

1. Verb Prepositions
2. Verb Prepositions
3. Noun Prepositions
4. Preposition Nouns
5. Adjective Prepositions
6. Adjective Prepositions
7. Prepositions of Time
8. Prepositions of Place

1. Verbs & Prepositions

Below, you will find a listing of the verb/preposition groupings, but it is not everything. Groupings that are divided by a star * may be separated by a noun, pronoun, or noun phrase; in some cases, the verb and preposition must be separated. Those that do not have a star must remain together.

Example: We will now **confer** an honorary doctorate **upon** her.

Example: I can't believe I have to **sift through** all these legal documents.

account for
allude to
aspire to
apologize for/ to
appeal to

apply for/ to
approve of
argue about/ for/ against/ with/ over
arrange for
ascend toward

assign*to
assist*with
atone for
attach*to
attempt to

attest to
attracted*to/ by
augment*with
awaken from
balk at

ban*from
bar*from
bark at
bask in
banish*from

banter with/ about
beg*for
blame*for/ on/
upon
bicker with
bid for

bilk out of
bite into
block*from
blossom into
blot*out

cavort with
coerce*into
coincide with
collaborate with
collide with

compromise about/ with
conceive of
concentrate on
concur with
condescend to

dabble in
deal with
deliberate about
delve into
descend to/ into

eliminate*from
emanate from
emigrate from/ to
enable*to
enlist*to

etch into
evict*from
evolve into
excel at/in/on
exclude*from

familiarize*with
fascinated with/ about
fawn over
foist*upon
forage for

gape at
gawk at
gaze at/ upon
gesture toward
glance at

fight*for/ about/ over/
hack up
haggle about/ over/ with
hammer on
hanker for

bore into
brace*for
brood about
burden*with
burrow into/ under

comment about/ to
commiserate about/ with
commit*to
communicate with
commute*to

confer with/*upon
confess*to
confide*in/to
conform*to
confront*with

deviate from
dictate to
differ from
distract*from
distribute*to

enroll*in
entitle*to
entrust*to
envelop*in
equip*with

excuse*from
exert*on
exonerate*from
expel*from
experiment on/ with

forbid*to
force*to
forget to/ about
fret about
frolic with/ in

glare at
glean from
gloat about
gnaw on/ upon
goad*into

hasten to
heap*upon
hesitate to
hollow out
hover over

campaign for
capitalize on
care for/ about
carry*out
caution*about

compare*with
compel*to
compensate*for
compete for
complain about

confused about
conjure up
connect*to
consent to
cooperate with

diverge from
ease*into
eject*from
elect to
elevate*to

eradicate*from
erase*from
erupt from
escape from/ to
escort*to

expunge*from
extend*to
extract*from
extricate*from
extrude*from/ onto

frown upon
fumble with
fume over
gape at
gawk at

gossip about
grapple with
graze on/ upon
gripe about
grumble about

hunch over
hunger for
identify with
imbue*with
immerse*in

immigrate from/ to
impale*upon
impede*from
impel*to
impose upon

improve upon
incorporate*with/ into
induce*to
indulge in
infect*with

infest*with
inflict*upon
inform*about
infringe upon
inject*with

inoculate*with
insert*into
insist upon
inspire*to
insulate*with

intend to
interest*in
interfere with
intrude into
inundate with

invest*in
invite*to
involve*in/ with
jeer at
lapse into

lavish upon
liken*to
listen to
lob*at
lunge at

lure into
luxuriate in
marvel at
masquerade as
mate*with

meddle in/with
meditate on
meld*into
merge into/ with
mesh with

mete*out
mingle with
mold*into
motion toward
muster up

mutate into
mutter about
negotiate for/ with
nestle into
nod toward/at

nominate*for
notify*about
nourish*with
object to
obscure*with

obsess over
obstruct*by/ with
occur to
opt to/ for
pacify*with

pander to
parcel out
pare*down
parley*into
partake in

participate in/ with
peck at
peer at/ into
pelt*with
pepper*with

perch on
percolate into
pertain to
predisposed to
preface*with

prepare*for
presume to
pretend to
prevent*from
prey upon

prohibit*from
project*onto
protrude from
purge*from
qualify*for

quarrel with/ over/ about
quibble over
reciprocate with
reconcile with
recuperate from

reduce*to
refer to
refrain from
refuse to
regale*with

relapse into
relate*to
rely on
remind*to
reminisce about

remove*from
require*to
reside in
resign from
resolve to

resort to
respond to
restrain*from
retaliate for
retrieve*from

revel in
revert to
revolve around
rifle through
rile up

rob of
root for
ruminate about
rummage through
saddle*with

schedule*to
scheme to
scoff at
scoop up
secede from

settle over/ down
shame*into
share*with
shear*off
shred*into

side with
sidle up to
sift through
slink toward/ through/ away
from
slip*through/ away from

