

DESPITE IN SPITE OF

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Despite and in spite of are prepositional expressions. They have a similar meaning to although or even though and express a contrast between two things. They are both more common in writing than in speaking.

Despite is a little more formal than in spite of.

DESPITE

+ noun

- He got the job despite his prison record.
- Despite his injury, Ricardo will play in Saturday's game.

+ the fact that

- She was good at physics despite the fact that she found it boring.
- He won despite the fact that he was injured.

+ ing

- He won despite being injured.

IN SPITE OF

+ noun

- He got the job in spite of his prison record.
- In spite of his injury, Ricardo will play in Saturday's game.

+ the fact that

- She was good at physics in spite of the fact that she found it boring.
- He won in spite of the fact that he was injured.

+ ing

- He won in spite of being injured.

Warning: **we don't use a that-clause after despite or in spite of** .

We use **despite/in spite of + the fact that** , or **despite/ in spite of + -ing**.

✗ **Don't say: She is very approachable despite/in spite that she's a big star.**

✓ She is very approachable **despite/in spite of the fact that** she's a big star.

✓ She is very approachable **despite/in spite of being** a big star.

Don't confuse despite and in spite of. ✗ **Don't say: despite of**

✗ **Recycling is a good way to manage waste despite ~~of~~ its cost.**

✓ Recycling is a good way to manage waste **despite/in spite of** its cost.

Despite/In spite of yourself : used when you do something that you do not intend to do and are trying not to do.

- They grew to love each other, almost despite themselves.
- She started to laugh, in spite of herself.