

HAVING

a lot to do

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Cambridge English Exam?



be up to your ears/neck/eyeballs (in something)

(informal) to have a lot of something to deal with

- I'd like to help, but I'm up to my neck at the moment.
- I can't help, I'm up to my neck in schoolwork.
- I'm up to my ears in chores! / They're up to their eyeballs in work.



be swamped (with something)

to have too many of something, or to give someone too much to do:

- We've all been swamped with work since the policy changes.
- After the severe storms, insurance companies are expecting to be swamped with claims.

have a lot/enough/too much on your plate (with something)

(informal) to have a lot of /enough / too much work to do or a lot of things to deal with

- She's got a lot on her plate - especially with two new projects starting this week.
- I can't take on more work - I have enough on my plate as it is!



have your hands full (with something)

(informal) to be very busy or too busy to do sth else

- I have my hands full with the kids at the moment, so I can't take on any more work.
- I've got my hands full running the firm while the boss is away.



be snowed under (with something)

(informal) to have too much work to deal with:

- I'm absolutely snowed under with work at the moment.
- We're snowed under with applications for the job.