



American Expression E1682 Trash it

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"Trash it" is a colloquial expression used to suggest discarding, disposing of, or getting rid of something, typically with the implication that the item or idea being discarded is unwanted, no longer useful, or considered worthless. This phrase is versatile and can be applied to various situations, ranging from physical objects to ideas, plans, or even relationships.

In the most literal sense, "trash it" is often used when someone wants to dispose of an item or material that is no longer needed or has become useless. For example, if you have a broken appliance or an item that is beyond repair, you might say, "It's time to trash it" to indicate the need to discard it in the trash or waste disposal.

However, "trash it" extends beyond the realm of physical objects. It can also apply to concepts, plans, or ideas that are considered unworkable or undesirable. For instance, if a team is discussing a project proposal that is riddled with flaws or impractical elements, someone might suggest, "Let's just trash it and start over." In this context, "trashing it" means rejecting or abandoning the existing plan or idea.

In creative or artistic pursuits, "trash it" can be used when evaluating a piece of work that is not meeting the desired standards or expectations. A writer might decide to "trash" a draft of a story if it is not flowing well, lacks coherence, or does not convey the intended message. In such cases, "trashing it" means discarding the current version and starting anew.

In personal relationships, "trash it" can be applied metaphorically to suggest ending or terminating a relationship that is no longer healthy or fulfilling. For example, if someone is in a toxic friendship or a dysfunctional romantic relationship, they might confide in a friend and say, "I think it's time to trash it," indicating their intention to end the relationship.

The phrase "trash it" is often used when a quick and decisive action is needed to eliminate something unwanted or problematic. It can also imply a sense of finality and closure, as once something is "trashed," it is typically not recoverable or reversible.

While "trash it" can be a practical solution for dealing with unwanted items, ineffective plans, or unhealthy relationships, it is important to use it judiciously and consider the potential consequences. In some cases, taking the time to repair, improve, or salvage something may be a more prudent choice than immediately opting to "trash it." Additionally, in personal relationships, ending a connection should be approached with care and empathy, as it can have emotional implications for all parties involved.

In summary, "trash it" is an informal expression that signifies the act of discarding or eliminating something that is considered unwanted, no longer useful, or problematic. It can apply to physical objects, plans, ideas, or even relationships and is often used when quick and decisive action is needed. While "trashing it" can be an effective solution, it should be used thoughtfully, considering the context and potential consequences.

Questions for Discussion

1. Can you share a personal experience when you had to make the decision to "trash it" in a particular situation, whether it was related to a project, relationship, or another aspect of your life? What factors influenced your decision?
 2. In what ways can the concept of "trash it" be applied to decluttering and simplifying one's life, and how can this approach help individuals prioritize what truly matters to them?
 3. Are there instances where the immediate inclination to "trash it" may have led to missed opportunities or regrettable decisions, and how can individuals strike a balance between discarding what's not working and exploring alternative solutions?
 4. How does the idea of "trash it" intersect with the concept of sustainability and environmental responsibility, particularly when it comes to disposing of physical items? What strategies can individuals adopt to minimize waste and make more responsible choices?
 5. When it comes to creative endeavors or problem-solving, how can the concept of "trashing it" be balanced with the persistence required to overcome challenges and setbacks? What criteria can help individuals determine when to discard an idea or project versus when to continue refining it?
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