Farther or further?

Farther means “at or to a more advanced point or greater distance” or “to a greater extent.” Further shares both of these meanings, so the two words are interchangeable in sentences regarding temporal, spatial, or metaphorical distance.

**Examples:**

- When we are farther (or further) along in our experiment, we will give a presentation.
- The mountain is farther (or further) away than it looks, so perhaps we should plan on an extra day of hiking.

However, in sentences that do not involve distance, further should be used instead of farther.

**Examples:**

- Our data need to be further refined before we submit our manuscript for publication.
- Upon further examination, we discovered that the map was actually from medieval England.

Further can also mean “in addition” or “moreover.”

**Examples:**

- We take excellent care of our guinea pigs and ensure that they have plenty of food and water. Further, we frequently let them out of their...
cages and play with them.
- None of our patients experienced severe side effects within the first week after treatment. Further, one-third of them experienced no side effects at all.

Bibliography

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