spar with
speak about /to
specialize in
speculate about
splurge on

submit*to
subscribe to
succumb to
surrender*to
sympathize with

throttle*with
tinker with
toy with
trace to/ around
translate*for/into

vie for
volunteer for
vouch for
vow to
wallow in

slither through/ toward/ away from/ up/
down
slouch down
snarl at
snatch*away from/ out of
sneak*toward/ away from

spurt at/ out
spur*on
spy on
squabble over/ about
stare at

taint*with
tamper with
tangle with
teach*to
testify to/for

treat*to
trifle with
trim*with
truss*up
tuck*in

will*to
wince at
withdraw from
worm*into
worry about

sneer at
snicker about
snipe at/ about
snuggle with
sort through

stave off
steal*from/ for
strive to/ for
struggle with/ to
subject*to

theorize about
thicken*with
threaten*with/ to
thrive in/ on
throng to

unburden*to
unite with
upgrade*to
urge*to
usher in

wrench*from
wrest*from
wrestle with/ from
yearn for
yell at/ about/ to

2. Verb & Prepositions

Below please find another list of verbs and preposition combinations.

Verb	Preposition
account	for
accuse (someone)	of
adapt	to
add	to
adjust	to
agree	on (something)
agree	to (something)
agree	with (someone)
apologize	for (something)
apologize	to (someone)
apply	for
approve	of
argue	with (someone)
argue	about (something)
arrive	at
ask	for
become	of
believe	in
belong	to
blame (someone)	for (something)
blame (something)	on (something)
borrow	from
care	about
care	for
catch	up with (?)
come	from
comment	on
communicate	with
compare	with

complain	about
compliment (someone)	on
congratulate	on
concentrate	on
consent	to
consist	of
convince (someone)	of (something)
deal	with
decide	between
decide	on
depend	on
(dis)approve	of
dream	about, of
excuse (someone)	for
explain (something)	to
feel	like
forget	about
forgive (someone)	for
get	along with
get	back from
get rid	of
get	through with
get used	to
happen	to
have confidence	in
have influence	over
have an opportunity	for
have patience	with
have a reason	for
hear	about
hear	from
hear	of
insist	on
introduce	to
invite (someone)	to
keep	for, from
keep	on

laugh	about
laugh	at
learn	about
listen	for
listen	to
look	at
look	for
look forward	to
object	to
participate	in
pay	for
plan	on
prefer	to
prepare	for
prevent	from
provide	for
provide (someone)	with
recover	from
refer	to
relate	to
rely	on
remind (someone)	of
search	for
see	about
send	for
separate	from
show	up at
speak	about
spend (money)	on
stop	from
substitute	for
subtract	from
succeed	in
suspect (someone)	of
take advantage	of
take care	of
talk	about

talk	over
talk	to
thank (someone)	for
think	about
think	of
throw	away
vote	for
wait	for
warn	about
waste (money)	on
wish	for
work	for
worry	about

3. Noun & Prepositions

FOR

Use 'for' preceded by the following nouns:

- a check for (amount of money)

Example: *She gave me a check for \$50.*

- a demand for something

Example: *Unfortunately, there wasn't enough demand for our product.*

- a need for something

Example: *There is a real need for discipline in this class.*

- a reason for something

Example: *I have a reason for doing that!*

IN

Use 'in' preceded by the following nouns:

- a rise in something

Example: *There has been a rise in prices recently.*

- an increase in something

Example: *We have seen many increases in production levels.*

- a fall in something

Example: *There has been a fall in prices recently.*

- a decrease in something

Example: *We have seen many decreases in production levels.*

OF

Use 'of' preceded by the following nouns:

- a cause of something

Example: *She is the cause of all his problems.*

- a photograph OR a picture of something or someone

Example: *He took a photograph of the mountains.*

TO

Use 'to' preceded by the following nouns:

- damage to something

Example: *I did a lot of damage to my car the other day.*

- an invitation to a celebration of some type

Example: *We were invited to their wedding.*

- reaction to something

Example: *Her reaction to his behavior was quite funny.*

- a solution to a problem

Example: *He provided the solution to our financial situation.*

- an attitude to something (or TOWARDS something)

Example: *Your attitude to your problems doesn't help them get resolved.*

WITH

Use 'with' preceded by the following nouns:

- a relationship with someone or something

Example: *My relationship with Mary is wonderful.*

- a connection with someone or something

Example: *His connections with the CIA are very limited.*

- a contact with someone or something

Example: *Have you had any contact with Sarah?*

BETWEEN

Use 'between' preceded by the following nouns:

