

Uusi kiellemme

Finnish for busy people

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Sayings



Finnish	English	Explanation
Hidas kuin etana	As slow as a snail	Very slow.
Ovela kuin kettu	As sly as a fox	Untrustworthy
Tyhmä kuin aasi	As stupid as a donkey	Very stupid
Tyhmä kuin saapas	As stupid as a boot	Very stupid
Iloinen kuin peipponen	As happy as a chaffinch	Very happy
Epäsiisti kuin sika	As untidy as a pig	Very dirty
Kuin nuori varsa kesälaitumella	Like a young horse in the field	Wild and happy
Kuin elefanti lasikaupassa	Like an elephant in a china shop	Very clumsy
Syödä kuin hevonen	To eat like a horse	To eat very much
Syödä kuin sika	To eat like a pig	To eat very messily
Terve kuin pukki	As healthy as a billy-goat	Very healthy
Kova kuin kivi	Hard as a rock	Very hard
Kaunis kuin kuva	Pretty as a picture	Very pretty
Vapaa kuin taivaan lintu	Free as the sky's bird	Completely free
Rikas kuin Kroisos	Rich like the Greek Croisos	Very rich
Nopea kuin ajatus	Fast as a thought	Very fast
Nopea kuin salama	Fast as lightening	Very fast
Kevyt kuin höyhen	Light as a feather	Extremely light
Lyhyt kuin kanan lento	Short like a chicken's flight	Very short
Pitkä kuin nälkävuosi	Long as a year of hunger	Very long
Köyhä kuin kirkon rotta	Poor as a church's rat	Very poor
Sinä olet täydellinen lammis	You're a perfect lamb	You're too scared
Itsepäinen kuin pässi	As stubborn as a ram	Extremely stubborn
Itsepäinen kuin aasi	As stubborn as a donkey	Extremely stubborn
Kuuma kuin saunassa	Hot like in the sauna	Very hot
Pieni kuin pippuri	Tiny like a pepper	Very tiny

The original list was taken from Wikipedia's "List of idioms in the Finnish language".

"Ensin työ, sitten leikki."

"First work, then play."

You should first do what has to be done, and leave the fun things for later.

"Terve sielu terveessä ruumiissa."

"A healthy soul in a healthy body."

Only by keeping your body healthy you can stay happy as well.

"Lyödä kaksi kärpää yhdellä iskulla."

"Hit two flies with one hit."

To do two things with the effort of only one.

"Viina on viisasten juoma."

"Strong alcohol is the smart one's drink."

Only wise people should drink alcohol, because they know when to stop.

"Minkä nuorena oppii, sen vanhana taitaa."

"What is learned as a child, is mastered as an old person."

Learning things when you're young is a very good idea.

"Haukkuva koira ei pure."

"The barking dog doesn't bite."

The people who seem the most dangerous in their words are usually the most harmless.

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