

Many of adjectives end in ed.

a closed door satisfied customers Boiled eggs worried passengers escaped prisoners Wasted time excited students a painted wall invited guests reduced prices

Words like closed, wasted and escaped are past participles of verbs. Many past participles can also be used as adjectives.

## Describing What Something Is Made Of

Some nouns can be used like adjectives. For example, if you have a chair that is made of plastic, you can use the noun plastic as an adjective and say that the chair is a plastic chair. If you have a watch that is made of gold, you can say it is a gold watch.

But the nouns wood and wool can't be used like this. To make adjectives of these nouns you have to add en.

noun	adjective	example
wood	wooden	a wooden door
wool	woolen	a woolen jumper

## Describing What Something Is Like

There's another way to make adjectives from nouns. Suppose you want to say that something is like a certain material, although not made of it. Tomake these adjectives, add -en to some nouns and -y to other nouns.

noun	adjective	example
gold	golden	a golden sunrise (= bright yellow like gold)
sik	silky or silken	silky skin (= as soft as silk)
lead	leaden	a leaden sky (= dark gray like the color of lead)

## The Comparison of Adjectives

### The Comparative Form

To compare two people or things, use the comparative form of an adjective. The comparative form is usually made by adding **er** to the adjective.

adjective	comparative form	adjective	comparative form
dark light high low old young	darker lighter higher lower older younger	hard warm cold fast slow	harder warmer colder faster slower
rich poor tall small soft	richer poorer taller smaller softer	The word than	is often used to compare two le. For example, you say: than Philip.

### ◀ The Superlative Form

When you compare three or more pe form of an adjective. The superlative the adjective.

**People or things,** use the **superlative** form is usually made by adding **est** to

adjective	superlative form	adjective	superlative form
dark	darkest	warm	warmest
light	lightest	cold	coldest
high	highest	fast	fastest
low	lowest	slow	slowest
old	oldest		
young	youngest	Note	e s
rich	richest		
poor	poorest		often used before the
tall	tallest	superlative form	. For example:
small	smallest	A bee is a small i	nsect. A ladybird is smaller,
soft	softest	but an ant is the	smallest.
hard	hardest		

Use more and most to compare most other two-syllable adjectives. You will also use more and most with all adjectives that have more than two syllables.

adjective	comparative	superlative
amous	more famous	most famous
orecious	more precious	most precious
nandsome	more handsome	most handsome
exciting	more exciting	most exciting
oeautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
expensive	more expensive	most expensive
comfortable	more comfortable	most comfortable
delicious	more delicious	most delicious
nteresting	more interesting	most interesting
difficult	more difficult	most difficult

## ✓ Irregular Comparative and Superlative Forms

A few adjectives don't form their comparative and superlative forms in any of the usual ways. The comparative and superlative forms of these adjectives are different words, called irregular forms.

adjective	comparative	superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
little	less	least
many	more	most
far	farther or further	farthest or furthest

### For example:

My painting is good, Melanie's painting is better, but Andrew's painting is the best.

Adjectives: The Order of Adjectives

Some adjectives are made from proper nouns of place. These adjectives are called adjectives of origin.

a Mexican hat a British police officer

the Frenchflag a Filipino dress
an American custom Washington apples
a Japanese lady a Spanish dance
an Indian temple an Italian car

## The Order of Adjectives

Sometimes several adjectives are used to describe a single noun or pronoun. When you use two or more adjectives, the usual order is: size, quality, color, origin, substance. For example:

a small green plastic box size color substance

a stylish red Italian car quality color origin

Here are more examples.

a large Indian temple a tall white stone building a colorful cotton shirt a long Chinese silk robe

delicious Spanish food an old graceful Japanese lady crunchy Australian apples a short handsome English man

Adjectives of quality sometimes come before adjectives of size.
For example:

beautiful long hair elegant short hair

But adjectives of size **always come before** adjectives of color. For example:

beautiful long black hair elegant short red hair

If you use any adjective of substance, it **comes after** the color adjective. For example:

a beautiful long black silkdress

## The Comparison of Adjectives

## The Comparative Form

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adjective	comparative form	adjective comparative form
dark light high low old young	darker lighter higher lower older younger	hard harder warm warmer cold colder fast faster slow slower  N o t e s
rich poor tall small soft	richer poorer taller smaller softer	The word <b>than</b> is often used to compare two things or people. For example, you say:  Mr. Lee is taller than Philip.  A car is faster than a bike.

