

In, On, or At with Time Expressions

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Chris: When is your mom coming to visit?

Coco: She is coming **in** December 15th.

Chris: **On** December 15th. Okay, and when is she going back to china?

Coco: She is going back **on** April.

Chris: **In** April.

Practice: Fill in the blank with in, on, or at

1. Do you have class _____ Tuesdays?
2. _____ summer, days are usually longer than nights.
3. I love jogging _____ the evening.
4. The meeting will begin _____ 10 o'clock.
5. The NBA finals are _____ June.
6. Her wedding is _____ three months.
7. There are no classes _____ Labor Day.
8. I often read a book _____ night.
9. John's birthday is _____ May 18th.
10. My in-laws are visiting _____ next Friday.

IN

1. With years

- She was born in 2002.
- In 1999, I moved to the U.S.

2. With months

- I will visit my friend in May.
- My daughter will graduate in December.

3. With a period of the day

- I have an exam in the afternoon.
- Can we meet early in the morning?

4. In a longer time frame

- I will see you in two weeks.
- I haven't seen her in years.

5. With seasons

- I won't take any courses in the summer.
- In winter, I enjoy drinking hot chocolate.

ON

1. With specific days of the week

- The game is on Monday.
- I take my daughter to the park on weekends.

2. With specific dates

- She was born on May 12th.
- The semester begins on August 20th.

3. With holidays

- The whole family will meet on Christmas.
- There will be lots of fireworks on New Year's Eve.

4. With special occasions

- We will have a party on my graduation day.
- I received many gifts on my birthday.

AT

1. With specific times on the clock

- The game is at 11 AM (11 o'clock).
- I saw her last night at 11 PM.

2. With specific times of the day

- We usually have lunch at noon.
- At midnight, I will wake up to study for my exam.

3. With night and noon (two exceptions for the part of the day)

- I prefer watching movies at night.
- I usually have lunch at noon.

Important Notes

Do not use any prepositions when there is “next” before the word.

I will see you on next Monday. → **Incorrect**

I will see you next Monday. → **Correct**

My presentation is in next April. → **Incorrect**

My presentation is next April. → **Correct**

Real-life Example

Chris: So, when is your mom coming to visit?

Coco: She is coming on Tuesday. She will land at 10 am.

Chris: Great. So after we pick her up from the airport, we can have lunch at noon and then take her to the mall in the afternoon.

Coco: Sounds good! On the weekend, we can go to a concert.

Chris: Excellent. What time does the concert begin?

Coco: It begins at 7 pm.

Chris: Excellent! On New Year's Eve, we will take her to watch the fireworks.

Coco: Sounds good! She will leave on January 10th but return sometime in August for our wedding anniversary.

Chris: Great.

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Answer Key

1. Do you have class **on** Tuesdays?
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