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Grammar – Prepositions

When do we Use Prepositions ON, IN, AT in English?

| | Prepositions of Place: | Prepositions of Time: |
|-----------|---|---|
| on | <p>PLATFORMS:</p> <p>chair, table, shelf, bench, balcony, stairs, escalator; skateboard, bike, moped, bus, train, tram, plane, helicopter, drone, boat, ship, submarine, horse, camel</p> <p>SURFACES:</p> <p>wall, floor, ground, ceiling, roof, window, second floor, grass; land, sea; paper, page, card, document, board, map, menu</p> <p>MEDIA PLATFORMS:</p> <p>TV, radio, programme, the news, Netflix, internet, website, podcast, mobile, phone, tablet, iPad, computer, Mac, CD, cassette, disk, hard drive, pen drive</p> | <p>DAYS:</p> <p>Friday, Tuesday morning, Monday afternoon, Thursday evening, Wednesdays; my birthday, our wedding day, our anniversary, the day of...</p> <p>DATES:</p> <p>1st February, 12th June, twenty-second (22nd)</p> <p>SPECIAL DAYS:</p> <p>New Year's Day, Valentine's Day, International Women's Day, Mothering Sunday, Easter Monday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Bank Holidays</p> |
| in | <p>BOXES – 3D SPACES (enclosed spaces):</p> <p>car, taxi, cab, carriage; room, corner, house, office, lift, garage, garden; cupboard, drawer, folder, file, bag, bottle, bowl, box, cup, book; pool, water</p> <p>GEOGRAPHICAL PLACES:</p> <p>villages, towns, cities, counties, areas, countries, world, universe; sky, countryside, mountains, river, forest, desert, regions, the north, the middle</p> <p>WEATHER:</p> <p>sun, rain, wind, storm, snow, sleet; light, dark, moonlight</p> | <p>WEEKS, MONTHS, YEARS, CENTURIES, ERAS:</p> <p>week; June; 2024; 14th century; Medieval times; 1980s; '90s</p> <p>SEASONS:</p> <p>spring, summer, autumn, winter; football season; awards season; school holidays</p> <p>DURING THE DAY / FUTURE:</p> <p>morning, afternoon, evening, night; minute, hour, few days, two years (time)</p> |
| at | <p>LOCATIONS – 'Where are you?':</p> <p>home, bank, doctor's, dentist's, hairdresser's, cinema, post office, reception, supermarket, beach, hotel, Bob's house, 47 Acton Street; sea</p> <p>POSITIONS:</p> <p>top, bottom, front, back, centre, side, beginning, end, start, finish, door, window, desk, traffic lights; turn left / right at...</p> <p>ATTENDANCE:</p> <p>school, nursery, college, university, work, meeting, interview, church, court, conference, seminar, party, wedding, concert, gig, match, camp, event</p> | <p>SPECIFIC TIMES:</p> <p>6 o'clock, 10am, eight, noon, midday, midnight, the same time, the moment, sunrise, sunset; breakfast, lunch(time), dinner (time)</p> <p>GENERAL TIMES:</p> <p>night, weekend</p> <p>HOLIDAYS:</p> <p>Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving</p> |