- a connection between TWO things

Example: *There is no connection between the two crimes.*

- a relationship between TWO things

Example: *The relationship between the two friends was very strong.*

- a contact between TWO things

Example: *There is little contact between the two parents.*

- a difference between TWO things

Example: *There is no difference between those two colors.*

4. Prepositions & Nouns

BY

Use 'by' with the following nouns:

- to pay by check (credit card)

Example: *I paid the bill by check.*

- to do something by accident

Example: *I broke the vase by mistake.*

- to do something by mistake

Example: *I'm afraid I brought the wrong book by mistake.*

- to do something by chance

Example: *I saw Jack at the supermarket by chance.*

- a play, song, book, etc. by someone

Example: *The opera 'Otello' is by Giuseppe Verdi.*

FOR

Use 'for' with the following nouns:

- (to go / come) for a walk

Example: *Let's go for a walk.*

- (to go / come) for a swim

Example: *We went for a swim as soon as we arrived.*

- (to go / come) for a drink

Example: *Would you like to come over for a drink?*

- (to go / come) for a visit

Example: *I'd love to come for a visit sometime.*

- (to have something) for breakfast / lunch / dinner / supper (US English)

Example: *I had bacon and eggs for breakfast.*

IN

Use 'in' with the following nouns:

- to be OR to fall in love with someone

Example: *I fell in love with my wife at first sight.*

- in my opinion

Example: *In my opinion, we need to invest in some development.*

- a need for something

ON

Use 'on' with the following nouns:

- (to be) on fire

Example: *Help! The house is on fire!*

- (to be) on the telephone / phone

Example: *I think Tom is on the phone at the moment.*

- on television

Example: *There is a good film on television tonight.*

- on the radio

Example: *Mahler's fifth was on the radio last night.*

- (to be / go) on a diet

Example: *I really need to go on a diet.*

- (to be / go) on strike

Example: *The sanitary engineers have gone on strike again.*

- (to be / go) on holiday (UK English) / vacation (American English)

Example: *I really need to go on vacation soon.*

- (to be / go) business

Example: *He went away this weekend on business.*

- (to be / go) on a trip

Example: *We were on a trip this past weekend.*

- (to be / go) a tour

Example: *Have you ever been on a tour of the French countryside?*

- (to be / go) on an excursion

Example: *We went on an excursion to Versailles when we were in Paris.*

5. Adjective Prepositions (part 1)

about / at/ by / for/ from

ABOUT

Use the following adjectives followed by 'about'. Each group of adjectives have the same or related meanings. Use the verb 'to be' with these expressions.

- angry / annoyed / furious about something

Example: *I'm really angry about our losses on the stock market!*

- excited about something

Example: *He's excited about his birthday party next week.*

- worried / upset about something

Example: *He's worried about his upcoming examinations.*

- sorry about something

Example: *I'm very sorry about Losing your book.*

AT

Use the following adjectives followed by 'at'. Each group of adjectives have the same or related meanings. Use the verb 'to be' with these expressions.

- good / excellent / brilliant at something OR at doing something

Example: *They are excellent at planning fun parties.*

- bad / hopeless at something OR at doing something

Example: *Unfortunately, I'm hopeless at being on time.*

AT / BY

Use the following adjectives followed by 'at' or 'by'. Each group of adjectives have the same or related meanings. Use the verb 'to be' with these expressions.

- amazed / astonished / shocked / surprised at OR by something

Example: *I was amazed at his stamina.*

FOR

Use the following adjectives followed by 'for'. Each group of adjectives have the same or related meanings. Use the verb 'to be' with these expressions.

- angry with someone for something

Example: *I'm really angry with John for his total lack of responsibility.*

- famous for something

Example: *She's famous for her watercolor paintings.*

- responsible for something

Example: *You'll have to speak to John, he's responsible for customer complaints.*

- sorry for doing something

Example: *He says he's sorry for shouting at you.*

- (to feel or be) sorry for someone

Example: *I really feel sorry for Pam.*

FROM

Use the following adjectives followed by 'from'.

- different from someone / something

Example: *His photographs are very different from his paintings.*

6. Adjective Prepositions (part 2)

'of / on / to / with'

OF

Use the following adjectives followed by 'of'. Each group of adjectives have the same or related meanings. Use the verb 'to be' with these expressions.

