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# within

[adverb](#)

with·in | \ wi-'thin  , -'thin  \

## Definition of *within*

(Entry 1 of 4)



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1 : in or into the interior : [inside](#)

2 : in one's inner thought, disposition, or character : [inwardly](#) search within for a creative impulse— Kingman Brewster †1988

within

[preposition](#)

Definition of *within* (Entry 2 of 4)

1 —used as a function word to indicate enclosure or containment

2 —used as a function word to indicate situation or circumstance in the limits or compass of: such as

a : before the end of gone within a week

b(1) : not beyond the quantity, degree, or limitations of live within your income

(2) : in or into the scope or sphere of within the jurisdiction of the state

(3) : in or into the range of within reachwithin sight

(4) —used as a function word to indicate a specified difference or margin came within two points of a perfect markwithin a mile of the town

3 : to the inside of : [into](#) sunk the sea within the earth— William Shakespeare

within

[noun](#)

Definition of *within* (Entry 3 of 4)

: an inner place or area revolt from within

within

[adjective](#)

Definition of *within* (Entry 4 of 4)

: being inside : [enclosed](#) the within indictment

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## Synonyms & Antonyms for *within*

Synonyms: Noun

[innards](#), [inside](#), [interior](#)

Antonyms: Noun

[exterior](#), [outside](#)

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## Examples of *within* in a Sentence

Adverb

We could hear sounds coming from *within*. The sign on the door says “Help Wanted: Inquire *Within*.”

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Recent Examples on the Web: Adverb



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By early September, internal numbers from McBath's campaign had her *within* 2 points of Handel.— [P.r. Lockhart, Vox, "6 years ago her son was murdered. Now Lucy McBath is heading to Congress.," 8 Nov. 2018](#) Back-to-back bogeys by Frodigh in combination with a pair of pars by Parziale enabled the reigning MassAm champ to pull *within* two with three holes remaining.— [Mia Berry, BostonGlobe.com, "Defending MassAm champion Matt Parziale falls in quarters." 12 July 2018](#)

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'within.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback.](#)

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## First Known Use of *within*

Adverb

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

Preposition

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

Noun

15th century, in the meaning defined [above](#)

Adjective

1748, in the meaning defined [above](#)

## History and Etymology for *within*

Adverb

Middle English *withinne*, from Old English *withinnan*, from *with* + *innan* inwardly, within, from *in*

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Resources for *within*



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## Dictionary Entries near *within*

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[withholding tax](#)

[with hopes of](#)

[within](#)



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[within a whisker of](#)

[within budget](#)

[withindoors](#)

## Statistics for *within*

Look-up Popularity

Top 30% of words

Time Traveler for *within*

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

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More Definitions for *within*

within

[adverb](#)



## English Language Learners Definition of *within*

(Entry 1 of 2)

formal

: inside something

: in someone's inner thoughts, feelings, etc.

within

[preposition](#)

English Language Learners Definition of *within* (Entry 2 of 2)

: inside (a certain area or space)

: inside (a group, company, society, etc.)

: before the end of (a particular period of time)

[See the full definition for \*within\* in the English Language Learners Dictionary](#)

within

[adverb](#)

with·in | \ with-'in , with-\

## Kids Definition of *within*

(Entry 1 of 2)

: [inside entry 2](#) Sounds came from *within*.

within



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## [preposition](#)

Kids Definition of *within* (Entry 2 of 2)

- 1 : [inside entry 4 sense 1](#) Stay *within* the house.
- 2 : not beyond the limits of You should live *within* your income.
- 3 : before the end of I'll be there *within* a week.

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More from Merriam-Webster on *within*

Rhyming Dictionary: [Words that rhyme with within](#)

Thesaurus: [All synonyms and antonyms for within](#)

Spanish Central: [Translation of within](#)

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

Britannica English: [Translation of within for Arabic Speakers](#)

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### **WORD OF THE DAY**

**fantod** 

a state of irritability and tension

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