

I'm not a robot



























Could you tell me the difference between "preparation of something" and "preparation for something"? Can I use either in the sentence: "Modern parents often spend less time on the preparation of family meals." Thank you for your comments. Last edited: Sep 10, 2014 "Preparation of" is correct in your sentence; preparation of a meal means cooking it or otherwise (if no cooking is required, as for a salad) getting the food ready to eat. Preparation for a meal would be setting the table, arranging the chairs around it, etc. P.S.: "Sth" is not a word or a recognized abbreviation for any English word; if you mean something, you should spell it out. Oh I am so sorry, I'm too careless. May I edit the question by replacing sth with something as you told me? Many thanks. Hi, I have a question about "preparation": My uncle is going to celebrate his birthday next month and he's going to hold a big party. I wonder if they all are okay. My uncle is making preparation for his birthday celebration in next month. My uncle is making a preparation for his birthday celebration in next month. My uncle is making preparations for his birthday celebration in next month. (The birthday celebration is in next month and my uncle will rehearse it several times first.) Thanks a lot Last edited by a moderator: Nov 13, 2014 You can say "making preparations". The other two suggestions don't work. You can say "making preparations". The other two suggestions don't work. Thanks a lot I still have a minor question: My uncle is making preparations for his birthday celebration in next month. Is the "in" necessary? I think it is because "next month" is not an adverbial phrase here, right. It refers to time. my uncle will rehearse it several times first "Making preparations" does not normally suggest any kind of rehearsal. What exactly is your uncle doing to prepare? Is he reading his speech out over and over again so he knows it by heart? "Making preparations" does not normally suggest any kind of rehearsal. What exactly is your uncle doing to prepare? Is he reading his speech out over and over again so he knows it by heart? He's preparing to give a speech first. And then invites his leaders to the stage to say something. And then invites his grandmother to the stage to say something, etc. As se16teddy says, we would not generally understand that type of preparation from "making preparations", but it is indeed part of the preparations and therefore there's nothing wrong with using it. If you really want people to understand what he's doing, however, you need to be more explicit (he's rehearsing his speech, for example). Not only is the "in" not required, it's wrong to have it. As se16teddy says, we would not generally understand that type of preparation from "making preparations", but it is indeed part of the preparations and therefore there's nothing wrong with using it. If you really want people to understand what he's doing, however, you need to be more explicit (he's rehearsing his speech, for example). Not only is the "in" not required, it's wrong to have it. I've discussed the question about "rehearsal" in this thread, please take a look if you are interested. In order to avoid misunderstanding, I use "making preparations", because that's general and understandable. As for "in", why is it wrong? I am going to NYC next month. I am going to NYC in next month. I understand this. But here "in" emphasizes the time, doesn't it? When you specify time like this (next week, last year, tomorrow), you don't use a preposition at all. You can use "in" with a time phrase but it changes the meaning : I am going to NYC next month - currently it is 13 November, so my trip to NYC is sometime between 1 December and 31 December I am going to NYC in the next month (or within the next month) - currently it is 13 November so my trip is sometime between now and 13 December. You can say "making preparations". The other two suggestions don't work. Why is it wrong to use "make preparation". If I'm not mistaken, "preparation" is uncountable when it refers to the process of preparing, and countable when it refers to specific activities done as preparation. Is there a reliable way to tell when it is correct to use either one? Many thanks! It's simply not idiomatic. We always talk about making preparations. You can think of it as an idiomatic expression. Why is it wrong to use "make preparation". If I'm not mistaken, "preparation" is uncountable when it refers to the process of preparing, and countable when it refers to specific activities done as preparation. It's because, while "the preparation of food", for example is uncountable, when you use "preparation(s)" with the meaning of things you do to get ready for an event, it's always plural. It's because, while "the preparation of food", for example is uncountable, when you use "preparation(s)" with the meaning of things you do to get ready for an event, it's always plural. This is something non-natives like me will never truly understand. But thanks for your help. Hithere! Which one is the correct sentence? I need help in preparing for the exam, or I need help in preparation for the exam. If the both sentences are possible. What's the difference between them? Thanks! The first is better than the second, but even better than both would be if you drop "in." Although I am not a native speaker of English, I would opt for "in preparation for the exam". As far as I know the other structure does not exist. I may be wrong. Both sentences are correct, and