

siddle - slope down : "See the siddle o yon roof"
skelp - hit, beat, slap : "Aah's ganna skelp yor lug!"
skep - basket : "Billy! Hev yuh seen me skep?"
smit - illness, infection : "Thi bairn's got thi smit"
spelk - splinter, weak child : "Mam! Aah's got a spelk in me finga"
spuggie - sparrow : "Thi gardin's full a spuggies"
stot - bounce : "Giv ower stottin thi baal!"
stotty-cyek - oven-bottom bread : "Heor, pet, hev sum stotty-cyek"
stumer - an outrageous plan : "Yon's a reet stumer"
styen - stone : "Hev yuh seen the size o yon styen?"
sweir - unruly, difficult, obstinate, awkward : "Ee's a sweir bairn, yon"
syen - soon : "Aah'll cum as syen as Aah can"
tab - cigarette : "Hev yuh ony tabs, marra?"
teem - pour : "Can yuh teem thi tea, pet?"
tettie - potato : "Aah's howked up sum tetties for wor scran"
thor - their : "Hev yuh seen thor hoos! It's geet massive!"
tret - treated : "Wor Bella tret is tiv an ice-cream"
tyek - take : "Can yuh tyek is ti thi bus, pet?"
upahite - up there : "Aah's not gannin upahite!"
varnigh - nearly : "It's varnigh fower o'clock"
varyy - very : "Bye! It's varyy caad the day!"
vine - pencil : "Please Miss, Aah's lost me vine"
waddent - would not : "Aah waddent dee yon if Aah was ye"
wettor - water : "Thi beor ower heor's better than thi wettor i thi Wear!"
wark - work : "Aah canna wark thi day, mista"
whaat cheor? - how are you? : "Whaat cheor thi day, hinny?"
whisht - be quiet! : "Whisht lads, had yor gobs ... "
wick - dirty, untidy, smelly : "Hor hoos is gey wick!"
wifie - woman : "Yon wifie's a reet bonny lass"
yammer - talk incessantly : "Ee yammers on thi yell day"
yorsel - yourself : "Gi yorsel a pat on thi back"
yowl - cry, howl : "Yon derg's yowlin agyen"

For more information about Northumbrian dialect words, contact Peter Arnold on 01434 608230, or email at pja13@phone.coop.coop or write to 33 Hackwood Glade, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 1AL

A Northumbrian Wordlist

aad-farrened - old fashioned : "Ee's aad-farrened, him"
ahint - behind : "look ahint thi telly, will yuh"
ax - ask : "Aah axed him whaat ee was deein"
aye - yes : "Aye, Aah's gannin ti thi match"
ayont - beyond : "Me mam's ayont yon gallowa"
bagies - turnips : "Yon bagies'll syeun be howked"
bairn - child : "Wor Jimmy's a reet impittent bairn"
bait - food, lunch : "Whaat's in yor bait, marra?"
blashy - poor quality, weak and watery : "Aah's proper blashy thi day"
blether - talk, chatter : "Ees blether is full o nowt!"
borstin - desperate for the toilet : "Aah's fair borstin!"
bray - hit, thrash : "Aah's ganna bray ye"
bullets - sweets : "Mam, can Aah hev sum bullets?"
canny - nice, friendly : "She's a reet canny wifie, yuh knaa"
chare - narrow alleyway or street : "Divvent gan doon yon chare"
claggy - sticky : "Whey, pet, yor aall claggy wi yon glue"
clarts - mud, mess : "Hev yous been plodging i thi clarts agyen?"
cloffy - feckless, useless : "Yor a reet cloffy bairn"
clout - clout, hit : "Mam, ee gov is a clout roond me heed"
coggle - shaky, wobbly : "Aye, me dad's awfu coggly just noo"
cowp - fall over, overbalance : "Yon bucket's cowped ower"
cracket - three-legged stool : "Thi cracket's lost a leg, dad"
cree - a pen for animals : "Gan an shut the gyet in thi cree, will yuh"
cuddy - donkey : "Tek a deek o yon cuddy"
divvent - do not, don't : "Divvent dee yon, man"
dowly - miserable, doleful : "Whaat for are yuh se lowly, hinny?"
duds - smart clothes : "Di yuh like me new duds, then?"
dunsh - collide with, crash into : "Divvent dunsh wuh, hinny"
dut - hat : "Whe's pinched me dut?"
een - eyes : "Yor een's aall black an blue"
ees - his : "Ee's lost ees penka!"
fadge - flat-bread cake : "Mam, wheor's thi fadge gon ti?"

