

Vocabulary – "Aproveitar"

The verb "aproveitar" in Portuguese can be translated to English in different ways, depending on the context. Here are some examples:

1) **Aproveitar de algo** - enjoy something / make the most of something

- Restaurant: "**Enjoy your meal.**"
- Hotel: "**Enjoy your stay.**"
- I hope you **enjoy your trip.**
- Serve food at home: "**Enjoy!**"
- **Make the most of** your day. (*Aproveite ao máximo o seu dia*)
- **Make the most of** it while you can. (*Aproveite ao máximo enquanto é tempo/você pode*)

2) **Aproveitar-se de alguém** - take advantage of somebody (negative connotation)

- I was weak, and **he took advantage of me!** He kissed me when I was drunk!
- When I said he could stay for a short time, **he took advantage of me** and stayed for almost 3 months!

3) **Aproveitar de algo** - take advantage of a situation to do something (positive connotation)

- It's very rainy today, so **I'll take advantage** (of the situation) to tidy the garage.
- On Saturday, I **took advantage of the weather** and went to the beach.
- I have two hours free, so **I'll take advantage** (of the time) and cut the grass.
- **Can I take advantage of your presence**, and ask you to help me carry some boxes?
- **I take advantage of a ride** whenever it's possible.

4) **Aproveitar de (energia)** - to harness (energy)

- Solar panels **harness** sunlight to create energy to power your home.
- Wind turbines **harness** the wind to make electricity.
- Film title: "The Boy who **Harnessed** the Wind" (*PT: "O Menino que Descobriu o Vento"*)
(*A better title would be: "O Menino que Aproveitou o Vento"*)

Other Vocabulary:

- Aproveitável = reusable
- Aproveitador(a) = opportunist

Suggested video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I7YL9E6ALs0>

(6 mins)

Exercise. Complete the following using “**enjoy**”, “**take advantage of**” or “**harness**”, conjugating if necessary.

1. A: “We’re going to a resort at the weekend.”

B: “I hope that you _____ it.”

2. My boss said I could stay at home tomorrow, so I think I’ll _____ the opportunity and watch the last season of “Breaking Bad”!

3. It’s not easy to _____ wave energy.

4. Yesterday, I fell down in the street and somebody _____ me and stole my phone.

5. Welcome to our hotel – I hope that you will _____ your time with us!