

PREPOSITION	POSSIBLE MEANINGS	EXAMPLE
<i>down</i>	in a lower position	<i>They live down the hill.</i>
<i>except (for)</i>	not including	<i>Everyone has arrived except for Jane.</i>
<i>facing</i>	opposite, looking out on	<i>I'd love a house facing the sea.</i>
<i>for</i>	1 (time) + a period 2 purpose 3 supporting	<i>They've lived in the house for fifty years. You use a thesaurus for finding similar words. Are you for the government's proposals or not?</i>
<i>from</i>	1 direction 2 origin 3 material	<i>He came from the river. Naoko comes from Japan. The soup is made from the finest vegetables.</i>
<i>from ... to</i>	period of time	<i>The exam will last from 10.00 to 1.00.</i>
<i>in</i>	1 (place) inside borders 2 (time) + month, year, etc. 3 (time) within a period	<i>Bob's in the garden. The course starts in August. I'll be finished in five minutes.</i>
<i>in front of</i>	in a position further forward	<i>Lucas sits in front of the other students.</i>
<i>in spite of</i>	showing difference	<i>We arrived on time in spite of the delays.</i>
<i>into</i>	direction (to somewhere)	<i>Put the card into the slot, then key in your number.</i>
<i>like</i>	comparison	<i>Salma looks like her mother.</i>
<i>near</i>	close to	<i>If you play outside, stay near the house.</i>
<i>next to</i>	close to, touching	<i>Dave and Alice live in a cottage next to the river.</i>
<i>of</i>	material	<i>My coat is made of leather.</i>
<i>off</i>	direction (down from somewhere)	<i>Take your feet off the coffee table, please.</i>
<i>on</i>	1 (place) above, touching 2 (time) + date, day 3 (AmE) + <i>the weekend</i>	<i>The newspaper's on the sofa. My interview is on Friday, 13th July. Mom and Dad are coming to stay on the weekend.</i>
<i>onto</i>	direction (up from somewhere)	<i>Climb onto this wall – the view is lovely.</i>
<i>on top of</i>	above and directly touching	<i>The large saucepan is on top of the cooker.</i>
<i>opposite</i>	looking towards each other	<i>There's a café opposite the school.</i>
<i>out of</i>	direction (away from somewhere)	<i>Can you get the meat out of the oven?</i>
<i>over</i>	in a higher position	<i>The plane flew over the Alps.</i>
<i>past</i>	from one side to the other	<i>There's a delicious smell when you walk past that cake shop.</i>
<i>round/ around</i>	in a circular movement	<i>Go round the roundabout and take the third exit.</i>
<i>since</i>	+ a point in time	<i>Julian has worked here since 2005.</i>
<i>through</i>	1 from one side to the other 2 (AmE) until/to	<i>Have you ever been through the Channel Tunnel? He has to work from 8.00 through 6.30.</i>
<i>throughout</i>	the whole time the whole place	<i>I'm afraid I slept throughout the whole film. The fire spread throughout the building.</i>
<i>to</i>	direction	<i>Throw the ball to me.</i>
<i>towards</i>	in the direction of	<i>He turned round and walked towards the door.</i>
<i>under</i>	in a lower position	<i>I think the newspaper is under those books.</i>
<i>until (till)</i>	to a later time	<i>Don't move until I get back!</i>
<i>up</i>	in a higher position	<i>The newsagent's is up the street from here.</i>
<i>with</i>	1 together 2 instrument	<i>I went on holiday with my two best friends. The man was killed with a shotgun.</i>
<i>within</i>	in a period of time	<i>Can you do the job within a week?</i>
<i>without</i>	not including, not having	<i>I prefer tea without sugar.</i>

Note: *after, as, before* and *since* can also be conjunctions of time:

*I like to do some exercises **before** I go to bed. We started talking **as** we were waiting for the bus.*