

Common Kiwi-isms

Essential words and expressions in Kiwi English and te reo Māori

*Informal words are marked with *. Words marked with ** should be used with some caution, as they can be very informal and are not always appropriate.*

Kiwi English words/expressions

knackered

naked

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|-------------------------|--|
| 1. bloke * | guy, (normal, average) man |
| 2. boot | trunk of the car |
| 3. bring a plate | bring food to share with several people |
| 4. bro * | mate, man (often used among male friends) |
| 5. Choice! * | Great! |
| 6. dairy | a small corner shop for daily necessities like milk, lollies ... |
| 7. fizzy drink | soft drink, soda |
| 8. Good on ya! * | Well done! Congratulations! |
| 9. heaps * | a lot |
| 10. jandals | flip-flops |
| 11. jumper | (woolly) sweater |
| 12. keen – I'd be keen! | interested – I'd be interested! |
| 13. knackered * | exhausted |
| 14. lollies | sweets, candy |
| 15. mate | bro, friend (Example: I miss hanging out with my mates!) |
| 16. No sweat! * | No problem! |
| 17. Not even! * | Not true! |
| 18. No worries! | No problem! All good! |
| 19. Sweet as | very good, okay, you're welcome |
| 20. Ta! | Thanks! |
| 21. togs | swimwear (both male and female) |
| 22. Yeah, nah. * | No. |
| 23. rubbish | trash |
| 24. windscreen | windshield |
| 25. togs | swim trunks |
| 26. dunny | toilet |
| 27. chur | thank you |
| 28. squiz | take a quick look at |

Te reo Māori words/expressions

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|------------------------|--|
| 29. aroha | love, compassion, empathy |
| 30. iwi | tribe (Māori belong to at least one tribe) |
| 31. Kia ora! | Hello! |
| 32. Morena! Ata mārie! | Good morning! |
| 33. whānau | family |
| 34. Hei kona ra | Goodbye (if you are leaving) |
| 35. Haere ra | Goodbye (if they are leaving) |
| 36. Tena koe | Thank You |