- nice / kind / good / generous of someone (to do something)

Example: *It was very nice of him to buy me a present.*

- mean of someone (to do something)

Example: *It was very mean of Susan to say that to Tom.*

- stupid / silly of someone (to do something)

Example: *I'm afraid it was stupid of me to come.*

- intelligent / clever / sensible of someone (to do something)

Example: *That was quite sensible of Tom.*

- polite of someone (to do something)

Example: *It was very polite of Peter to invite my sister to the party.*

- impolite / rude of someone (to do something)

Example: *I can't believe how rude it was of Jack to shout at his daughter in front of all those people.*

- unreasonable of someone (to do something)

Example: *Don't be so hard on yourself! It's unreasonable of you to expect to understand everything immediately.*

- proud of something or someone

Example: *I'm very proud of my daughter's wonderful progress in school.*

- ashamed of someone or something

Example: *She's ashamed of her bad grades.*

- jealous / envious of someone or something

Example: *She's really envious of her sister's wealth.*

- aware / conscious of something

Example: *Teens are often overly conscious of skin blemishes.*

- capable / incapable of something

Example: *Peter is quite capable of conducting the meeting on his own.*

- fond of someone or something

Example: *She is so fond of her niece.*

- short of something

Example: *I'm afraid I'm short of cash tonight.*

- tired of something

Example: *I'm tired of your complaining!*

ON

Use the following adjective followed by 'on'. Use the verb 'to be' with these expressions.

- to be keen on something

Example: *She is very keen on horses.*

TO

Use the following adjectives followed by 'to'. Each group of adjectives have the same or related meanings. Use the verb 'to be' with these expressions.

- married / engaged to someone

Example: *Jack is engaged to Jill.*

- nice / kind / good / generous to someone

Example: *She was very generous to me when I was staying with her.*

- mean / impolite / rude / unpleasant / unfriendly / cruel to someone

Example: *How can you be so unfriendly to your neighbors?*

- similar to something

Example: *His painting is similar to Van Gough.*

WITH

Use the following adjectives followed by 'with'. Each group of adjectives have the same or related meanings. Use the verb 'to be' with these expressions.

- angry / annoyed / furious with someone for something

Example: *I'm furious with my brother for having lied to me!*

- delighted / pleased / satisfied with something

Example: *He is quite satisfied with his results.*

- disappointed with something

Example: *She's really disappointed with her new car.*

- bored / fed up with something

Example: *Let's go. I'm fed up with this party.*

- crowded with (people, tourists, etc.)

Example: *Disneyland is crowded with tourists in July.*

7. Prepositions of Time: in, on, at

In	At	On
+ month or year <i>In March, In 2003</i>	+ precise time <i>At 3:30 p.m., At 4:01, At noon</i>	+ days, dates <i>On April 2, On March 3, 1999, On Saturday,</i>
+ season <i>In the summer, In the winter</i>	+ festival period <i>At Christmas/Easter</i>	+ festival day <i>On Christmas day</i>
+ morning, afternoon, evening- <i>In the morning, In the evening</i>		+ day + morning, evening, afternoon <i>On Saturday morning</i>
	+ the weekend (<i>British</i>) <i>at the weekend</i>	+ the weekend (<i>American</i>) <i>on the weekend</i>
+ the night <i>In the night (The middle)</i>	+ night <i>At night (General)</i>	+ night <i>On the night (Specific)</i>
	+ the same time <i>at the same time</i>	
	+ present <i>at present</i>	

Remember:

When we say **last, next, every, this** we do not also use **at, in, on**.

- I went to London **last** June. (*not in last* June)
- He's coming back **next** Tuesday. (*not on next* Tuesday)
- I go home **every** Easter. (*not at every* Easter)
- We'll call you **this** evening. (*not in this* evening)

8. Prepositions of Place: in, on at

In general, we use:

- **in** for an ENCLOSED SPACE
- **on** for a SURFACE
- **at** for a POINT

in	on	at
ENCLOSED SPACE	SURFACE	POINT
in the garden	on the wall	at the corner
in London	on the ceiling	at the bus stop
in France	on the door	at the door
in a box	on the cover	at the top of the page
in my pocket	on the floor	at the end of the road
in my wallet	on the carpet	at the entrance
in a building	on the menu	at the crossroads
in a car	on a page	at the front desk

Look at these examples:

- Jane is waiting for you **at** the bus stop.
- The shop is **at** the end of the street.
- When will you arrive **at** the office?
- Do you work **in** an office?
- I have a meeting **in** New York.
- Do you live **in** Japan?
- The author's name is **on** the cover of the book.
- You are standing **on** my foot.
- I live **on** the 7th floor **at** 21 Oxford Street **in** London.

Notice the use of the prepositions of place, **in**, **on** and **at** in these standard expressions:

in	on	at
in a car	on a bus	at home
in a taxi	on a train	at work
in a helicopter	on a plane	at school
in a boat	on a ship	at university
in a lift (elevator)	on a bicycle, on a motorbike	at college
in the newspaper	on a horse, on an elephant	at the top
in the sky	on the radio, on television	at the bottom
in a row	on the left, on the right	at the side
in Oxford Street	on the way	at reception

Done^^