

## List of Common English Prepositions

Preposition	Common Usage	Examples
at	to indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) the location in a particular place or position</li> <li>(2) the time of an event</li> <li>(3) the object of verbs dealing with looking and gesturing</li> </ul>	(1) The concert was held <b>at</b> the stadium. (2) The lunch will be served <b>at</b> 1:00 p.m. (3) He stared <b>at</b> his watch.
by	to indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) the actor (person doing action)</li> <li>(2) method of doing something</li> <li>(3) the location of an object in relation to something else</li> </ul>	(1) The painting was done <b>by</b> Picasso. (2) We finished the project <b>by</b> working all night. (3) Let's go that village <b>by</b> the sea.
for	to indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) support of something</li> <li>(2) on behalf of or the benefit of someone</li> <li>(3) purpose or function</li> </ul>	(1) I voted <b>for</b> Mary. (2) I did all this <b>for</b> you. (3) I will prepare a speech <b>for</b> tonight's benefit.
from	to indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) origin</li> <li>(2) source material</li> <li>(3) starting point</li> </ul>	(1) He is <b>from</b> Boston. (2) Lisa made a sculpture <b>from</b> stone. (3) We began <b>from</b> knowing nothing to learning a lot about English grammar rules!
in	to indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) something is surrounded by another thing</li> <li>(2) time period during which an event occurs</li> <li>(3) length of time before a future event takes place</li> <li>(4) a state or condition</li> </ul>	(1) The gift is <b>in</b> the box. (2) The next winter Olympics will be held <b>in</b> 2018. (3) We should leave <b>in</b> ten minutes. (4) I think the victim is <b>in</b> shock.
into	to indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) entering a place that is surrounded</li> <li>(2) movement resulting in someone making physical contact with something else</li> <li>(3) the object of a verb expressing attention or interest</li> <li>(4) a change of condition or state</li> </ul>	(1) I walked <b>into</b> the library. (2) The boy wasn't paying attention and ran <b>into</b> a tree. (3) I would like to look <b>into</b> this matter further. (4) Turn your weaknesses <b>into</b> your strengths.
of	to indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) possession</li> <li>(2) the relationship between a part and a whole</li> <li>(3) relationship between general category and a</li> </ul>	(1) The house <b>of</b> my friend's parents is over there. (2) The front <b>of</b> my house has many windows.

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	<p>specific member of the category</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(4) the relationship between a verb (thinking verbs) and its indirect object</li> <li>(5) material with which something is built</li> </ul>	<p>(3) The book <b>of</b> Job is in the <i>Old Testament</i>. The concept <b>of</b> utopia is fascinating.</p> <p>(4) He knows <b>of</b> the situation.</p> <p>(5) The house is made <b>of</b> concrete.</p>
on	<p>to indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) physical contact or support by the surface of something</li> <li>(2) creating a specific part of some surface</li> <li>(3) the topic of something</li> <li>(4) membership of a committee or board of something</li> <li>(5) the target, aim, or focus of something</li> <li>(6) the method of transmitting or storing something</li> </ul>	<p>(1) I sat <b>on</b> the floor.</p> <p>(2) He loved the smile <b>on</b> her face.</p> <p>(3) Let's focus <b>on</b> one problem at a time.</p> <p>(4) I have to serve <b>on</b> the jury next week.</p> <p>(5) There were many attacks <b>on</b> the city.</p> <p>(6) We stored the data <b>on</b> a thumb drive.</p>
onto	<p>to indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) moving to the surface of something</li> <li>(2) getting aboard something</li> </ul>	<p>(1) The speaker walked <b>onto</b> the stage.</p> <p>(2) We got <b>onto</b> the train just in time.</p>
to	<p>to indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>motion in the direction of a place</li> <li>(2) the end of a range of numbers or time period</li> <li>(3) the result of a process</li> <li>(4) the recipient of something</li> <li>(5) the second part of a comparative phrase</li> </ul>	<p>(1) Mike went <b>to</b> California.</p> <p>(2) We normally work from 9 <b>to</b> 5.</p> <p>(3) The dried bread crumbled <b>to</b> dust.</p> <p>(4) I gave a gift <b>to</b> my sister.</p> <p>(5) Reading a good book is similar <b>to</b> having a good conversation.</p>