



American Expression E0926 On fleek

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"On fleek" is a slang term that emerged in the early 2010s, primarily in African American Vernacular English (AAVE) and popular culture. The phrase is used to describe something that is stylish, impeccable, or perfectly done. It often refers to someone's appearance, makeup, fashion, or any other element that is seen as flawlessly executed.

When something is described as "on fleek," it means that it is in a state of perfection or excellence. The phrase conveys a sense of admiration and approval, indicating that whatever is being referred to is at the height of its quality or aesthetic appeal. "On fleek" is often used to celebrate and compliment individuals, their style, or their efforts.

The origins of "on fleek" can be traced back to a Vine video posted by Kayla Newman in 2014, where she used the term to describe her eyebrows, saying, "Eyebrows on fleek." The video went viral, and the phrase quickly became a part of mainstream slang.

The term's popularity surged due to its catchy sound and the ease with which it can be incorporated into casual conversation. It's widely used in social media captions, comments, and hashtags to praise everything from makeup looks to outfits to artistic creations.

While "on fleek" has gained widespread use and recognition, it's important to note that slang terms like these can evolve quickly and may carry different connotations over time. Some may find the term overused or passé, while others might still see it as a relevant and playful way to express approval.

Since "on fleek" has its roots in African American Vernacular English (AAVE), it's also crucial to acknowledge the cultural origins of the phrase and the potential for cultural appropriation. As with any slang term, it's important to use it respectfully and consider the context in which it is used.

In conclusion, "on fleek" is a slang expression that gained popularity in the early 2010s, primarily in African American Vernacular English (AAVE). The term is used to describe something as stylish, impeccable, or perfectly executed. It conveys admiration and approval, often celebrating individual appearance, style, or efforts. While the term has become widely recognized, it's important to use it respectfully and acknowledge its cultural origins. Like many slang terms, "on fleek" captures a specific moment in language evolution, reflecting the dynamic nature of language and its intersection with popular culture.

#### Questions for Discussion

1. How has the term "on fleek" become a part of popular culture and modern slang? Can you share instances where you've seen or used this expression to describe something that was perceived as stylish or perfectly executed?
2. In what ways do slang terms like "on fleek" reflect the ever-changing nature of language and its close connection to pop culture? How does the rapid adoption and evolution of slang words contribute to the dynamism of language itself?
3. What factors contribute to the widespread use and recognition of certain slang terms, while others remain more niche or regional? How do social media platforms and internet culture impact the dissemination and popularity of slang phrases like "on fleek"?
4. While "on fleek" is often used to express approval and admiration, how can the phrase be interpreted differently by various age groups or cultural backgrounds? How do differing interpretations of slang words impact communication and potential misunderstandings?
5. Considering the cultural origins of "on fleek," how can individuals ensure respectful usage and avoid cultural appropriation when incorporating such slang terms into their language? What steps can be taken to appreciate the origins of these terms while using them in a thoughtful and considerate manner?