Reference Material
Material de Consulta

Prepositions of place

Centro de Industria y La Construcción Regional

Tolima

Ibagué

Prepositions of Place/Preposiciones de Lugar

IN FRONT OF



The dog is in front of the man.

BEHIND



The dog is behind the postman.

NEXT TO



The dog is next to the bones.

BETWEEN



The bone is between the two dogs.

ABOVE

UNDER

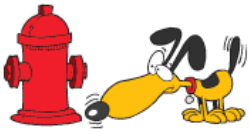


The bone is above the dog.
The dog is under the bone.

OVER



BELOW



The blue dog is over the fire hydrant.
The fire hydrant is below the blue dog.

IN



The dog is in the bed.
There is a thermometer in its mouth.

ON



The dog is on the table.
The woman has dog saliva on her.

Prepositions of Place are used to show the position or location of one thing with another. It answers the question "Where?"

Below we have some more examples of Prepositions of Place:

In front of

- A band plays their music **in front of** an audience.
- The teacher stands **in front of** the students.
- The man standing in the line **in front of** me smells bad.
- Teenagers normally squeeze their zits **in front of** a mirror.

Behind

Behind is the opposite of *In front of.* It means at the back (part) of something.

- When the teacher writes on the whiteboard, the students are **behind** him (or her).
- Who is that person **behind** the mask?
- I slowly down because there was a police car **behind** me.

Between

Between normally refers to something in the middle of two objects or things (or places).

- There are mountains **between** Chile and Argentina.
- The number 5 is **between** the number 4 and 6.
- There is a sea (The English Channel) **between** England and France.

Across From / Opposite

Across from and *Opposite* mean the same thing. It usually refers to something being in front of something else BUT there is normally something between them like a street or table. It is similar to saying that someone (or a place) is on the other side of something.

- I live **across from** a supermarket (= it is on the other side of the road)
- The chess players sat **opposite** each other before they began their game. (= They are in front of each other and there is a table between them)

Next to / Beside

Next to and *Beside* mean the same thing. It usually refers to a thing (or person) that is at the side of another thing.

- At a wedding, the bride stands **next to** the groom.
- Guards stand **next to** the entrance of the bank.

- He walked **beside** me as we went down the street.
- In this part of town there isn't a footpath **beside** the road so you have to be careful.

Near / Close to

Near and *Close to* mean the same thing. It is similar to *next to / beside* but there is more of a distance between the two things.

- The receptionist is **near** the front door.
- This building is **near** a subway station.
- We couldn't park the car **close to** the store.
- Our house is **close to** a supermarket.

On

On means that something is in a position that is physically touching, covering or attached to something.

- The clock **on** the wall is slow.
- He put the food **on** the table.
- I can see a spider **on** the ceiling.
- We were told not to walk **on** the grass.

Above / Over

Above and *Over* have a similar meaning. The both mean "at a higher position than X" but *above* normally refers to being directly (vertically) above you.

- Planes normally fly **above** the clouds.
- There is a ceiling **above** you.
- There is a halo **over** my head. ;)
- We put a sun umbrella **over** the table so we wouldn't get so hot.
- Our neighbors in the apartment **above** us are rally noisy.

Over can also mean: physically covering the surface of something and is often used with the word *All* as in *All over*.

- There water **all over** the floor.
- I accidentally spilled red wine **all over** the new carpet.

Over is often used as a Preposition of Movement too.

Under / Below

Under and *Below* have a similar meaning. They mean at a lower level. (Something is above it).

- Your legs are **under** the table.
- Monsters live **under** your bed.
- A river flows **under** a bridge.
- How long can you stay **under** the water?
- Miners work **below** the surface of the Earth.

Sometimes we use the word underneath instead of under and beneath instead of below. There is no difference in meaning those they are less common nowadays.

Under is often used as a Preposition of Movement too.

Web Reference:

http://www.grammar.cl/rules/prepositions-of-place.htm

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