

Diese Maschine fliegt nur  
bis New York.  
**Bis** 19 Uhr muss das  
Abendessen fertig sein.

*This aircraft is only going  
as far as New York.  
Dinner will have to be ready  
by seven o'clock.*

Note that **bis** can only be used on its own in a few specific contexts. Otherwise, **bis auf** or **bis zu** are commonly used.

### ■ 15.3.2 durch (through, by in passive constructions)

Die Reise **durch** den  
Tunnel ist kürzer.  
Wurdest du **durch** den  
Lärm gestört?

*The journey through the tunnel  
is shorter.  
Were you disturbed by the  
noise?*

### ■ 15.3.3 für (for)

Diese CD habe ich **für**  
meinen Freund gekauft.

*I bought this CD for  
my friend.*

### ■ 15.3.4 gegen (against, contrary to, about, compared to, in exchange for, towards)

Wir demonstrieren  
**gegen** den Rassismus.  
**Gegen** alle Erwartungen  
wurde Rover von BMW  
übernommen.  
Ich werde **gegen** 5 Uhr  
da sein.

**Gegen** dich ist er ein  
Versager.  
Sie können das **gegen**  
einen Gutschein  
eintauschen.  
Wir planen ein Treffen  
**gegen** Ende Januar.

*We are demonstrating against  
racism.  
Contrary to all expectations,  
Rover was taken over by BMW.*

*I'll be there at about 5.*

*Compared to you he is a loser.*

*You can exchange that for a  
credit note.*

*We are planning to meet  
towards the end of January.*

### ■ 15.3.5 ohne (without)

Er ist **ohne** seine Frau  
nach Hamburg gefahren.

*He went to Hamburg  
without his wife.*

### ■ 15.3.6 um (round, around, at preceding clock times, by)

Das Kino ist **um** die Ecke.  
Amerigo Vespucci hat  
Amerika **um** 1500 erreicht.

*The cinema is round the corner.  
Amerigo Vespucci reached  
America around 1500.*

**Um** 9.00 Uhr muss ich zur  
Arbeit.

*I'll have to go to work at  
nine o'clock.*

Der Termin kann  
nicht **um** drei Wochen  
verschoben werden.

*The deadline cannot be  
postponed by three weeks.*

## 15.4 Prepositions + dative or accusative

The most common prepositions in this group are:

an on, at	in in	unter under, below
auf on	neben beside	vor in front of
hinter behind	über over, above	zwischen between

These nine prepositions usually take the dative when indicating position in a particular place and the accusative when expressing a change of position:

Das Buch liegt **auf** dem *The book is on the table.*

**Tisch** (dat.).

Ich lege das Buch **auf** den *I'll put the book on the table.*  
**Tisch** (acc.).

If there is no reference to place, **auf** and **über** are used with the accusative, the others generally with the dative.

Other prepositions taking either the dative or the accusative are **ab** (from): takes the dative for indications of place, otherwise (rarely) the accusative; and **entlang** (along): takes the dative when it precedes the noun, but it usually follows the noun and takes the accusative.