

APSU Writing Center

In, Of, At, To, From, After Which

Term	in which	of which	at which	to which
Meaning	found out	spoke of	attend at	climb to
Sentence	The way in which he found out was pretty dire.	The people of which they spoke did not know of this.	The time at which we attended was up for debate.	The place to which we climbed was impressive.

When do we use them?

- The prepositional choice before "which" depends on the phrasal verb used in the sentence. We use "in" when the main verb can be combined with "in" (i.e. "found in"). "Of" works best with verbs like "spoke." "At" works to talk about times or events. "To" works best with travel.
- Rearranging the sentence structure is the easiest way for you to make sense of which preposition you should use.

In Which

- "In which" gives more detail and adds precision to the sentence. When writing a sentence that uses "in which" think of saying "which in" to find out which phrasal verb is best.
 - <u>Example 1:</u> The people **in which** I trust this information do not seem to think that they're worth my trust.
 - Example 2:
 - I hadn't seen the manner they <u>learned in</u> before.
 - We can rephrase the "in which" sentence to check on the phrasal verb. Since "learned in" is used here, it makes sense that we should use "in which."
 - The manner **in which** they learned was something I hadn't seen before.

In Which vs. Where

- "where" does not give a precise location or position. "In which" can be used to give a more detailed description of your location.
 - Example:
 - This is the desk where I keep my books
 - This is the desk in which I keep my books.
 - Specifying "in which" in this example states that the person keeps their books inside the desk. By saying "where" does to specify if the books are inside or on top of the desk.



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Of Which

- When referring to phrasal verbs that contain "of" the phrase "of which" can be used. "Of which" is used more often when things where as "whose" is used with both people and things.
 - Example 1:
 - The people of which you speak are not here today.
 - You speak of people that are not here today.
 - Example 2: The things of which we rarely speak.
 - Example 3: In the meeting, we discussed three topics, the details of which are shown below.
 - Example 4: My friends, of which I've learned much about, will be arriving here shortly.

At Which

- "At" can be used to express dates or times that things are occurring.
 - Example 1:
 - The venue **at which** we will meet later today is just here.
 - We will meet at the venue that is just here later today.
 - <u>Example 2</u>: The time **at which** he told us he'd arrive here was wrong. He's still not here yet.
 - <u>Example 3:</u> The venue **at which** we will host this later is not ready. What are we going to do?

To Which

• "To" can be used when referring to directions of travel. When going from one place to another "to which" can be a more suitable prepositional phrase. Think about someone moving to a place so the traveling verbs "drive, "walk", "run", etc. are typically referred to.

• Example 1:

- The place **to which** they drove was quite spectacular.
- They drove to a quite spectacular place.
- Example 2: The city **to which** he drove was miles out. I don't know why he bothered to do that.
- Example 3: The finish line to which he walked was miles away. I don't envy his choices.



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From Which

- "from which" can be used when referring to the starting point of a journey rather than the end point.
 - Example 1: The hotel is just over there, from which you can travel around the country.
 - Example 2: The place from which you came is back that way.

After Which

- "After Which" is used to show how something happened and is a continuation of what occurred in a sentence. It shows what directly followed the event that occurred previously.
 - Example 1: I went to the store, after which I went back home.
 - Example 2: You decided it was better to see her off, after which she made it very clear that the two of you were not going to make it.
 - Example 3: We went to Austin Peay together. After which, we decided to visit the mall to see what was for sale.
 - Example 4: I went to the store to see what I could find to help my mother with her illness. After which, I returned home to give her the medication right away.

Should I Place A Comma Before Or After "After Which"?

- "After which" should have a comma before it when it is continuing on from the previous point. This helps us to create a sense of timing or direction.
- A comma only comes after "after which" when we start a sentence with it instead.
- If we place a comma before "after which," no comma comes after it.
- If we place a period before "after which," a comma always comes after it.
 - Example 1: I went to the beach, after which I went back home.
 - Example 2: I went to the beach. After which, I went back home.

Synonyms for After Which

- Following that
- After that
- Then
- Afterward
- Next
- As soon as that finished
- Once that happened
- Subsequently
- Consequently