fash - bother, trouble : *"Divvent fash theesel, pet"*
femmor - weak, fragile : *"Yon chair's geet femmor, yuh knaa"*
fettle - make, sort out, health : *"Hoo's yor fettle thi day?"*
fligarishon - celebration : *"Yon disarves a reet fligarishon"*
forbye - also : *"Wor bairns is gannin forbye"*
fornenst - opposite : *"Thi hoos is fornenst thi park"*
gadgy - old man, any man : *"Ee's a reet radgy gadgy, him"*
galloway - horse : *"Yon's a canny gallowa"*
galluses - braces : *"Me galluses is brokken! Whaat's Aah ganna dee?"*
gan, gannin - go, going : *"Aah's gannin ti thi toon thi morra"*
ganzie - pullover, jumper : *"Mam, wheor's me ganzie at?"*
gee - huff, sulk : *"Ee's tekken thi gee agyen"*
glaikit - clumsy, inattentive : *"Wor kid's a reet glaiky gowk!"*
glaur - foul-smelling liquid manure : *"Mam, me dad's sittin i thi glaur!"*
gliff - fright, scare : *"Ee, yuh gov is a reet gliff!"*
gob - mouth : *"Yon bairn's got a reet big gob on im"*
gog - berry : *"Mista, hev yuh ony gogs on yuh?"*
gonniel - fool, weakling : *"Yor a reet gonniel, ye!"*
gowk - apple core, fool : *"Aah divvent like eatin gowks"*
hacky - dirty : *"Wor bairn's aall hacky dorty"*
hadaway - get away! I don't believe you! : *"Hadaway an tittle!"*
hap - cover, wrap-up : *"Jacky, hap thi bairn will yuh"*
hikey - carrying someone : *"Dad, Aah's knackered. Giz a hikey"*
hinny - term of endearment : *"Is yuh alreet, hinny?"*
hoppins - a fun fair : *"Mam, can wuh gan ti thi Hoppins after skyul?"*
howk - dig up : *"Ee! Lukka whaat Aah howked up i thi gardin just noo!"*
hoy - throw : *"Giv ower hoyin styens"*
hyem - home : *"Aah's gannin hyem"*
impittent - cheeky, rude, impudent : *"Yon's an impittent bairn!"*
in-bye - close by, near by : *"Thi hoos is in-bye, Aah reckon"*
jaloose - work out, discover : *"Aah canna jaloose whaat it'll cost"*
jarp - hit at an angle : *"Haway, man! Let is jarp yor conker!"*
keek - look at : *"Tek a keek at yon!"*
ket - rubbish, sweets : *"Hev yuh ony ket on yuh?"*
kizzen - dry up, over cook, shrivel : *"Mam! Thi tetties is aall kizzened!"*
larn - teach : *"Aah's ganna larn yuh ti taalk proper"*
liggies - game of marbles : *"Haway, man, let's play liggies"*

lowp, lowpin - jump, jumping : *"Them lambs is lowpin aall ower"*
lowse - loosen, release : *"It's lowsen time at thi skyul"*
mair - more : *"Aah's got a lot mair ti dee noo!"*
marra - friend : *"Hey, marra, lend is a pund will yuh?"*
mask - brew tea : *"Whe's maskin thi tea thi day?"*
mazer - amazing, unbelievable : *"Wor Nanny's a mazer!"*
mell - a big hammer or mallet : *"Ee waas brayin it wiv a mell"*
mowdiewarp - mole : *"Yon field's full o mowdiewarps"*
muckle - big, great, enormous : *"Let's hev a muckle fligarishon!"*
mun - must : *"Yuh mun larn ti say nowt when ee's aboot"*
myek - make : *"Whe's mekkin thi tea thi day, then?"*
na - no : *"Divvent ye say Na ti me, bonny lad"*
netty - toilet : *"Aah's gannin ti thi netty"*
nigh-hand - nearby : *"Thi Co-op's nigh-hand thi Club"*
nooled - dispirited, defeated, downcast : *"Aah's fair nooled thi day"*
nowt - nothing : *"But Aah's dyun nowt wrang, mista!"*
nyen - none : *"Nyen o them waad lend a hand"*
oot-bye - over there, some distance away : *"Thi ewes is oot-bye"*
oozly - miserable, knackered, worn out : *"Aah's fair oozly thi noo"*
ower - over : *"Giv ower bubblin!"*
owt - anything : *"Is yuh gannin ti giz is owt?"*
oxter - arm pit : *"Me oxters is aall sweaty an stinky noo"*
palatic - completely drunk : *"Wor Tom waas palatic agyen last Satda"*
penka - a marble, usually made of glass : *"Hev yuh seen me penka?"*
pet - term of endearment : *"Is yuh alreet, pet?"*
(playin thi) wag - playing truant : *"Wor Billy's playin thi wag agyen"*
plodge - walk in water : *"Thi bairns is plodgin i the wettor"*
pollis - police : *"Hey up, heor's thi pollis"*
pund - pound (money, weight) : *"Aah hatta pay fowerty pund for yon!"*
raa - a row of terraced houses : *"Ee lives at thi end o thi raa"*
reet - right : *"She's a reet bobby-dazzler, isn't shu?"*
rive - tear, wreck, break : *"Divvent rive yor ganzie, man!"*
sark - shirt : *"Ee waas wearin ees Sunda sark, an all"*
scranshums - bits of fried batter : *"Div yuh want scranshums as weel?"*
scrunty - poor, barren, poverty-stricken : *"Yon derg's a scrunty thing"*
scumfished - smothered, unable to breathe : *"Aah's reet scumfished!"*
sic - such : *"It was sic a champion weddin"*