

Serbian prepositions that take genitive case

Most prepositions take the genitive case. But you need to know their meaning. The following are some most frequent prepositions.

Table 1: List of Serbian prepositions that take genitive case on the noun that follows

Serbian	English	Example
Prepositions meaning 'from'		
iz _{gen}	i. Source of movement ii. place of origin	i. Idem iz škole. ii. Ja sam iz Srbije.
od _{gen}	ii. From someone's place ii. starting point of time iii. made of	ii. Idem od Milana. ii. Radim od jutra do mraka. iii. Volim sok od pomorandže. iii. Ova narukvica je od zlata.
sa _{gen}	i. down from, picking up an object from above ii. translating something from one language iii. coming from some place viewed as an event or surface	i. Uzimam ovo sa stola. ii. Prevodim sa srpskog jezika iii. Dolazim sa konferencije. iii. Dolazim sa fakulteta.
Other prepositions that take genitive		
kod _{gen}	i. at someone's place or vicinity	i. Idem kod mog prijatelja. ii. Idem kod njega.
do _{gen}	i. up to a certain place ii. up to a certain time	i. Idem do škole. ii. Radim do mraka.
bez _{gen}	i. without, lack of something	i. On pije vodu bez leda. i. Nema prijatelja.
pored _{gen}	i. next to, beside	i. Moja mačka je pored stolice.
blizu _{gen}	i. near	i. Ona je blizu moje mačke.
između _{gen}	i. between	i. Milan je između mog brata i moje mame.
oko _{gen}	i. over something/someone, usually with 'se' verbs	i. Oni se svađaju oko mene.
zbog _{gen}	i. due to, because of	ii. Oni ne govore zbog Milana.

Memorize these **prepositional pairs** that go together (but mean different things)

u + Acc and iz + Gen (to/up to - from)

- Idem **u** školu ujutru a vraćam se **iz** škole uveče.
'I am going to school in the morning and am returning from school in the evening'

na + Acc and sa + Gen (to - from)

- Idem **na** fakultet ujutru a vraćam se **sa** fakulteta uveče.
'I am going to the university in the morning and am returning from the university in the evening'

Note that 'u' and 'na' denote 'motion towards', and the accusative case is used for these.

The prepositions 'iz' and 'sa' denote 'motion from' and the genitive case is used for these.

kod + Gen and od + Gen

(to someone's place – from someone's place)

- Idem **kod** Milana ujutru a vraćam se **od** Milana uveče.
'I am going to Milan's place in the morning and am returning from Milan's place in the evening'

See the accusative prepositions to see when to use **u** and when to use **na** in examples such as 1 and 2.