

Portuguese Idioms

1. Pão pão queijo queijo

Translation: Bread bread cheese cheese

Meaning: It is what it is

2. Quem vê cara, não vê coração

Translation: Those who see faces don't see hearts

Meaning: Don't judge by appearances

3. Pagar or pata

Translation: To pay for the duck

Meaning: To take the blame

4. Uma andorinha não faz verão

Translation: One swallow does not make a summer

Meaning: Strength in numbers

5. Partir o côco a rir

Translation: To break the coconut laughing

Meaning: Laugh hard

6. Estás a meter água

Translation: Letting water in

Meaning: Foolish

7. Coração de pedra

Translation: Heart of stone

Meaning: No empathy

8. Fia-te na Virgem e não corras

Translation: Trust the Virgin and don't run

Meaning: Do something

9. É muita areia para o meu caminhão

Translation: This is too much sand for my truck

Meaning: I'm overwhelmed

10. Está para nascer um burro

Translation: A donkey is about to be born

Meaning: Do something unexpected

11. Amigos, amigos, negócios à parte

Translation: Friends, friends, business aside

Meaning: Don't go into business with your friends

12. Tirar o cavalo da chuva

Translation: Take the horse away from the rain

Meaning: Don't count on it.

13. Barata tonta

Translation: Dizzy cockroach

Meaning: Clumsy

14. Cão que ladra não morde

Translation: A dog that barks does not bite

Meaning: Not a real threat

15. A carapuça serviu

Translation: The hat fits

Meaning: Guilty

16. Armar-se em carapau de corrida

Translation: To be racing like a mackerel

Meaning: A cocky nobody

17. Maria vai com as outras

Translation: Maria goes with the others

Meaning: A follower

18. Ir com os porcos

Translation: He went with the pigs

Meaning: He died

19. Burro velho não aprende línguas

Translation: An old donkey doesn't learn languages

Meaning: People don't change

20. Atirar-se de cabeça

Translation: Plunge head first

Meaning: Join in

21. Alimentar um burro a pão de ló

Translation: To feed the donkey sponge cake

Meaning: To treat someone better than they deserve

22. Muitos anos a virar frangos

Translation: Many years turning chickens

Meaning: An expert

23. Torcer o nariz

Translation: To tweak one's nose

Meaning: To disagree

24. De noite todos os gatos são pardos

Translation: All night, all cats are gray

Meaning: Everyone makes mistakes

25. Pôr o rabo entre as pernas

Translation: To put one's tail between the legs

Meaning: Leave feeling ashamed

26. Estás aqui, estás a comer

Translation: You are here; you are (going) to eat

Meaning: I am about to hurt you

27. Bicho de sete cabeças

Translation: Seven-headed beast

Meaning: Huge complication

28. Ficar a ver navios

Translation: To stay watching the ships

Meaning: To wait in vain

29. Sem eira nem beira

Translation: Without land nor roof

Meaning: Poor

30. Estar com a pulga atrás da orelha

Translation: To have a flea behind your ear

Meaning: To be suspicious

31. Ir para o olho da rua

Translation: To go to the eye of the street

Meaning: Fired

32. Estar feito ao bife

Translation: To be done to the beef

Meaning: Doesn't know what to do

33. Ter macaquinhos na cabeça

Translation: To have little monkeys inside your head

Meaning: To have strange ideas

34. Não é a minha praia

Translation: It's not my beach

Meaning: Not my thing

35. Tempestade em copo d'agua

Translation: A hurricane in a cup of water

Meaning: Make a big deal of

36. Não há bela sem senão

Translation: There's no beauty without an if

Meaning: Nothing is perfect

37. Pelo sim, pelo não

Translation: By the yes, by the no

Meaning: Just in case

38. Cara de pau

Translation: Wooden face

Meaning: No shame

39. Cair a ficha

Translation: To drop the token

Meaning: To understand

40. Comprar gato por lebre

Translation: To buy a cat thinking it was a rabbit

Meaning: Fooled

41. Falar pelos cotovelos

Translation: To speak by the elbows

Meaning: Talk too much

42. Para inglês ver

Translation: So the English can see it

Meaning: Only for appearances