



Upstairs/Downstairs

UPSTAIRS

On or to a floor higher than the one that you are on.

- I went upstairs and had a shower.
- The cat belongs to the people who live upstairs.
- I carried her bags upstairs.

upstairs adjective [only before noun]

- Bob looked up and saw the light in the upstairs bedroom.

THE UPSTAIRS

the upper level or levels of a building

- She doesn't use the upstairs at all any more.

DOWNSTAIRS

On or to a floor lower than the one that you are on.

- I couldn't sleep so I went downstairs and watched TV.
- Wait downstairs in the hall.

downstairs adjective [only before noun]

- I knocked on the door of my downstairs neighbour.

THE DOWNSTAIRS

the floor of a building that is at ground level

- The downstairs of the two little houses had been entirely refashioned.

Up/down the stairs

UP THE STAIRS

To use the stairs to go up to the next floor in a building or house.

- I walk up the stairs rather than take the elevator
- She picked up the child and carried him down the stairs.
- The children were constantly running up and down the stairs.

DOWN THE STAIRS

To use the stairs to go down to the next floor in a building or house.

- John raced down the stairs to answer the door.
- He crept out of his bedroom and down the stairs.
- You should hold on to the handrail when you walk down the stairs.

To fall down the stairs:

to tumble or drop from the top of the steps to the bottom.

- Someone pushed him and he fell down the stairs
- In her eagerness to answer the phone, she almost fell down the stairs.