

Yin hundur Borders Scots words

- These Scots words, phrases, and grammatical features can be enlarged, printed, and placed in windows or other locations round the school. Learners can work in threes to find and record as many as possible.
- Learners can use the Concise Scots Dictionary, the online Scots Dictionary <http://www.dsl.ac.uk/> or the following vocabulary sheets to find definitions. (Words generally need to be heard or said at least seven times before they will enter the learners' vocabulary.)

Verbs (action words) in Scots	Verbs (action words) in English
bide	stay, live
birl	spin around
blaw	blow
big	build
biggin	building
cannae	can't
clap	pet
clype	to tell on
courie	cuddle
dae/div	do
gaun	going
gein	giving
greet	weep, cry
haety	have to
haud	hold
hiv/hae	have
howk	dig
ken	know
mind	remember
saffen	soften
tummel	roll/knock over

Prepositions in Scots	Prepositions in English
afore	before
agin	again
ahint	behind
atween	between
eftir	after
frae/fri	from
inby	close
oot	out
owur	over
owurby	a short distance away
ti	to

Adjectives (describing words) in Scots	Adjectives (describing words) in English
abin	above
auld	old
clatty	dirty, muddy, slimy, disagreeable

crabbit	bad tempered
daft	foolish, stupid
daunner	wander
derk	dark
drookit	drenched
dreich	miserable
feart	afraid
gallus	cheeky
glaikit	stupid
hap	cover
ither	other
mad	angry
muckle	big
oos	bobbly
scunnered	fed up
shilpit	feeble
sleekit	sly
snell	Of weather: biting, keen, piercing, bitter, severe
stannin	standing
stoorie	dusty
teemin	crowded
wee	small

Nouns (naming words) in Scots	Nouns (naming words) in English
ba	ball
byre	cowshed
cloot	cloth
claes	clothes
craitur	creature/person
daud	lump/piece
ferm	farm
freen	friend
gloamin	dusk
guff	smell
glaur	mud
haaf	half
hame	home
heid	head
hoose	house
kirk	church
kye	cattle
laddie	boy
lassie	girl
pocky	pouch
tatties	potatoes
toon	town; farmstead; the Toon – Aberdeen
wean	child
wife, wifie	woman, married or not
yowe	ewe

Pronouns (short words that replace nouns) in Scots	Pronouns (short words that replace nouns) in English
mi	my
oor	our
thaim	them
thit	that
whae	who
whit	what, which
ye, youse (pl)	you

Numbers in Scots	Numbers in English
yin	one
twae	two
fower	four
hundur	hundred

Adverbs in Scots	Adverbs in English
ayewis	always
doon	down
gey	very, somewhat, rather
hie	high
noo	now
whair	where

Contractions in Scots	Contractions in English
husnae	hasn't

Idiomatic expressions in Scots	Idiomatic expressions in English
chuckin it doon	raining a lot
insteido	instead of
ower yur wulkies	head over heels

Some features of Scots grammar and speech
Negative forms of verbs are created by adding 'nae' at end – 'canna', 'couldnae etc.
Present participles end in 'in' – never 'ing' (greetin, haiverin, slaiverin), so there is no need for an apostrophe unless it is an English word and the 'g' has been dropped in pronunciation.
Scots uses older, short vowel sounds in words like 'hoose', 'moose' and 'coo' (like Norwegian) instead of 'house', 'mouse' and 'cow' (like English).
In Scots, the plural of 'year' is 'year', not 'years'. E.g. 'siven year ago'.