

a-way¹

S1 W1

/ə'wei/

adverb

- 1** DISTANCE used to say that someone leaves a place or person, or stays some distance from a place or person:

Go away!

Dinah was crying as she drove slowly away.

away from

Stay away from the fire.

- 2** towards a different direction:

She turned away and stared out of the window.

Charley blushed and looked away, embarrassed.

- 3** HERETHERE if someone is away from school, work, or home, they are not there

SYN absent

Simon is away with flu.

Kate is away on holiday.

away from

You must bring a note from your parents if you've been away from school.

- 4** DISTANCE used to say how far it is to a place or thing:

five miles/ten feet etc away

Geneva is about 20 miles away.

There's another hotel not far away.

away from

She was sitting ten feet away from the microphone.

five minutes/two hours etc away

The beach is only five minutes away (= it only takes five minutes to get there) .

- 5** AFTERFUTURE if an event is two days, three weeks etc away, it will happen after that period of time has passed:

Christmas is only a month away.

- 6** used to say how close someone is to achieving something or experiencing something:

away from

At one stage, they were just two points away from victory.

- 7** into or in a safe or enclosed place:

Put your money away, I'm paying.

Thousands of archaeological treasures are being kept hidden away.

- 8** used to show that something disappears or is removed:

The music died away.

Ruben gave all his money away to charity.

Support for the Democrats has dropped away.

Cut away all the dead wood.

- 9** CONTINUE/NOT STOP used to emphasize that an action continues:

Sue was singing away to herself in the bath.

They've been hammering away all day.

- 10** used to say that someone spends the whole of a period of time doing something:

You can dance the night away in one of Benidorm's many discos.

- 11** if a team is playing away, it is playing a game at its opponent's field or sports hall

Liverpool are playing away at Everton on Saturday.

→ **far and away** AT FAR¹ (12) ,

→ **right away** AT RIGHT³ (2) ,

→ **straight away** AT STRAIGHT¹ (7)

Word origin

Language: Old English

Origin: *onweg*, *aweg*, from *on* + *weg* 'way'

away²

adjective

[only before noun]

an away game or match is played at your opponent's field or sports hall

OPP

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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