

THE COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES

Monosyllabic adjectives are compared with **-er, -est**.

positive	comparative	superlative
strong	stronger	strongest
small	smaller	smallest
late	later	latest
nice	nicer	nicest
big	bigger	biggest
thin	thinner	thinnest
fat	fatter	fattest

Disyllabic adjectives ending with **y, er, ow, le** are compared with **-er, -est**.

positive	comparative	superlative
easy	easier	easiest
happy	happier	happiest
clever	cleverer	cleverest
narrow	narrower	narrowest

All the other adjectives are compared with **more, most**.

positive	comparative	superlative
careful	more careful	most careful
expensive	more expensive	most expensive
difficult	more difficult	most difficult
tired	more tired	most tired
terrible	more terrible	most terrible

Examples:

Paris is **bigger than** Vienna.

London is **the biggest** city.

Which dress is **more expensive**?

Which dress is **the most expensive**?

This exercise is **easier than** the first one.

What is **the easiest** exercise?

Disyllabic adjectives which can be compared with **-er**, **-est** or **more**, **most**.

positive	comparative	superlative
clever	cleverer / more clever	cleverest / most clever
common	commoner / more common	commonest / most common
likely	likelier / more likely	likeliest / most likely
pleasant	pleasanter / more pleasant	pleasantest / most pleasant
polite	politer / more polite	politest / most polite
quiet	quieter / more quiet	quietest / most quiet
simple	simpler / more simple	simplest / most simple
stupid	stupider / more stupid	stupidest / most stupid
subtle	subtler / more subtle	subtlest / most subtle
sure	surer / more sure	surest / most sure

Irregular forms

positive	comparative	superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
much	more	most
many	more	most
little	less	least

(not) as ... as – telling that someone / something is the same.

Ann is **as tall as** Mary.

I think tomorrow it will be **as hot as** today.

This test was **not as difficult as** the last one.

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Fill in the missing forms.

positive	comparative	superlative
bad		
regular		
exciting		
happy		
wonderful		
narrow		
clever		
friendly		
beautiful		
clear		
few		
empty		
good		
famous		
little		
popular		
strong		