



ITALIAN TABLE

Prepositions



MANGO®

Italian Prepositions Summary of Uses

Di

Ownership/belonging:

il cane di Giulio
Giulio's dog

Descriptions:

una tazzina di caffè
a cup of coffee

Material:

maglia di lana
woolen sweater

Age:

un signore di 70 anni
a seventy-year-old man

Topic:

il libro di filosofia
the philosophy book
Parlo di Giovanni.
I am talking about Giovanni.

Comparison:

Sono più alta di Maria.
I am taller than Maria.

Authorship:

"Marcovaldo" è un libro di Calvino.
Marcovaldo is a book by Calvino
(written by the author).

A

Means:

Lavo tutto a mano.
I hand-wash everything.

Manner of preparation: (a + def. art)

pizza ai (a+i) quattro formaggi
four-cheese pizza

Description:

casa a tre piani
three-story house

Type:

pentola a pressione
pressure cooker

With Indirect objects:

Regalo una borsa a Maria.
I am giving a purse to Maria.

Da

Purpose: to show the use of something:

occhiali da sole
sunglasses
Mi piace il tuo nuovo costume da bagno.
I like your new swimsuit.

Cause/Reason:

stress da studio
study-related stress

Value:

moneta da 1 euro
one euro coin

Agent:

Il professore è capito da tutti.
The professor is understood by all.

**After *niente* [nothing],
nessuno [nobody],
qualcosa [something],
qualcuno [somebody],
molto [a lot], *poco* [a little],
followed by an infinitive:**

niente da fare
nothing to do



ITALIAN TABLE

Prepositions



Italian Prepositions Summary of Uses

In

Means:

Pago in contanti, in Euro.
I pay cash, in Euro.

Matter/Material:

giacca in pelle
leather jacket

Manner:

Voglio vivere in pace.
I want to live peacefully.

Con

Company:

Vado al cinema con Filippo.
I am going to the theater with Filippo.

Means (of transportation):

Vengo con la bicicletta.
I am coming by bike/with my bike.

Su

Approximation:

Un uomo sulla (su+la) quarantina.
A man of around forty.
Peso sui (su+i) 70 chili.
I am about 70 kilos.

Topic:

Mi piacciono i film sugli (su+gli) animali.
I love films about animals.

Ratio: with numbers

Lavoro 4 giorni su 7.
I work 4 days out of 7.

Per

Reason: to explain why something is done

Vado per aiutarla.
I am going to help her.

Manner:

Mando per email.
I am sending it via email.

Multiplication with numbers:

$7 \times 3 = 21$ (*sette per tre fa ventuno*)
Seven times three equals twenty one.

In common expressions as:

Per ora sto bene.
I am fine for now.

Opinion:

Per me oggi fa troppo caldo.
In my opinion today is way too hot.



ITALIAN TABLE

Prepositions

Italian Prepositions Summary of Uses

Prepositions of Place and Movement



Di

Place of origin/birth, with 'essere' to be:
Sono di Napoli.
I am from Naples.

A

Before cities and small islands:
Abito a Venezia, domani vado a Murano.
I live in Venice, tomorrow I'm going to Murano.

Before some public and private spaces:
Simone resta a casa, ma tu sei a scuola o a teatro?
Simone is staying at home, but are you at school or at the theatre?

Before cardinal points:
La stazione è a nord, la farmacia è a sud.
The station is north, the pharmacy is south.

Before "piedi" and "cavallo":
Andiamo a piedi o a cavallo?
Are we going on foot or on horseback?

Place, or direction of movement:
Sono a casa.
I am at home.
Vado a scuola.
I am going to school.

Da

Departure from a place:
Parto da Verona.
I am leaving from Verona.

Transiting by a place:
Passo da Napoli.
I am passing by Naples.

Being at a person's place, like a house, store, working place, clinic, or office (used with articulated prepositions):
Sono da Maria.
I am at Maria's.

In

Before big islands, regions, countries, and continents:
Abito in Sicilia.
I live in Sicily.

Before places someone is going to, including stores ending in -cia and -ria:
Devo andare in farmacia.
I have to go to the pharmacy.
Voi rimanete in ufficio, invece noi ceniamo in pizzeria e poi torniamo in albergo.
You're staying at the office, while we are having dinner at the pizzeria and then we are going back to the hotel.

Before addresses:
Il cinema è in via Rossetto, non in vicolo Barnaba!
The cinema is on Rossetto street, not in Barnaba alley!

