



# Got It?

by Sue Burgess

The twentieth edition of *La Fête du Pain* (bread festival) will be held between the 11th and 17th May 2015. *La Fête du Pain* is the opportunity throughout France to meet bakers and discover their profession and their produce in a festival atmosphere. The theme of this year's festival is *Le Pain et les Enfants* (Bread and Children) and it aims to encourage people to understand the importance of *le petit déjeuner* (breakfast) and *le goûter* (a sort of elevenses that children have when they get home after school).

The other day somebody asked me how to translate the word 'get' into French. There is no one word to translate 'get'. Take any English dictionary and you will find several pages of expressions based on the word 'get'. So how do you translate 'get'? Well it depends on the exact expression and the context.

The basic verb 'to get' (meaning 'to obtain') can be translated by *obtenir*, *trouver*, *prendre*, *avoir* or more formally by *se procurer*.

'Have got' is translated by *avoir*.

If 'to get' means 'to receive' then we can use *recevoir*. You can 'get' something from somewhere or 'get' someone from the station. (*Aller chercher quelqu'un a la gare*).

To 'get' an illness is *attraper*. To get the flu for example *attraper la grippe*. When you 'get better' you *aller mieux* or *se rétablir*. But if you get better at something because you improve then the verb to use in French is *améliorer*.

If you want to 'get back in shape' you must *retrouver la ligne*. But if you 'get back on your feet' you *se relever*.

You can 'get a bus' or a train (*prendre un bus/un train*). Then when you 'get there' you can use the verb *arriver* in French.

If you 'get around' (travel a lot) you *voyager* or *bouger* but if you 'get around to doing something' you *arriver à faire* or *trouver le temps de faire*.

Before you 'get carried away' (*s'emballer*) by all this vocabulary, perhaps you will 'get completely hooked on' (*devenir complètement accro*) the different ways to translate the simple word 'get'.

Got it? (*compris?*)

There are numerous ways to translate the word 'get' and you need to look for a translation that corresponds to the meaning you want to express.

## Vocabulary / Vocabulaire:

easy to get along with .....	facile à vivre
get a fix .....	avoir sa dose
get a foothold .....	avoir un point d'appui, trouver un point d'appui
get a foothold (get settled) ....	s'implanter
get a grip .....	se ressaisir, se reprendre
get a haircut .....	se faire couper les cheveux
get a job .....	trouver un travail
get a kick out of (sth/sb) .....	Prendre plaisir à
get a life .....	t'as rien de mieux à faire?
get a shock .....	avoir un choc
get a thrashing .....	se faire tabasser
get a whiff of (sth) .....	sentir un parfum de
get a word in .....	en placer une
get along (be friends) .....	bien s'entendre
get along (cope) .....	se débrouiller



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