**Prepositions of Place: at, in, on**

In general, we use:

* **at** for a POINT
* **in** for an ENCLOSED SPACE
* **on** for a SURFACE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **at** | **in** | **on** |
| **POINT** | **ENCLOSED SPACE** | **SURFACE** |
| at the corner | in the garden | on the wall |
| at the bus stop | in London | on the ceiling |
| at the door | in France | on the door |
| at the top of the page | in a box | on the cover |
| at the end of the road | in my pocket | on the floor |
| at the entrance | in my wallet | on the carpet |
| at the crossroads | in a building | on the menu |
| at the front desk | in a car | on a page |

Look at these examples:

* Jane is waiting for you **at** the bus stop.
* The shop is **at** the end of the street.
* My plane stopped **at** Dubai and Hanoi and arrived **in** Bangkok two hours late.
* When will you arrive **at** the office?
* Do you work **in** an office?
* I have a meeting **in** New York.
* Do you live **in** Japan?
* Jupiter is **in** the Solar System.
* The author's name is **on** the cover of the book.
* There are no prices **on** this menu.
* You are standing **on** my foot.
* There was a "no smoking" sign **on** the wall.
* I live **on** the 7th floor **at** 21 Oxford Street **in** London.

Notice the use of the prepositions of place **at**, **in** and **on** in these standard expressions:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **at** | **in** | **on** |
| at home | in a car | on a bus |
| at work | in a taxi | on a train |
| at school | in a helicopter | on a plane |
| at university | in a boat | on a ship |
| at college | in a lift (elevator) | on a bicycle, on a motorbike |
| at the top | in the newspaper | on a horse, on an elephant |
| at the bottom | in the sky | on the radio, on television |
| at the side | in a row | on the left, on the right |
| at reception | in Oxford Street | on the way |