99 Words that go together

1 Verb + noun

Here are some common examples of verbs and nour that go together:

VERB	NOUN
do	*the housework the dishes the cleaning your homework an exercise*
make	*dinner a mistake a noise the beds friends*
take	*an exam a test a photo*
pass/fail	*an exam a test*
play	*a sport a game*
drive	*a car*
ride	*a bike a horse*

I often listen to the radio while I ***do the dishes.***
Can you ***ride a bike?***
I haven't ***taken my*** *driving* ***test*** *yet.*

A few verbs and nouns that go together usually hav a preposition after them (e.g. *take care of, take part in make friends with*):
Have you ***made friends with*** *anyone in your new class?*
Can you ***take care of*** *the baby while I go to the shops?*

More examples of *make/do/take* + noun ➤ Unit 104

Carla was **good at** cleaning. The hotel manager was always **pleased with** her work.

2 Adjective + noun

Some adjectives and nouns go together:
a ***strong*** *swimmer* = a person who can swim very well
a ***good*** *driver* = a person who can drive very well (✗ ~~*a strong driver*~~)

Here are some common examples:
smart clothes, a smart suit, a tall building, a high wall, a heavy smoker, heavy rain, a light meal/lunch/dinner, a strong smell, a hard worker

I usually have ***a light meal*** *at lunchtime.*
You should wear ***a smart suit*** *for that job interview.*

These are often different in other languages, so it is best to check in a good dictionary.

3 Adjective + preposition

We often use a preposition after an adjective and before the noun that follows it:

FEELINGS	ABILITIES	BEHAVIOUR	OTHERS
afraid of angry with excited about interested in pleased with worried about	*good at bad at*	*kind to nice to*	*different from famous for*

Carla was ***good at*** *cleaning. The hotel manager was always* ***pleased with*** *her work.*
Paris is ***famous for*** *its beautiful buildings.*

When we put a verb after the preposition we use the *-ing* form:
I'm really ***bad at cooking****. Are you* ***excited about going*** *on holiday?*

Prepositions + nouns, e.g. *at home, on time, for sale* ➤ Unit 24