

Adjectives: a **nice new** house, you look **tired**

A Sometimes we use two or more adjectives together:

- My brother lives in a **nice new** house.
- In the kitchen there was a **beautiful large round wooden** table.

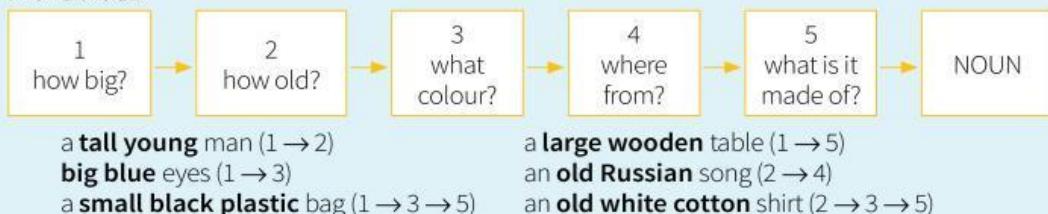
Adjectives like **new/large/round/wooden** are *fact* adjectives. They give us information about age, size, colour etc.

Adjectives like **nice/beautiful** are *opinion* adjectives. They tell us what the speaker thinks of something or somebody.

Opinion adjectives usually go before fact adjectives.

	opinion	fact	
a	nice	long	summer holiday
an	interesting	young	man
	delicious	hot	vegetable soup
a	beautiful	large round wooden	table

B Sometimes we use two or more fact adjectives together. Usually (not always) we put fact adjectives in this order:



Adjectives of size and length (**big/small/tall/short/long** etc.) usually go before adjectives of shape and width (**round/fat/thin/slim/wide** etc.):

a **large round** table a **tall thin** girl a **long narrow** street

When there are two or more colour adjectives, we use **and**:

a **black and white** dress a **red, white and green** flag

This does not usually happen with other adjectives before a noun:

a **long black** dress (not a long and black dress)

C We use adjectives after **be/get/become/seem**:

- Be careful!**
- I'm tired** and **I'm getting hungry**.
- As the film went on, it **became** more and more **boring**.
- Your friend **seems** very **nice**.

We also use adjectives to say how somebody/something looks, feels, sounds, tastes or smells:

- You **look tired**. / I **feel tired**. / She **sounds tired**.
- The dinner **smells good**.
- This tea **tastes a bit strange**.

But to say *how somebody does something* you must use an *adverb* (see Units 100–101):

- Drive **carefully**! (not Drive careful)
- Suzanne plays the piano very **well**. (not plays ... very good)

D We say 'the **first two** days', 'the **next few** weeks', 'the **last ten** minutes' etc.:

- I didn't enjoy the **first two** days of the course. (not the two first days)
- They'll be away for the **next few** weeks. (not the few next weeks)

Exercises

99.1 Put the adjectives in brackets in the correct position.

1 a beautiful table (wooden / round)	a beautiful round wooden table
2 an unusual ring (gold)	
3 an old house (beautiful)	
4 red gloves (leather)	
5 an American film (old)	
6 pink flowers (tiny)	
7 a long face (thin)	
8 big clouds (black)	
9 a sunny day (lovely)	
10 an ugly dress (yellow)	
11 a wide avenue (long)	
12 important ideas (new)	
13 a new sweater (green / nice)	
14 a metal box (black / small)	
15 long hair (black / beautiful)	
16 an old painting (interesting / French)	
17 a large umbrella (red / yellow)	
18 a big cat (black / white / fat)	

99.2 Complete each sentence with a verb (in the correct form) and an adjective from the boxes.

feel	look	seem	awful	nervous	interesting
smell	sound	taste	nice	upset	wet

- 1 Helen seemed upset this morning. Do you know what was wrong?
- 2 I can't eat this. I've just tried it and it
- 3 It's normal to before an exam or an interview.
- 4 What beautiful flowers! They too.
- 5 You Have you been out in the rain?
- 6 James told me about his new job. It – much better than his old job.

99.3 Put in the correct word.

- 1 This tea tastes a bit strange . (strange / strangely)
- 2 I usually feel when the sun is shining. (happy / happily)
- 3 The children were playing in the garden. (happy / happily)
- 4 You look ! Are you all right? (terrible / terribly)
- 5 There's no point in doing a job if you don't do it (proper / properly)
- 6 The soup tastes Can you give me the recipe? (good / well)
- 7 Please hurry up! You're always so (slow / slowly)
- 8 A customer in the restaurant was behaving (bad / badly)
- 9 The customer became when the manager asked him to leave. (violent / violently)

99.4 Write the following in another way using **the first ... / the next ... / the last ...**.

1 the first day and the second day of the course	the first two days of the course
2 next week and the week after	the next two weeks
3 yesterday and the day before yesterday	
4 the first week and the second week of May	
5 tomorrow and a few days after that	
6 questions 1, 2 and 3 in the exam	
7 next year and the year after	
8 the last day of our holiday and the two days before that	