### CU46

"See you for sex." Can be used seriously or jokingly.

## DEF

### Dab

The name of a dance move where you drop your head and lift both arms up at an angle. Often used as a celebration.

### Dox

Revealing someone else's personal information, such as address, phone number, or private social media username — especially in revenge when a romantic relationship ends.

### Dubsmash

An app that allows users to record a video of themselves lip-synching to one of several thousand audio clips from TV, movies, or internet videos.

### Extra

If you're "extra," you're trying too hard or being over the top: "Her flirting was so extra."

### Facebook

Still one of the most popular social media services for kids, although the fact that so many parents use it makes it a little less cool for kids.

### Fam

An extremely close friend or group of friends — so tight they're like family. "No one gets me like you do, fam."

### #FBF and #TBT

"Flashback Friday" and "Throwback Thursday" are photo-sharing hashtags used to share old pictures on those days — for example, a baby picture or a photograph of last year's prom (generally on Instagram).

### Finsta/Rinsta

A finsta (fake Instagram) is an Instagram account kids set up and reveal only to their very closest friends. It sounds counter intuitive, but kids use their "finsta" for unflattering photos, secrets, and private information. Rinsta is your "real", more public, Instagram, where

you collect followers and post anything you don't mind a lot of people seeing.

### FML

"F--k my life." Used semi-seriously to express feeling super frustrated or upset: "My parents are making me take the SAT test for the third time FML."

### FOMO

"Fear of missing out." Used when someone sees photos of their friends on social media and fears they're missing out on all the fun — or were intentionally excluded.

### FTW

"For the win." For example, on a photograph of a friend wearing a purple jumpsuit, another teen may comment, "Purple jumpsuits FTW!" Can be used seriously or sarcastically.

### FWB

"Friends with benefits." Two people who are having sex, but not in a relationship.

## GHI

### Ghosting

Not replying to any type of communication — Snapchat, texts, etc. Instead of telling a person you're no longer interested, you hope they'll get the hint and leave you alone when you suddenly stop communicating with them.

### GIF

A GIF is a very brief moving image that constantly loops itself. Most of the time it's used to represent an emotion or a reaction.

### GNOG

"Get naked on camera." Definitely a red flag if your kid sees this in a text or online chat.

### GOAT

"Greatest of all time": "Michael Phelps is the GOAT."

## Grindr

A popular dating app designed for the gay male community. Can contain sexually explicit images and messages from other users.

## Group text

Sometimes called a group chat or "GC," a group text involves more than two individuals (but may involve as many as eight or 10). Group texts can be useful for coordinating logistics and planning.

## Hack

Anything that makes a process more efficient: "I need to hack my breakfast so it gives me more energy."

## Hashtag

A hashtag (#) is used before a word, abbreviation, or phrase to connect a post with a broader online conversation about that particular topic. The hashtag links all related content.

## HMU

"Hit me up." Shorthand for "call me," "text me," or "meet me somewhere": "HMU if you wanna hang out."

## IBF

"Internet best friend." A close friend you connect with over the internet or social media, often without ever meeting in real life. "I tell my IBF everything, even though we've never met."

## ICYMI

"In case you missed it." Used on social media to draw attention to something that's already happened.

## IDC

"I don't care." Used to show indifference, sometimes passive-aggressively. "You can choose what we eat, idc."

## IDEK

"I don't even know." Expresses frustration or exasperation: "IDEK how all these people got into this party."

## IDGAF

"I don't give a f--k." Can be used maliciously (as in after a breakup) or simply to express indifference (as in regarding math homework).

## ILY

"I love you." Used by friends or romantic partners.

## Imma/I'ma

Short for "I'm gonna" (which is short for "I'm going to"). "Imma text you after practice."

## Instagram

A social media service that lets users snap, edit, and share photos and 60-second videos, either publicly or with a network of followers. Instagram also lets you apply fun filters and effects to your photos, making them look high-quality and artistic.

## I'm dead

Used to express a strong reaction to something. Can be positive or negative. "Did you see this video? I'm dead."

## IRL

"In real life": "I text with my bae all day, but I'm scared to talk to her IRL."

## IWSN

"I want sex now." Used seriously and in joking contexts.

## JKL

## Kik

An app-based alternative to standard texting that kids use for social networking. It's free to use but has lots of ads.

## LB/FB

"Like back/follow back." Usually posted in Instagram comments to get more likes and followers.

## Lit/It's lit

Refers to something that's really amazing: "The party is lit."

## Live-blog/Live-blogging/ Live-streaming

Blogging or streaming video about something as it's occurring (as opposed to reporting about it later or recording it to be aired later).

## Live.ly

A live-streaming app connected to the video-sharing social network musical.ly.

Users can broadcast in real time from their phone and connect with friends and followers from musical.ly, as well as the public.

