

## at on in → time descriptions

**a. At →** We use **at** with times:

**at** 6 o'clock      **at** 11:35      **at** noon      **at** dinnertime

*Example:* Carlo usually finishes work **at five o'clock**.

But we usually leave out **at** when we ask (At) what time...?

*Example:* **What time** are you going out this evening?

We also use **at** in these expressions:

<b>at night</b>	I don't like walking alone <b>at night</b> .
<b>at the moment / at present</b>	Mr. King is quite busy <b>at the moment / at present</b> .
<b>at the same time</b>	Joe and Ted arrived <b>at the same time</b> .
<b>at the age of...</b>	Chuck started university <b>at the age of 12</b> .
<b>at the beginning of...</b>	I'm going on vacation <b>at the beginning of March</b> .
<b>at the end of...</b>	<b>At the end of the movie</b> , the credits appeared.

**b. On →** We use **on** with dates and days:

**on** March 14<sup>th</sup>      **on** Friday      **on** Independence Day

*Example:* Jenna and Kevin got married **on** May 6<sup>th</sup>.

We also say:

**on** Friday morning(s)    **on** Saturday afternoon(s)    **on** Tuesday evening(s)  
**on** Friday night(s)      **on** weekends

*Examples:* I usually go out **on Saturday nights**.

What are you doing **on the weekend**?

**c. In →** We use **in** for longer periods of time, for example months, years, seasons:

**in** May                      **in** 1977                      **in** the summer  
**in** the 20<sup>th</sup> century      **in** the 1970s              **in** the Middle Ages

We also say:

**in** the morning(s) / **in** the afternoon(s) / **in** the evening(s)

*Example:* I'll see you **in** the morning. (*but* I'll see you **on Friday morning.**)

**d.** We do not use **at / on / in** before last and next:

*Examples:* I'll see you **next** Saturday.      They got married **last** May.

**e.** **In** + a period of time = a future time

*Examples:* The plane will be leaving **in a few minutes.** (a few minutes from now)  
Jeremy went away. He'll be back **in two weeks.** (two weeks from now)  
They are getting married **in seven months.** (seven months from now)

You can also say "in six months' **time**," "in a week's **time**," etc.:

*Example:* They are getting married **in six months' time.**

We also use **in** to say how long it takes to do something:

*Example:* I learned to speak Spanish **in two years.** (it took me two years to learn)