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TO HAVE NOTHING OR VERY LITTLE OF SOMETHING





# RUN DOWN

### to lose power or stop working

• The battery has run down.

#### to gradually stop functioning or become smaller in size or number

• The company is running down its sales force.

#### run something down : to make something lose power or stop working

• If you leave your headlights on, you'll soon run down the battery.

# RUN LOW (ON STH) - RUN SHORT (OF STH)

#### if something is running low, or if you are running low on something, there is not much of it left

- Supplies of food were running low.
- I'm running low on coffee.

#### If you are running short of something or running low on something, you do not have much of it left.

- Government forces are running short of ammunition and fuel.
- We are running low on drinking water.

#### If a supply of something is running short or running low, there is not much of it left.

• Time is running short.

# **RUN DRY**

### if a supply of something runs dry, there is no more of it left

- Supplies of vaccines could run dry if there is an epidemic.
- His inspiration had run dry

## run/go dry

if a lake, river etc runs dry, all the water gradually disappears, especially because there has been no rain

• The river ran dry last summer.

# RUN OUT (OF SOMETHING)

## to finish, use, or sell all of something, so that there is none left:

- I've run out of milk/money/ideas/patience.
- "Do you have any milk?"
  "Sorry, I've run out."

#### Something runs out If a supply of something runs out, all of it has been used or it is completely finished:

- The milk has run out.
- My patience is beginning to run out.

#### If a document or official agreement runs out, the period of time for which it lasts finishes:

- My passport runs out next month -I must get it renewed.
- The lease runs out in two years' time.