



2 Sharp upwards movement across the body, usually accompanied by a facial expression a bit like a half-chewed toffee. Used to express disapproval. For example, "You ruffians! How dare you insult our over-70s rounders first 11!" Note – the Italian version is usually accompanied by epithets involving religion, animals and an assortment of body parts. Inexperienced visitors should not attempt to use this gesture unless they can cover 100 metres in under 10 seconds (in the opposite direction).



5 Hands held in front of body, tips of fingers touching as if holding something. Used to emphasise a point. For example, "Ah, the old days, Bert. Young folk today, they just don't take pride in their work. In my day, chicken strangling was a skilled profession. You grabbed them like this and..."



3 Hand outstretched, thumb and little finger moving up and down alternately. Used to express doubt in another person's opinion. For example, "Sounds dodgy to me John, but I suppose it's better than a poke in the eye with a sharp stick, eh!"



4 Hand outstretched with palm upwards as if holding something. Used to demonstrate gullibility. For example, "That's a fair swap, Brian. My brand new Ferrari F40 for this little invisible magic elf. It must be your lucky day. Do you reckon those folk you met in the Irish pub have got another one?"



6 Hands held up to chest. Used to emphasise that you are giving an honest opinion and butter wouldn't melt in your mouth. Or that you are in fact lying through your teeth. For example, "Missus, I swear, Jamie Oliver says oranges are an aphrodisiac. I'd start with duck in orange sauce, followed by an orange cream cake and washed down with a nice glass of fresh orange juice. How many kilos would you like?"