






4 *under, below, over, above, on top of*

		MEANING	EXAMPLES
<i>under</i>		in a lower position (close or touching)	The documents are under that file on the desk. Put the rubbish in the bin under the sink.
<i>below</i>		in a lower position	Arienne lives in the apartment below me. We have a big cupboard below the stairs.
<i>over</i>		in a higher position (close or touching)	The sign over the door said 'entrance'. Put covers over the furniture before you paint the room.
<i>above</i>		in a higher position	There's a helicopter flying round above the school. The dentist's is above the bank.
<i>on top of</i>		in a higher position, touching	Can you get my bag, please? It's on top of the wardrobe.

5 *next to, by, beside, near*

We use *next to*, *by* and *beside* to say that something is close:

The keys are **next to/by/beside** my bag, in the living room.

I'd love to live **by/beside/next to** the sea.

Near means 'not very far away'. Compare:

It's useful to live **near** an airport but I don't want to live **next to** one as the noise would be awful.

⚠ We usually use *near* with towns or cities, not *next to*, *by* or *beside*:

✗ Emin lives ~~next to/by/beside~~ Istanbul. ✓ Emin lives **near** Istanbul.

6 *in front of, opposite*

Joanne always sits **in front of** Simone in class, and she always sits **opposite** her at lunch.

7 *between and among*

The prepositions *between* and *among* have different meanings.

- *Between* means 'with one or more people/objects on either side'.
- *Among* means 'surrounded by more than two people or objects'.

