

You can't judge someone until you walk a mile in his shoes.

What if you were in my shoes?

I'm glad I'm not in your shoes.

This refers to imagining yourself in the other person's situation or circumstances.

Related Vocabulary: empathy, empathetic



Those are some big shoes to fill.

Taking over someone's responsibilities or job. Having to do what someone used to do. The nuance is that it's a hard job and the other person did it well, and the new person will face a great challenge to do equally as well.

Waiting for the other shoe to drop.

Expecting yet more bad news. Used when you've received some bad news, and it might not have been quite as bad as you expected, but you fear that there is more bad news to come, like the second part of the bad news. One shoe has dropped, and since shoes come in pairs, one wonders when and where the other one will drop.

Now the shoe is on the other foot.

Now the situation is reversed, for good or bad. I was at a disadvantage before, but now I have the advantage - or the opposite.

If the shoe fits, wear it.

Used as an analogy for a label, as in if the label or name is appropriate (liar, cheater, etc.), then accept it. Usually negative, but not necessarily.

As comfortable as a pair of old shoes.

New shoes hurt, old shoes are comfortable - if not exciting or glamorous. Just a way of saying something is very familiar and comfortable.

It isn't the mountains ahead to climb that wear you out; it's the pebble in your shoe.

It is often the small problems and details that keep you from reaching your goal.

Down at the heel.

This means the heels of the shoes are worn down, so the wearer does not have money for new shoes or even to get the old ones repaired. Poor, having no money. ("He seemed a bit down at the heel.")

Well-heeled.

Wealthy. Doing well financially.

He really stuck his foot n his mouth.

He really said something stupid or contradicted himself. Said something that made things worse for him instead of better.