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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## The English We Speak

### To have a soft spot



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

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**Feifei**

Hello, this is The English We Speak and I'm Feifei.

**Rob**

And hello, I'm Rob.

**Feifei**

Rob, didn't you know it's very rude to eat while talking?

**Rob**

Sorry! It's just... somebody left these doughnuts here and I had to eat them – I have a soft spot for doughnuts.

**Feifei**

Couldn't you wait?

**Rob**

No, sorry I can't – ooo, is that chocolate I can see in your bag – you couldn't spare a few chunks could you? I have a soft spot for chocolate as well.

**Feifei**

No Rob, you can't but can I assume a 'soft spot' refers to your large and soft belly you have as a result of eating too many sweet things?

**Rob**

How dare you! Having a soft spot does not mean having a fat belly – not that I have one anyway. If you have a soft spot for something, it means you have the feeling of really liking something or someone.

**Feifei**

Right. And it's quite a strong feeling?

**Rob**

It is. When you have a soft spot for someone it means you have a lot of affection for them. Is there anyone you have a soft spot for, Feifei?

**Feifei**

Hmmm. At the moment I just have soft spot for some examples!

**Examples**

He always had a soft spot for the woman in accounts – and guess what? Now they're getting married!

She has a soft spot for designer shoes – her cupboard is crammed with hundreds of pairs, some she's never even worn!

She's got a soft spot for her English teacher and keeps buying him presents – and she's always the first to turn up for his lessons.

**Feifei**

This is The English We Speak from BBC Learning English and we're learning about the phrase 'to have a soft spot' – which is a feeling of really liking something or someone. So Rob, you asked if I had a soft spot for someone and I do!

**Rob**

Ooo, go on.

**Feifei**

He's tall and handsome...

**Rob**

Oh yes.

**Feifei**

A little beard...

**Rob**

Of course...

**Feifei**

And a natural performer.

**Rob**

I knew it! You only had to say, Feifei...

**Feifei**

Yes, it's the great actor, Scott Foley.

**Rob**

Oh I see. You have a soft spot for him?

**Feifei**

I do. And how about you, Rob?

**Rob**

There's nobody – just doughnuts – soft, round, sweet and squidgy in the middle – what's not to like?

**Feifei**

Ah, just like you then!

**Rob**

Time to go Feifei. Bye!

**Feifei**

Bye bye!