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of

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\ əv, before consonants also ə; 'əv , 'äv \

Definition of *of*

(Entry 1 of 3)

1 —used as a function word to indicate a point of reckoning north of the lake

2a —used as a function word to indicate origin or derivation a man of noble birth

b —used as a function word to indicate the cause, motive, or reason died of flu

c : [by](#) plays of Shakespeare

d : on the part of very kind of you

e : occurring in a fish of the western Atlantic

3 —used as a function word to indicate the component material, parts, or elements or the contents throne of goldcup of water

4a —used as a function word to indicate the whole that includes the part denoted by the preceding word most of the army

b —used as a function word to indicate a whole or quantity from which a part is removed or expended gave of his time

5a : relating to : [about](#) stories of her travels

b : in respect to slow of speech

6a —used as a function word to indicate belonging or a possessive relationship king of England

b —used as a function word to indicate relationship between a result determined by a function or operation and a basic entity (such as an independent variable) a function of x the product of two numbers

7 —used as a function word to indicate something from which a person or thing is delivered eased of her pain or with respect to which someone or something is made destitute robbed of all their belongings

8a —used as a function word to indicate a particular example belonging to the class denoted by the preceding noun the city of Rome

b —used as a function word to indicate apposition that fool of a husband

9a —used as a function word to indicate the object of an action denoted or implied by the preceding noun love of nature

b —used as a function word to indicate the application of a verb cheats him of a dollar or of an adjective fond of candy

10 —used as a function word to indicate a characteristic or distinctive quality or possession a woman of courage

11a —used as a function word to indicate the position in time of an action or occurrence died of a Monday

b : [before](#) quarter of ten

12 archaic : [on](#) a plague of all cowards— William Shakespeare

of

[auxiliary verb](#)

\ əv, before consonants also ə \

Definition of *of* (Entry 2 of 3)

nonstandard

: [have](#) —used in place of the contraction 've often in representations of uneducated speech I could of beat them easy— Ring Lardner

OF

[abbreviation](#)

Definition of *OF* (Entry 3 of 3)

outfield

↓ [Synonyms & Antonyms](#) ↓ [More Example Sentences](#) ↓ [Learn More About of](#)

Synonyms & Antonyms for *of*

Synonyms: Preposition

- [afore](#)
- [chiefly dialect],
- [ahead of](#),
- [before](#),
- [ere](#),
- [fore](#)
- (also 'fore)
- [chiefly dialect],
- [previous to](#),
- [prior to](#),
- [to](#)

Antonyms: Preposition

- [after](#),
- [following](#)

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Examples of *of* in a Sentence

Preposition He is a coworker *of* mine. I threw out that old shirt *of* yours. She's a friend *of* my mother's. [See More](#)
 Recent Examples on the Web: Preposition But one *of* the biggest drugmakers may have set itself up for that kind of dichotomy. — Ed Silverman, *STAT*, 3 July 2022 Despite the circumstances *of* her father's death, Hall pursued a career in law enforcement. — Camille C. Knox, *CBS News*, 2 July 2022 This particular model is one *of* Ruf's second-generation RGTs. — Rachel Cormack, *Robb Report*, 1 July 2022 [See More](#)

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First Known Use of *of*

Preposition

before the 12th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Auxiliary verb

circa 1800, in the meaning defined [above](#)

History and Etymology for *of*

Preposition

Middle English, off, of, from Old English, adverb & preposition; akin to Old High German *aba* off, away, Latin *ab* from, away, Greek *apo*

Auxiliary verb

by alteration

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Time Traveler for *of*



The first known use of *of* was before the 12th century

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[Can 'Majority' and 'Minority' Be Used with Noncount Nouns?](#)

[It's not as simple as you may think.](#)

[Is 'Could Of' an Accepted Form of...](#)

[Is 'Could Of' an Accepted Form of 'Could Have'?](#)

[The verb sense of 'of' is in the dictionary, but not endorsed.](#)

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[oeuvre](#)

of

OF

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Last Updated

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Look-up Popularity

Top 1% of words

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Style: MLA

MLA Chicago APA Merriam-Webster

Seen & Heard

People are talking about

AdChoices 

Sponsored



More Definitions for *of*

of

preposition

\ əv  , 'əv, 'äv

Kids Definition of *of*

- 1 —used to join an amount or a part with the whole which includes it most *of* the children the back *of* the closet
- 2 : belonging to, relating to, or connected with a shirt *of* his the top *of* the hill
- 3 : [concerning](#) I heard the news *of* your success.
- 4 : that is the city *of* Rome
- 5 : made from a house *of* bricks
- 6 : that has : [with](#) a man *of* courage a thing *of* no importance
- 7 —used to show what has been taken away a tree bare *of* leaves cured *of* disease
- 8 —used to indicate the reason for a fear *of* spiders
- 9 : living in the people *of* China

10 : that involves a test *of* knowledge

11 —used to indicate what an amount or number refers to an acre *of* land

12 —used to indicate the point from which someone or something is located He lives north *of* town.

13 —used to indicate the object affected by an action destruction *of* property

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WORD OF THE DAY

validate 

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- Namesake of the *leotard*, Jules Léotard had what profession?

Judge

Acrobat

Surgeon

Firefighter

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As illustrated by some very smart
pups

-

10 Words from Place Names

Bikini, bourbon, and badminton
were places first

-

'Pride': The Word That Went From Vice to Strength

- Do you take pride in Pride?

When Were Words First Used?

- Look up any year to find out

ASK THE EDITORS

Literally

How to use a word that (literally)

- drives some pe...

'All Intensive Purposes' or 'All Intents and Purposes'?

- We're intent on clearing it up

Lay vs. Lie

Editor Emily Brewster clarifies the difference.

-

Hot Mess

- "The public is a hot mess"

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More than ROY G BIV

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Find out if you are vulpine or asinine

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