### ≺ The Superlative Form

When you compare three or more pe People or things, use the superlative form of an adjective. The superlative the adjective.

form is usually made by adding est to

adjective	superlative form	adjective	superlative form
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# 3 Adjectives

Adjectives describe nouns and pronouns. They give you more information about people, places, and things.

## Kinds of Adjectives

Some adjectives tell about the size of people or things.

a big house a long bridge tiny feet
a large army a high mountain big hands
a huge ship a short man a short skirt
a tall building a thin boy long trousers

Some adjectives tell about the colour of things.

a red carpet a gray suit a brown bear a white swan an orange balloon green peppers a blue uniform a yellow ribbon black shoes

Some adjectives tell what people or things are like by describing their quality.

a beautiful woman a young soldier a flat surface
a handsome boy an old uncle a hot drink
a poor family a kind lady a cold winter
a rich couple a familiar voice a sunny day
a strange place a deep pool cool weather

Some adjectives tell what things are made of. They refer to substances.

a plastic folder a stone wall a clay pot a paper bag a metal box a glass door a cotton shirt a silk dress a concrete road a jade ring a wooden spoon a porcelain vase

### Adjectives: The Comparison of Adjectives

If the adjective ends in **e**, add **r** to form the comparative and **st** to form the superlative.

adjective	comparative	superlative
nice	nicer	nicest
close	closer	closest
large	larger	largest
rude	ruder	rudest
safe	safer	safest
wide	wider	widest

Suppose the adjective is a short word that ends in a consonant and has a single vowel in the middle. Just double the consonant and add er to make the comparative and est to make the superlative.

adjective	comparative	superlative	
sad	sadder	saddest	
wet	wetter	wettest	
slim	slimmer	slimmest	
thin	thinner	thinnest	
big	bigger	biggest	

Suppose the adjective has two syllables and ends in y. Just change the y to i and add er to make the comparative and add est to make the superlative.

adjective	comparative	e superlative	adjective	comparative	e superlative
easy funny	easier funnier	easiest funniest	heavy lovely	heavier lovelier	heaviest loveliest
dirty	dirtier	dirtiest	pretty	prettier	prettiest
noisy	noisier	noisiest	tidy	tidier	tidiest
happy	happier	happiest	friendly	friendlier	friendliest
naughty	naughtier	naughtiest	tiny	tinier	tiniest

### Exercise 3

The following sentences contain adjectives made by adding endings to nouns. Write the noun that each adjective comes from on the line after each sentence. The first one has been done for you. Remember that some nouns must be changed slightly before the ending is added.

She's always making careless mistakes.	care
It was a very painful injury.	
Witches and wizards have magical powers.	
These oranges are very juicy.	
Dogs are usually more energetic than cats.	
Our neighbors are not very friendly.	
She keepsher toys in a large wooden box.	
Take off your muddy shoes before you come in.	
May I borrow your pencil sharpener? Mine is useless.	
What a beautiful dress!	
	It was a very painful injury.  Witches and wizards have magical powers.  These oranges are very juicy.  Dogs are usually more energetic than cats.  Our neighbors are not very friendly.  She keepsher toys in a large wooden box.  Take off your muddy shoes before you come in.  May I borrow your pencil sharpener? Mine is useless.

### Exercise 4

Fill in the blank spaces with adjectives made from the verbs in parentheses. Remember that both present participles and past participles can be used as adjectives. Choose the adjective that suits the sentence best. The first one has been done for you.

1.	It wasn't a very	interesting	(interest) movie.			
2.	We could hear the		(excite) fans screaming.			
3.	I hope the pupils don	lasses are	(bore).			
4.	My dad had a very		(worry) look on his face.			
5.	Have the police found	the	(steal) car yet?			
6.	The supermarket sells	s lots of	(freeze) food.			
7.	The players on the		(win) team don't look tired at	(win) team don't look tired at all.		
8.	Some of the old house	es had	(break) windows.			

### Exercise 1

Read the following passage and underline the adjectives. Write S above adjectives of **size**, Cabove adjectives of **colour**, Q above adjectives of **quality** and O above adjectives of **origin**.

Sydney is a large Australian city with busy streets and expensive shops. In summer, it's a very hot place. People wear cool clothes and drink cool drinks. There are beautiful sandy beaches where people can rest and look up at the wide blue sky. There are big parks for tourists to visit. Japanese tourists like to sit and watch other people. British tourists take photographs of the strange plants and colorful birds.

### Exercise 2

The following passage contains a lot of adjectives. Some of the adjectives appear in the wrong order. First underline the wrongly ordered adjectives. Then write them in their correct order on the lines below the passage.

