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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## The English We Speak

### Hot desk

The logo for BBC Learning English, featuring the letters 'BBC' in a white box above the words 'LEARNING ENGLISH' in white text on a teal background.

*This is not a word-for-word transcript*

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**Feifei**

Hello and welcome to The English We Speak. I'm Feifei and with me is Rob.

**Rob**

Hello everyone. Hi Feifei, how are you?

**Feifei**

I'm very well, Rob, thank you. Which cool phrase have you brought to share with us?

**Rob**

I'd like to introduce the phrase 'to hot-desk' and the idea behind hot-desking in modern offices.

**Feifei**

I know this one, Rob. To hot-desk or hot-desking is an increasingly popular way of working to save office space.

**Rob**

Yes, not like before, where everyone had their own desk, in a hot-desking office there are certain number of desks and computers available for people to use, and anyone who needs them can use them.

**Feifei**

This way, companies can save space by reducing the overall number of desks it needs to provide because not everyone is at work every day.

**Rob**

That's right. Throughout the year, there are always people on leave, away from the office or off sick. It's more common to see hot-desking in big organisations.

**Feifei**

Let's hear some examples of people talking about hot-desking.

**Examples**

BBC New Broadcasting House is a hot-desking environment. People just sit wherever there is a free computer.

Hot desks should be kept clean and tidy at all times because you don't know who will use them next.

Many modern office workers are expected to hot-desk.

**Rob**

So we heard people using 'hot desk' in three different ways.

**Feifei**

Yes. Remember hot-desking is the noun form of the verb 'to hot-desk'.

**Rob**

When you write 'to hot-desk', don't forget 'hot' and 'desk' needs to be hyphenated.

**Feifei**

The actual desk we use to do hot-desking is called a 'hot desk' – without the hyphen between the two words.

**Rob**

OK, I think that's enough 'hot-desking' for now.

**Feifei**

Oh wait, Rob. I haven't got a desk today, I need to go and find a hot desk! Bye!

**Rob**

Good luck! Bye bye.