## LMAO

"Laughing my a-- off." Can be used sincerely or sarcastically.

## Location services

A function of apps that use GPS to identify the location of information such as places you visit, pictures and videos you take, and where to find your friends. You can turn off location services in your phone's settings (and you must turn it off if you don't want your apps to use it).

## LOML

"Love of my life." Can refer to a romantic partner or close friend.

## Low key

Used when you're about to say something you don't want to make a big deal out of (similar to "humble brag"): "I low key got into Yale." It can also be used to describe how you feel about something without showing too much interest: "I low key want to go to that concert."

## MNO

## Meme

An idea, activity, or image that gains popularity and is repeated in different forms and spread through the internet. For example, the Mannequin Challenge — where a group of people try to stand completely still in a video — or the picture of Kermit the Frog drinking tea captioned "But it's none of my business" used to make openly sarcastic judgments online.

## Muser

Someone who uses the popular social video-sharing app musical.ly. Musers can make videos of themselves lip-syncing to songs and share them with friends or post them on YouTube.

## Musical.ly

A video-sharing social media platform that's popular with kids and teens. It lets users (also called musers) create,

[www.commonsense.org](http://www.commonsense.org)

share, and browse short videos ranging from creative to silly to serious.

### **Netflix and chill**

Code for sex. "Let's Netflix and chill" does not mean watch movies.

### **News feed/feed**

A regularly, automatically updated compilation of content from individuals or sites you follow.

### **NGL**

"Not gonna lie." Used at the beginning or end of a statement that could be considered strange or offensive, but is true for the speaker. "NGL, I hated that movie."

### **NIFOC**

"Naked in front of camera." Definitely a red flag if your kids see this in a text.

### **OG**

"Original gangster." Originated in gang culture, but now often used to refer to someone who was the first or an early adopter of something (criminal or not), or is otherwise tough or experienced. "Pikachu's the OG Pokémon."

### **Omegle**

Omegle is an anonymous online-chat/video-chat site whose tagline is "Talk to strangers." Users tend to be looking for a sexual conversation or video.

### **On fleek**

Totally perfect and on point: "Your eyebrows are on fleek."

### **OTP**

"One true pairing." An OTP is a couple you're emotionally invested in and think are meant to be together. Hermione may have ended up with Ron, but some people say Harry and Hermione are the real OTP.

## **PQR**

### **PAP**

"Post a picture." Can be used as a way of asking for a nude photo.

### **Pinterest**

A site and app on which users can compile idea boards on any topic they

like. Also used to get ideas for your hobbies and interests.

### **PIR and POS**

"Parent in room" and "parent over shoulder." Usually used by kids to tell their friends not to text them anything that might get them in trouble.

### **Podcast**

Podcasts can be video or audio blogs, but the term generally refers to audio content. You also can subscribe to a podcast feed to receive automatic updates on new episodes.

### **Rage quit**

When a gamer, often after being repeatedly harassed by other players, quits in a rage typically following an explosive, hostile outburst directed toward the other players.

### **RDH**

"Rate, date, hate." A user might write "RDH" to ask followers, "Rate me. Would you date me? Do you hate me?"

### **Reddit**

A forum-like platform on which registered users submit content that is then voted up or down by other users. The site showcases what users find to be important, relevant, or funny on the internet right now.

### **RT/Retweet**

To repost another person's tweet. Retweeting allows you to share the tweet with your followers.

## **STU**

### **Salty**

Feeling bitter, upset, angry, or embarrassed about something. "He's salty because she rejected him."

### **Self-cyberbullying**

A new form of self-harm behavior. Done as a cry for help or to generate concern; users post abusive messages about themselves anonymously.

### **#selfharmmm**

A hashtag that refers to posts or online communities where self-destructive habits such as cutting, burning, or other self-injuries are glorified.

### **Selfie**

Taking a picture of yourself, most commonly with the front camera on a cell phone.

### **Sexting**

The transmission of sexual images or texts via cell phone, the internet, and other electronic media.

### **Ship/Shipping**

A shortening of the word "relationship," ship and shipping describe the "couple nickname" of two people (typically celebrities or fictional characters). You can "ship" openly declared romantic partners, such as "Swiddles" for Taylor Swift and Tom Hiddleston. Or you can "ship" a couple you'd like to see. For example, in reference to Jack Frost and Elsa, someone might say, "I totally ship Jelsa."

### **Slay**

To succeed at something unbelievably amazing: "Her prom dress slayed."

### **SM**

"So much." Used to express a superlative.

### **Smash**

Code for having sex: "Do you wanna smash at the party?"

### **SMH**

"Shake my head" or "shaking my head." Used in reference to something that's pretty dumb or so silly it doesn't even deserve a response.

