## **Newly Swissed**

## A Non-Exhaustive List of Swiss-French Words & Expressions

| Swiss French                     | French                         | English                              |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Numbers                          |                                |                                      |
| septante                         | soixante-dix                   | seventy (70)                         |
| huitante                         | quatre-vingts                  | eighty (80)                          |
| nonante                          | quatre-vingt-dix               | ninety (90)                          |
| Meals                            |                                |                                      |
| déjeuner                         | petit-déjeuner                 | breakfast                            |
| dîner                            | déjeuner                       | lunch                                |
| souper                           | dîner                          | dinner                               |
| Miscellaneous                    |                                |                                      |
| action                           | promotion                      | special offer                        |
| boguet                           | vélomoteur                     | electric bike, motorcycle            |
| brosse (balayette) et ramassoire | balayette et pelle à poussière | brush (i.e. small broom) and dustpan |
| catelle                          | carreau de poêle               | glazed tile for a tiled stove        |
| cheneau                          | gouttière                      | gutter                               |
| chenit                           | désordre                       | disorder, mess                       |
| cornet                           | sac en plastique ou papier     | plastic or paper bag                 |
| crotchon                         | croûton                        | crouton or small piece of bread      |
| s'encoubler                      | trébucher                      | to stumble, to trip                  |
| faire les courses                | faire les trajets              | to commute                           |
| foehner                          | sécher avec un sèche-cheveux   | To dry one's hair with a hair dryer  |
| galetas                          | grenier                        | attic                                |
| gouille                          | flaque d'eau, mare             | puddle                               |
| grailler                         | curer                          | scrape clean                         |
| lavette                          | gant de toillete               | face cloth                           |

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| Swiss French             | French  | English  |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| linge de cuisine         | torchon   | tea towel, dish towel  |
| linge de bain            | serviette   | bath towel   |
| natel                    | portable  | cell phone   |
| "ou bien?"               | "ou quoi ?" or "ou alors ?"                             | A tag question that appears at the end of a phrase to indicate an alternative option—similar to using "or what?" in English. |
| panosse, patte à relaver | serpillière   | floor cloth  |
| papier ménage            | papier essuie-tout                                      | paper towel  |
| parquer la voiture       | garer la voiture  | park the car   |
| rebibes                  | morceaux de fromage                                     | Small pieces of hard cheese, such as thinly shaved and rolled cylinders of <i>L'Etivaz</i> served during an <i>apéro</i> .   |
| roiller                  | pleuvoir fortement                                      | to rain heavily  |
| services                 | couverts  | silverware, cutlery  |
| "Tout de bon!"           | "Je vous souhaite le meilleur!" ou<br>"Bonne journée"** | "I wish you the best" or "Have a good day" – a greeting given when saying good-bye to someone.                               |

**Please note**: Some of the Swiss-French words or expressions listed here are unique to Suisse Romande. However, some of these words are used elsewhere, but with different meanings. For example, "cornet" in Suisse Romande means "plastic or paper bag," but it also means "ice cream cone" in both Switzerland and in France. Also, some Swiss-French words are used in France, but are just not as popular, like using the word "souper" to describe the evening meal (i.e., supper or dinner).

<sup>\*&</sup>quot;Faire les courses" typically means "to do the grocery shopping" in France.

<sup>\*\*</sup>While "Tout de bon" means something like "Je vous souhaite le meilleur," this phrase ("I wish you the best" in English) is not commonly said. In France, you would more likely hear "Bonne journée," instead.