

What do prepositions do?

- Tell Location: under, above, on, behind
- Tell Direction: to, toward, around
- Introduce a Time: in, on, at
- Tell Purpose: for, about, with
- Almost always followed by a noun or a pronoun:
- This present is **for you.**
- The book is **about George Washington.** Their house is **around the corner.**

Some common prepositions:

- About, above, across (from), against, along, among, around, at
- Behind, below, beneath, beside, between, beyond, by
- Down, during, except, for, from, in, inside, into
- Near, of, off, on, onto, outside, over, past
- Through, to, toward, under, up, with, without

In, On, At ... Three Little Words... Three Big Headaches

In, on, at + location

In (inside)



On (on the surface, touching)



At (physically present, but not necessarily inside)



What is correct? In, on, or at?

room 104
the first floor
MiraCosta College
Mission Avenue
1831 Mission Avenue
Oceanside
California
the United States
North America
planet Earth
the world
work
church
school
home

General rules for In, On, At + location



<u>In +</u>

•A room

•A city

•A state

A countryA continent



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<u>On +</u>
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•Floor

•Street





•Buildings

Events

Address

•Familiar places (home, school, work)

	In, On, At + Time
	What is correct? In, on, or at?
•	6 p.m
•	Friday
•	January
•	Friday, Jan. 13
•	the morning
•	night
•	the evening
•	midnight
•	noon
	2006
	a few minutes
	two days
•	the 21 st Century
•	the summer
	the weekend

General rules for In, On, At + location

<u>In + length of</u> <u>time</u>

- •Month
- •Year
- •Season

•Century

<u>On + a more</u> specific time

•Day

•Date

<u>At + most</u> <u>specific point</u> <u>in time</u>

Clock time

Tricky ones...

What is the correct preposition?

- I had a funny dream (with, about) you last night.
- The book was written (for, by) a famous author.
- I like to talk (in, on) the phone.
- I am (in bed, on the bed).
- He is mad (at, about) his girlfriend.
- She is (in, at) the hopital.
- I am (in, at) school.
- Please throw that book (at, to) me.

A word about phrasal verbs

- A phrasal verb is a verb + a preposition
 Many are idiomatic expressions
- Some examples:

I <u>put on</u> my shoes. = They <u>put off</u> studying. = We <u>put up with</u> her annoying behavior. = She <u>took off</u> early. = He got <u>stood up by</u> his blind date. =