### **Snap story/Snapchat story**

A feature in Snapchat that allows users to post a series of videos together. Stories are available for all the users' followers to see for 24 hours.

### **Snapchat**

A popular messaging app that allows teens to exchange photos, texts, and videos — as well as use live video chat. Messages are available for up to 10 seconds and then disappear, though users can choose to display some messages in their "story," which is available for 24 hours.

## Snapped

Verb related to Snapchat: "She snapped me a picture of herself and her best friend at that party."

## Social currency

A reference to social media actions that show how popular or liked something (or someone) is. For example, likes on Facebook, hearts on Instagram, and retweets on Twitter can all be considered a form of social currency.

## Squad/Squad Goals

A close group of friends. "Squad goals" is often used on social media posts of a group as a form of praise.

## Stealth Cam

An app that is designed to secretly take photos. The user can turn off the shutter sound and take photos all while having the screen appear as though it's off.

## Sub-tweeting

Tweeting about someone without using his or her name on Twitter, usually as a way to criticize that person in a passive-aggressive way.

## Suh

Short for "s'up?" (which is short for "what's up?").

## Sus

Short for "suspect" or "suspicious" and means sketchy or shady: "That reason she gave for why she was late was definitely sus."

## Swatted

Refers to a particular type of prank, which involves someone calling in fake police tips in an attempt to get a SWAT team sent to an individual's house.

## TBH

"To be honest." People use TBH to indicate that they are speaking their truth and don't want to hurt or offend others. TBH can also be used as a way for a poster to get truthful feedback on a selfie, as in, "TBH do I look ugly in this pic?"

## TBR

"To be rude." The point of writing "TBR" is to generate negative responses: "TBR he is a jerk."

## Tea

Can refer to sensitive information or gossip. "What's the tea on last night? Did they break up?"

## TFTI

"Thanks for the invite." Often used sarcastically in a comment under a photo of a gathering someone wasn't invited to.

## TFW

"That feeling when." Used to express a universal but hard-to-describe emotion on social media: "TFW you see your bae ... and he's with someone else."

## Thirsty

Eager or desperate for something, especially attention or sex. "She liked every one of his posts, so she must be thirsty."

## Throwing shade

A subtle or indirect insult aimed at someone or something. Think Taylor Swift throwing shade at Katy Perry with her "Bad Blood" song.

## Tinder

A popular dating app where users browse photos of other Tinder users either to chat or plan a date. You swipe right on the photo if you think the person is attractive and swipe left if not. If both users swipe right, then a chat can begin.

## Tl;dr

"Too long; didn't read," sometimes also seen as "TLDR." This can be used by a poster at the beginning or end of a long post to signal the summary of what he or she is writing about, or it can be used by someone else to call attention to the long length of a post that's been written.

## Trash

A huge fan of something. "I'm such *Hamilton* trash. I listened to the soundtrack a million times."

## Tumblr

A cross between a blog and Twitter, it's a streaming scrapbook of text, photos, and/or video and audio clips. Users create and follow short blogs that can be seen by anyone online (if made public). Posts on the site are often copied and shared on others' pages.

## Turnt/turnt up

Often means drunk or high, but can also refer to someone overly wild or excited. "He got so turnt at that concert!"

## Tweet

The term used to describe a Twitter post: "Did you see my tweet on Twitter?"

## Twitter

A microblogging site that allows users to post brief, 140-character messages— called "tweets" — and follow other users' activities.

## Unfollow/Unfriend

Ways to disconnect from others on social media. "Following" or "friending" someone on social media creates a connection between two individuals. Unfriending ends that connection. Unfollowing allows you to stay "friends," but you don't see each others' posts.

## UrbanDictionary.com

A site that defines internet slang. It allows users to submit their own definitions of a word or create entirely new words. Contains plenty of sex and drug terms, as well as nonsense that users make up for fun.

## VWX

## Vamping

Refers to staying up all night engaging in social media and other online activities. Vamping into the wee hours of the night offers teens a sense of solitude and connection. Be aware of how vamping affects their sleeping cycles and development.

## **Vlog**

A "video blog" can refer either to an individual post or to a collection of posts by which users blog in video form (rather than text). Lots of folks vlog on YouTube.

## **Vocal fry**

A reference to a particular style of speaking that involves making a low, creaky sound while drawing out the end of a word or sentence. Reportedly popularized by the way the Kardashians talk, it's most often used to talk about females, but it can also apply to males.

## **WhatsApp**

An app that lets users send text messages, audio messages, videos, and photos to one or many people with no message limits or fees.

## **Woke**

Conscious of social issues and injustice, especially racism. "Stay woke and don't believe everything you read on the internet."

## **WYA**

"Where you at?" Used when you need to find your friends.

## **YZ**

## **YOLO**

"You only live once." A motto or phrase associated with enjoying life, not taking things too seriously, and living in the moment.