



of

1 of 3

preposition

əv, before consonants also ə; 'əv 'äv

Synonyms of of >

- 1 → used as a function word to indicate a point of reckoning
north of the lake
- 2 a → 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 gold
cup of water
- 4 a → 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
- 5 a : relating to : ABOUT
stories of her travels
- b : in respect to
slow of speech
- 6 a → 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

Quordle

W	O	R	D	Y
L	O	V	E	R
P	L	A	Y	S
D	A	I	L	Y

Can you solve 4 words at once?

Play

Merriam-Webster

WORD OF THE DAY

fugitive

See Definitions and Examples »

Get Word of the Day daily email!

Your email addSUBSCRIBE



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

- 8 a** → 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

- 9 a** → 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

- 11 a** → 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 2 of 3 auxiliary verb

əv, *before consonants also* ə

nonstandard

: **HAVE** → used in place of the contraction 've often in representations of uneducated speech

I could *of* beat them easy

— Ring Lardner

OF 3 of 3 abbreviation



Preposition

beforeto

See All Synonyms & Antonyms in Thesaurus

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

i Examples are automatically compiled from online sources to show current usage. [Read More](#)

Preposition

- Skokie’s July Fourth parade managed to dodge most **of** the rain drops, but not the gray sky as off-and-on rain dogged the northern suburbs Friday morning.
- Pioneer Press, *Chicago Tribune*, 9 July 2025
- Staying in one **of** these units feels more like having your own Cape Cod sanctuary, rather than checking into a hotel.
- Kim Foley MacKinnon, *Forbes.com*, 8 July 2025
- The late Princess **of** Wales famously carried the Lady Dior bag, which became part of her signature look.
- Stephanie Nolasco, *FOXNews.com*, 8 July 2025
- Montgomery added that Moncada does not need to go to Triple-A or any other higher minor league level to see a higher caliber **of** pitching.
- Jeff Fletcher, *Oc Register*, 8 July 2025

See All Example Sentences for of



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

First Known Use

Preposition

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

Auxiliary Verb

1773, in the meaning defined [above](#)

Time Traveler

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

[See more words from the same century](#)

dove	glove
love	shove
above	foxglove
hereof	thereof
whereof	hereinabove

[See All Rhymes for of](#)

[oeuvre](#)

of

OF

[See All Nearby Words](#)



Can 'majority' and 'minority' be used...

It's not as simple as you may think.

Is 'Could Of' an Accepted Form of...

The verb sense of 'of' is in the dictionary, but not...

Style

MLA

“Of.” *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/of>. Accessed 17 Jul. 2025.

 [Copy Citation](#)



of preposition

əv, 'əv, 'äv

- 1

→ used to indicate a point from which something is located
north *of* the lake
- 2

a

→ used to indicate origin
of noble birth

b

→ used to indicate cause or reason
afraid *of* the dark
died *of* flu

c

: [BY entry 1 sense 4](#)
the plays *of* Shakespeare

d

: on the part of
very kind *of* you



c → used to indicate the number or amount in or making up something
a class *of* 20 students
interest *of* 5¼%

4 a → used to indicate the whole that includes an amount or part mentioned first
most *of* the team

b → used to indicate the whole or quantity from which part is removed or used
gave freely *of* their time

5 a : relating to : **ABOUT**
stories *of* her adventures

b : in respect to
slow *of* speech
great *of* heart

6 a → used to indicate belonging or possession
queen *of* France
courage *of* the pioneers
b → used to indicate relationship between a result and something upon which an operation or procedure is performed to produce it
the product *of* two numbers
the solution *of* an equation

7 → used to indicate something that is removed
cured *of* her disease
relieved *of* his command
rid the barn *of* rats

8 → used to indicate that an example belongs to a certain class
the city *of* Rome

9 → used to indicate what a noun, verb, or adjective applies to
love *of* nature
cheated *of* a dollar
fond *of* oranges

10 : having as a quality or possession
a thing *of* no importance

11 : **BEFORE entry 2 sense 3**
ten minutes *of* eight



Nglish: [Translation of of for Spanish Speakers](#)

Last Updated: 11 Jul 2025 - Updated example sentences

Love words? Need even more definitions?

Subscribe to America's largest dictionary and get thousands more definitions and advanced search—ad free!

MERRIAM-WEBSTER UNABRIDGED

[See More](#)

'Affect' vs. 'Effect'

More Words You
Always Have to
Look Up

Using Bullet
Points (•)

Why is '-ed'
sometimes
pronounced at
the end of a
word?

Words You
Always Have to
Look Up

[See More](#)

Ten Painless
Ways to Improve
Your Vocabulary

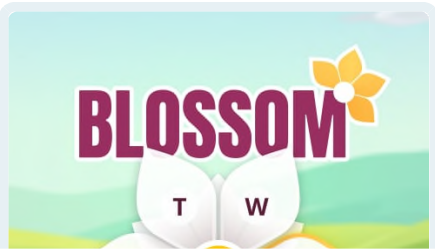
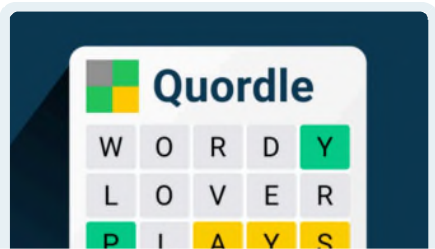
How 'Namaste'
Entered The
English Language

Our Best
Historical Slang
Terms

'Za' and 9 Other
Words to Help
You Win at
SCRABBLE

12 Words Whose
History Will
Surprise You

[See All](#)





position **3** ▾ [Synonyms](#) [Example Sentences](#) [Word History](#) [Rhymes](#) [Entries Near](#) [Related Articles](#) [Share](#)

Play

Play

VOI 2

Words to the wise

Take the quiz

Learn a new word every day.
Delivered to your inbox!

Your email address

SUBSCRIBE

[Help](#) | [About Us](#) | [Advertising Info](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#)

© 2025 Merriam-Webster, Incorporated