their meanings are the same. The one with "preparing" would likely be the more common US wording. This is a question of style, not grammar. "I need help in preparation for the exam" sounds to me like the "needing help" is part of the preparation, which makes little sense. Compare that to sentences like "I studied in preparation for the exam" (not "I studied in preparing for the exam"). On the other hand, "help in [gerund]" is a common construction. So definitely the first is better, imo. Hi everyone! What's the difference between preparedness and preparation? Hello, pooxyy. Those words are both listed in the Word Reference dictionary. If that doesn't answer your question, please give us some context to begin the discussion. That means we would like an example sentence or two containing these words. Do you have a sentence in which you think you might use one of these words? Yes, I see they have the same meaning but is there any slight difference? For example, we need preparedness before negotiating? In our dictionary, if you look at preparation, preparedness is a synonym for only one of its meanings. If you look at preparedness, preparation is given as a synonym for its only meaning. The range of its uses is much smaller. Preparedness refers to the state or condition of the person or thing who is ready for something. Preparedness is most often used in relationship to military forces. Preparation refers to the things that have been done in order to be ready. You probably need to make preparations before negotiating. Here is a discussion of these words in another context. preparedness/preparation or/readiness How's your preparation going? My friend told me that he'd been preparing for his Christmas party in his home. A few days later I asked him "how's your preparation going". I wonder if "how's your preparation going" is idiomatic in this situation. And how about "how's your preparation?". Thank you so much It is usually, "How are your/the preparations going?" but the singular is possible. Thank you Paul. You used the plural. Is it because he needs to prepare a lot of different things for his party? By the way, is it ok to say "how are your preparations"? Thank you Hello. Let's say I want to list my responsibilities in the previous job on a CV. Do I use a noun, or the gerund? I would personally use the gerund, but I have seen people use nouns here. Is it also correct? - preparing / preparation of conceptual design (...) Thank you, london calling. I have read the thread and understand that the gerund can be used, but what about a 'regular' noun? Regular nouns are fine, but in this particular case, I think I'd prefer "preparing", because it describes your responsibility in terms of what you did. Alternatively, you could just list this responsibility as "conceptual design" and forget about preparing. Finally, after many years of utter confusion... CVs are strange creatures. You may feel responsible for every regular noun I am going to use from now on, Edinburgher. I want to ask my friend whether they have prepared for the test that's going to take place tomorrow. I ask: Have you done the preparation of tomorrow's test? Is "do the preparation" idiomatic? Thanks much! Not really. Have you done the preparation of tomorrow's test? Have you done the preparation for tomorrow's test? Have you prepared (for) tomorrow's test? Have you prepared (for) tomorrow's test? Do you mean the second version is less idiomatic (but is idiomatic) than the third one? Have you done the (or your) preparation for tomorrow's test? is perfectly idiomatic, but it doesn't work with "of". Do you mean the second version is less idiomatic (but is idiomatic) than the third one? I mean that in English we generally prefer to use a strong verb (like prepare) to a weak verb (like do, make, carry out, have...) + an abstract noun. When I say strong and weak, I mean one that contains a lot of meaning or little meaning. Last edited: Mar 22, 2018 It's better to use a verb than a phrase that means the same but has an abstract noun. In this sentence, 'prepare' is better than 'do the preparation'. I mean that in English we generally prefer to use a strong verb (like prefer) to a weak verb (like do, make, carry out, have...) = an abstract noun I think you meant "prepare", not "prefer". Perhaps it was an autocorrect error! Since you've referred to yourself as a teacher in recent threads, are you by any chance referring to preparing (or setting a question paper)? Or to preparing for a test that you're going to write? Since you've referred to yourself as a teacher in recent threads, are you by any chance referring to preparing (or setting a question paper)? Or to preparing for a test that you're going to write? No, it's not, especially considering your earlier threads, which is why I asked. This sounded as if you were asking: Have you completed [the process of] preparation of tomorrow's test [paper]? There are two meanings of "prepare": 1) a teacher prepares (sets) a test. 2) a student prepares (memorizes all the stuff that their teacher has taught them in the class) a test. I am referring to the second meaning. The teacher prepares a test. The teacher makes the test ready. The test is the object, the thing being prepared. The student prepares (himself) for a test. The student makes the student ready for the test. The student is the thing being prepared. I don't think 'prepared' is natural anyway. "Are you ready for the test tomorrow?" "Have you revised for the test?" I don't think Americans use 'revise'. "Have you finished revising?"