

# FRENCH EXPRESSION

## «AVOIR LES MOYENS»



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**Grammar topic:** Avoir expression - Avoir les moyens

**Curriculum:** French Level A1 - Q & A

“J’aimerais partir en vacances, mais je ne sais pas si on aura les moyens de partir très loin.”

“I'd like to go on vacation, but I don't know if we will be able to afford to go very far away.”

### STUDENT QUESTION:

AVOIR LES MOYENS - Could I also say... “On n'aura pas d'argent suffisant pour partir/aller...?” I find the use of les moyens is perhaps more informal and clearly less wordy. Are there any other ways to say this?

### JENNIFER'S RESPONSE:

“Avoir les moyens” is definitely less wordy, but shouldn't be considered informal. The way you said it is also good. There are just a few words that need to be shifted around:

**You wrote:** On n'aura pas d'argent suffisant pour partir / aller

**Changes:** On n'aura pas suffisamment / assez d'argent pour partir

**There are many other ways to say “we won't have the means to go”.**

**“On n'aura pas les moyens pour partir.”**

### **Formal:**

Nous ne pourrons pas nous permettre de partir.

We won't be able to afford to leave.

Il nous sera impossible de partir faute de moyens.

It will be impossible for us to leave due to lack of means.

Partir ne sera pas à notre portée financière.

Leaving won't be within our financial reach.

Nos ressources ne nous permettront pas de partir.

Our resources won't allow us to leave.

Nous ne disposons pas des fonds nécessaires pour partir.

We don't have the necessary funds to leave.

### **Extremely Informal / Slang:**

On ne pourra pas se casser faute de thunes.

We won't be able to leave because we're broke.

Partir, c'est mort, on n'a pas les sous.

Leaving is out of the question, we don't have the money.

Ça va pas être possible de partir sans blé.

It's not going to be possible to leave without cash.

Pas moyen de partir sans un sou.

No way to leave without a penny.

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