
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

The English We Speak

Rolling in it



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This is not a word-for-word transcript

Neil

Hello and welcome to The English We Speak with me Neil...

Feifei

...and me, Feifei. In this programme, we've got an expression which means 'to be very rich'.

Neil

And, as usual, in order to demonstrate the meaning of something, I'm going to make a fool of myself. Now, Feifei, please describe what I'm doing.

Feifei

OK, so now Neil is rolling around on the floor covered in... money.

Neil

So, Feifei, how much money does someone need to roll in it?

Feifei

Lots!

Neil

And so we have an expression in English – 'to be rolling in it'. It means to be extremely rich.

Feifei

That's right. Imagine a person has so much money they can literally roll around in it and you can understand this expression. Now get up Neil.

Neil

OK. Let's hear some examples.

Examples

Carlos is always moaning about lack of money but his parents are rolling in it, so he should just ask them for some.

Since tuition fees have been introduced, you need to be rolling in it to afford university.

My neighbours must be rolling in it – they're having a swimming pool and tennis court built in their garden.

Neil

So, there we are – we say someone is 'rolling in it' if they're very rich.

Feifei

I'd love to be rolling in it.

Neil

OK then – come and join me!

Feifei

No, I mean that I'd like to be rich – but that does look quite fun actually... - woah!