Adjectives and Propositions

Look at these examples to see how adjectives are used with prepositions.

> I'm **interested in** the idea.
> My jacket is **similar to** yours.
> She's **brilliant at** maths.
> My neighbour is **angry about** the party.

Some adjectives go with certain prepositions. There are no grammatical rules for which preposition is used with which adjective, so it's a good idea to try to learn them. However, there are some patterns that can help. Remember that a preposition is followed by a noun or a gerund (-ing form).

With at

We use at with adjectives like good/bad/amazing/brilliant/terrible, etc. to talk about skills and abilities.

> He's really **good at** English.
> She's **amazing at** the piano.
> They're **terrible at** organising anything.
> I'm not very **good at** drawing.

With about

We often use about with adjectives of feelings like angry/excited/happy/nervous/sad/stressed/worried, etc. to explain what is causing that feeling.

> I'm **angry about** the decision.
> He's **nervous about** the presentation.
> She's **excited about** the new job.
> They were **worried about** the exam.

With of

However, sometimes we use of with feelings.

> She was **afraid of** telling her mum.
> I'm **frightened of** having an accident.

He's **scared of** flying.

You should be **proud of** your progress.

With to

We can use to to show the connection between people or things.

He's **married to** the director.

I'm **addicted to** my phone.

I'm **allergic to** nuts.

It's **similar to** the old one.

We can also use to to talk about someone's behaviour towards someone else.

They were really **friendly to** me.

Was he **nice to** you?

He is always **polite to** everyone.

She was very **rude to** the waitress.

Here are some other useful adjectives with prepositions.

With for

Exercise is **good for** you.

Stress is **bad for** you.

The town is **famous for** its cheese.

I'm **responsible for** the financial side of the business.

With in

She's **interested in** the project.

They want someone who's **experienced in** design.

I didn't want to get **involved in** the argument.