



AVOID VS PREVENT

AVOID something/ doing something

aprendeinglesenleganes.com

Avoid someone/something : to stay away from sb/sth or to prevent sth (bad) from happening

- This book is intended to help users **avoid** common errors.
- Hoping to **avoid** traffic jams, we set off very early.

Avoid doing something

- I want to avoid **speaking** to him until I've got more details.
- I want to avoid **being** drawn into the argument.



Prevent something / Prevent someone from doing something

My injury prevents me from playing football.



Prevent something : to stop sth from happening

- The rules are intended to **prevent** accidents.
- To **prevent** confusion, we always label our suitcases.

Prevent someone (from) doing something : to stop someone from doing sth

- My sprained ankle **prevented me from** going to work for two weeks.

Prevent something (from) happening:

- Rubber seals are fitted to **prevent gas from** escaping.

Typical mistakes:

- ✗ The police tried to **avoid them** from leaving.
- ✓ The police tried to prevent them (from) leaving.
- ✗ They tried to prevent me **to leave**.
- ✓ They tried to prevent me (from) leaving.