

Main meanings	Example verbs		
1 moving			
move farther from a person, place, or thing <i>The Harrises moved away in April. ♦ I managed to slip away from the meeting without anyone noticing.</i>	back away break away come away	get away go away move away	run away slip away walk away
avoid getting near someone or something <i>Police warned us to stay away from the area.</i>	keep away	stay away	
avoid becoming involved in an activity, organization etc, or stop being involved in it <i>Nick isn't one to shy away from hard work. ♦ I'd love to just get away from it all for a week or two.</i>	back away break away fall away get away from	grow away from keep away move away from pull away	shy away stay away turn away from walk away from
disappear gradually, or make something disappear <i>Thomson's critics have continued to chip away at his credibility. ♦ Many of the old traditions are dying away.</i>	chip away crumble away die away drop away eat away fade away	melt away pass away rot away rust away seep away slip away	trail away waste away wear away whittle away wither away
2 making someone or something move			
make someone or something move farther from a person, place, or thing <i>The dog quickly chased away all the squirrels.</i>	call away chase away	send away spirit away	tow away wave away
stop someone from getting close or being involved in something <i>The birds have special markings to warn away predators.</i>	drive away frighten away push away	scare away steer away	warn away wave away
remove or separate something, or become removed or separated <i>He just can't tear himself away from the TV. ♦ The old paint had begun to peel away.</i>	break away burn away come away	fall away peel away pull away	strip away take away tear away
get rid of something, use all of it, or destroy it <i>You can't do away with racism simply by passing new laws. ♦ Over the years, the couple have given away millions of dollars.</i>	blow away brush away chuck away cut away do away with fritter away	gamble away give away kiss away magic away sign away sweep away	throw away toss away wash away while away wipe away wish away
put something in a safe or a secret place <i>Put your toys away and go to bed. ♦ I'm sure he has the letter filed away somewhere.</i>	clear away file away hide away hoard away lock away	pack away put away salt away shut away squirrel away	stash away store away stow away tidy away tuck away
3 continuous action			
do something continuously or with a lot of effort, especially something boring or difficult <i>They were still talking away when I went to bed. ♦ You expect me to slave away in the kitchen while you read a book.</i>	bang away beaver away blaze away chat away hammer away	jabber away peg away plod away plug away slave away	slog away talk away toil away work away