Before the rooms in the house:
Non trovo gli occhiali!
Sono in salotto o in bagno!
I can't find my glasses!
They're in the living room or in the bathroom!

Before the means of transportation:
Sono andata in ufficio in moto, ma loro sono andati in tram.
I went to the office by motorbike, but they went by tram.

Before some holiday destinations:
Preferisci andare in vacanza in spiaggia o in montagna?
Do you prefer to go on holiday to the beach or to the mountains?





ITALIAN TABLE

Prepositions



Italian Prepositions Summary of Uses

Prepositions of Place and Movement

Su	Per	Tra/Fra
<p>Proximity to a place: <i>Compro una casa sul (su+il) lago.</i> I am buying a house on/by the lake.</p> <p>Position of a thing over, or above something: <i>Il libro è sullo (su+lo) scaffale.</i> The book is on the shelf.</p>	<p>Place through which something or someone is passing by: <i>Passo per Napoli.</i> I pass through Naples.</p> <p>Direction towards which something or someone is moving with a means of transportation: <i>Prendo il treno per Genova.</i> I take the train to Genoa.</p> <p>Position of something or something "on the ground": <i>I libri sono per terra.</i> The books are on the floor.</p>	<p>Intermediate position relatively to space: <i>La casa è tra/fra gli alberi.</i> The house is among trees. <i>Abito tra/fra Pisa e Firenze.</i> I live between Pisa and Florence.</p> <p>Approximate distance to a destination: <i>Tra/fra dieci chilometri siamo arrivati.</i> We will arrive in about ten kilometers.</p>



ITALIAN TABLE

Prepositions

Italian Prepositions Summary of Uses

Prepositions of Time



Di	A	Da	In
<p>Days of the week, parts of the day and seasons: <i>I negozi sono chiusi di lunedì.</i> Stores are closed on Mondays. <i>Studio di pomeriggio.</i> I study in the afternoon. <i>D'inverno fa molto freddo.</i> In winter it is very cold.</p>	<p>A specific age, or time: <i>In Italia si prende la patente a 18 anni.</i> In Italy, one gets the driving license at 18. <i>Arrivo alle 10:30.</i> I arrive at 10:30.</p> <p>A specific length of time, with months, and celebrations such as <i>Pasqua</i> [Easter], <i>Natale</i> [Christmas] <i>A Pasqua mangiamo la Colomba.</i> At Easter we eat Colomba.</p>	<p>Moment when something began (and it is still going on): <i>Studio italiano da due anni.</i> I have been studying Italian for two years.</p> <p>A specific moment in someone's life: <i>Da bambina giocavo a tennis.</i> When I was little, I played tennis.</p> <p>When indicating schedules use <i>da(l)...</i> <i>a(l)...</i>: <i>Ho lezione da(l) martedì a(l) giovedì.</i> I have class from Tuesday to Thursday.</p> <p>When expressing times use the articulated preposition <i>dalle</i> (<i>da+le</i>) and <i>alle</i> (<i>a+le</i>) <i>Il supermercato è aperto dalle (ore) 8 alle (ore) 22.</i> The supermarket is open from 8 to 10 pm.</p>	<p>Expressing length within a larger period of time with seasons: <i>In estate le giornate sono lunghe.</i> In/during the summer days are longer.</p> <p>Defining a limit within a period of time: <i>Devo finire questo lavoro in 4 giorni</i> I have to finish this job in four days.</p> <p>Talking about year, or century: <i>Maria Montessori è nata nel 1870, nel XIX secolo.</i> Maria Montessori was born in 1870, in the nineteenth century.</p>





ITALIAN TABLE

Prepositions

Italian Prepositions Summary of Uses



Prepositions of Time

Su	Per	Tra/Fra
<p>An approximate time: <i>Parto sulle (su+le) 10:00.</i> I leave around 10.</p>	<p>Expressing length of time of a past (concluded) action: <i>Ho abitato a Pisa per 3 anni.</i> I lived in Pisa for three years.</p> <p>Specifying a moment in time when making plans: <i>Cosa fai per Capodanno?</i> What are you doing for New Year's Day?</p>	<p>When an action in the present may take place in the future: <i>La pasta è pronta tra/fra 10 minuti.</i> The pasta will be ready in about ten minutes.</p> <p>When indicating a time range: <i>La lezione inizia tra/fra le 10 e le 10:15.</i> Class starts between 10 and 10:15.</p>