

# FRENCH «AVOIR MAL» WITH BODY PARTS



## French Vocabulary - Avoir Mal - Body Parts

Use the verb *avoir mal* to express physical pain. If you just want to say that something hurts without specifically naming a body part, you can simply conjugate *avoir* in the present tense and say:

J'ai mal.	I'm in pain.
Tu as mal.	You are in pain.
Il a mal.	He is in pain.
Nous avons mal.	We are in pain.
Vous avez mal.	You are in pain.
Ils ont mal.	They are in pain.

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When you want to say *what* hurts, use *avoir mal à*, and follow it with the body part in question.

All body parts are either masculine or feminine, and they are either singular or plural. You've learned about definite articles. Sometimes contractions need to be formed when using *à* before definite articles.

à	la	no contraction
à	l'	no contraction
à	le	AU
à	les	AUX

subject +	present tense avoir + mal	à la au aux à l'	body part
Tu	as mal	au	bras

Tu as mal au bras.	Your arm hurts.
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ATTENTION: This construction is very different to the way we say the same thing in English. In French, the conjugated verb is always *avoir*. Rather than beginning

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your sentence with a possessive pronoun (*your*), you need to begin with a subject pronoun (*tu*).

J'ai mal à la tête.	My head hurts.
Nous avons mal au ventre.	We have a stomachache.
Tu as mal à l'oeil.	Your eye hurts.
Nathan a mal à la bouche.	Nathan's mouth hurts.
Elle a mal au mollet.	Her calf hurts.
Vous avez le nez qui coule.	You have a runny nose.
Manon et Enzo ont mal aux oreilles.	Manon and Enzo's ears hurt.
J'ai mal au cou.	My neck hurts.
Clara et Lina ont mal aux jambes.	Clara and Lina's legs hurt.
Vous avez mal aux yeux?	Do your eyes hurt?
Antoine et Samuel ont mal aux mollets.	Antoine and Samuel's calves hurt.
Tu as mal au dos?	Does your back hurt?
Il a mal à la jambe.	His leg hurts.
J'ai mal aux cuisses.	My thighs hurt.
On a mal aux dents.	Our teeth hurt.

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Il a mal aux pieds.	His feet hurt.
Elle a mal au pied.	Her foot hurts.
Il a mal au bras.	His arm hurts.
Nous avons mal aux coudes.	Our elbows hurt.
J'ai mal aux genoux.	My knees hurt.
Tu as mal à la cuisse?	Does your thigh hurt?
Tu as mal aux mains?	Do your hands hurt?
On a mal aux épaules.	Our shoulders hurt.
Chloé a mal au genou.	Chloe's knee hurts.
Vous avez mal à la main?	Does your hand hurt?
Arthur et Élodie ont mal aux pouces.	Arthur and Élodie's thumbs hurt.
J'ai mal au coude.	My elbow hurts.
Sébastien a mal au pouce.	Sébastien's thumb hurts.
Nous avons mal aux bras.	Our arms hurt.
Camille et Océane ont mal aux doigts.	Camille and Océane's fingers hurt.
Tu as mal à l'épaule?	Does your shoulder hurt?

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