

JCGL

AFTER / AFTERWARDS

- AFTER is usually used as a preposition:

I'll do it after lunch.

- AFTER followed by a time period is more often used to talk about past events:

After a few minutes he stopped.

- IN followed by a time period is more often used to talk about future events:

He'll be here in a few minutes.

- AFTER can be used as an adverb, but only following another time adverb such as *soon*, *not long*, or *shortly*:

Tim came at midnight, and Lucy not long after.

- AFTERWARDS can be used instead, and can also be used as an adverb on its own:

*His parents came shortly afterwards.
You can meet the actors afterwards. (NOT ~~after~~).*

- AFTER can also be a conjunction:

I'll telephone you after I arrive.