My mend Jeremy is a nandsome tall boy. He aways wears a write long 1-shirt and a big red							
cap. He carries a blue huge canvas bag to school. His favorite food is red crunchy apples							
and he always has one in his bag. Our teacher is an English kind tall man called Mr. Clark.							
He wears a blue smart suit and glasses with black plastic thick frames.							

Adjectives: Adjective

### Exercise:

Read the following passage. Write the correct comparative and superlative forms of the adjectives in parentheses in the blank spaces. The first one has been done for you.

Paul likes playir	ng football. He's a very g	ood player, but his fi	riend Sally is a	better		
(good) player. S	She's the	(good) player in the whole school. She is				
	(fast) and	(stron	g) than all the boys,	even the bo	ys who	
are	(old)	and	(big) than he	r. That's why	Paullikes	
her. Paul thinks	all games are exciting, b	out football is the		(exciting)	game	
and it's	(noi	sy) than all the other	games he plays wit	h his friends	. When	
the grass is wet	, everyone gets dirty who	en they play footbal	l. But Sally gets			
	(dirty) and	(wet)	than everyone else.			

### Adjectives: Adjective Endings

Some adjectives end in -al.

a national flag personal possessions musical instruments a traditional costume

magical powers electrical goods

medical equipment a coastal town

Here are some adjectives that end in -ic, -ish, -ible, -able, -ive and -ly.

a fantastic singer a terrible mess an imaginative story an energetic dog a sensible answer expensive jewelery basic grammar horrible smells talkative children enthusiastic shouting visible footprints a creative artist a selfish act a likeable child friendly teachers foolish behavior comfortable clothes a lovely dress stylish clothes valuable advice a lively cat childish talk suitable colors an elderly man

chattering monkeys

Many adjectives end in -ing.

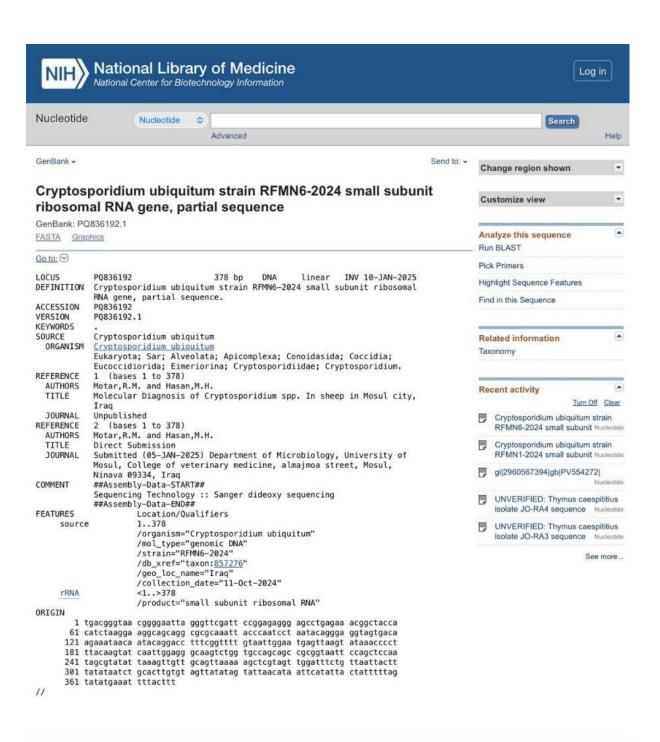
loving parents an interesting book a caring nurse a disappointing result a flashing light an outstanding swimmer an exciting ride a smiling face

a gleaming car shocking news

### Notes

a boring story

Words like smiling, caring and flashing are present participles of verbs. They are formed by adding ing to the verbs. Many present participles can also be used as adjectives.







Adjectives: Adjective Endings

## Adjective Endings

Adjectives have many different endings.

Some adjectives end in -ful. These adjectives describe noun or pronouns that are full of something or have a lot of something.

a beautiful face a painful injury a careful student a cheerful baby a joyful smile a helpful teacher a powerful machine a wonderful time playful children a skillful player a useful book colorful clothes

Some adjectives end in -ous.

a famous writer a courageous soldier
a mountainous area an adventurous explorer
a dangerous job a poisonous snake
a humorous film a generous gift
mischievous children marvelous results

Some adjectives end in -y.

a messy room a noisy car dirty hands
a sleepy dog a cloudy sky thirsty children
a muddy path a sunny day stormy weather
an easy test a lazy worker juicy fruit

Some adjectives end in -less. These adjectives describe a person or thing that does not have something.

a cloudless sky a meaningless word
a sleeveless dress a fearless fighter
homeless people
a joyless song seedless grapes
a useless tool harmless animals