

Some pairs of adverbs have different meanings

- deep** = a long way down (He dug **deep** into the ground.) **deeply** = greatly (The scientist was **deeply** respected.)
- free** = without cost (Children travel **free** on buses.) **freely** = willingly (He spoke **freely** about his past.)
- hard** = with effort (He works **hard**.) **hardly** = scarcely (I **hardly** see him.)
- high** = to / at a high level (The pilot flew **high** above the clouds.) **highly** = very much (She is **highly** regarded by her employers.)
- last** = after all others (He got here **last**.) **lastly** = finally (Last**ly**, read the instructions then do the test.)
- late** = not early (They arrived **late**.) **lately** = recently (I haven't seen him **lately**.)
- near** = close (I live **near** the school.) **nearly** = almost (I have **nearly** finished.)
- pretty** = fairly (I thought the film was **pretty** awful.) **prettily** = in a pretty way (She smiled **prettily**.)
- short** = suddenly (The driver stopped **short**.) **shortly** = soon (He will be arriving **shortly**.)
- wide** = far away from the right point (He threw the ball **wide**.)
- widely** = to a large extent (It's **widely** believed that the Prime Minister will resign soon.)

5 Underline the correct item.

- The arrow flew **wide** / **widely** of the target.
- Computers are **wide** / **widely** used in schools.
- Students can enter the museum **free** / **freely** on Saturdays.
- He **free** / **freely** admitted that he was guilty.
- I like sitting **near** / **nearly** the fire.
- Be careful! You **near** / **nearly** hit the window.
- She left too **late** / **lately** to catch the train.
- Have you seen any good films **late** / **lately**?
- She loved her brother **deep** / **deeply**.
- To find water, they had to dig **deep** / **deeply** into the ground.
- I think he's a **pretty** / **prettily** good singer, actually.
- The rooms were **pretty** / **prettily** furnished.
- He tries very **hard** / **hardly** to make her happy.
- Jim **hard** / **hardly** goes out these days.
- Tommy came **last** / **lastly** in the 100m sprint.
- Last** / **Lastly**, I would like to thank the chef for providing such a delicious meal.
- Mr Tibbs isn't in at the moment but he'll be here **short** / **shortly**.
- The woman stopped **short** / **shortly** when she saw the robber.
- The eagle was flying **high** / **highly** in the sky.
- My father is a **high** / **highly** respected surgeon.

Order of Adjectives

- Adjectives normally go before nouns. She bought an **expensive** house. Adjectives can also be used without a noun after certain verbs (**appear**, **be**, **feel**, etc.). His new house is **expensive**.
- The adjectives **afraid**, **alone**, **alive**, **awake**, **asleep**, **glad**, etc. are never followed by a noun. The baby was **asleep**. (NOT: ~~an asleep baby~~)
- Nouns can be used as adjectives if they go before another noun. They have no plural form in this case. Could you repair the **garden** gate? a **two-week** holiday (NOT: ~~a two-weeks holiday~~)
- Certain adjectives can be used as plural nouns referring to a group of people in general. These are: **the poor**, **the rich**, **the blind**, **the young**, **the old**, **the disabled**, **the homeless**, **the hungry**, **the strong**, **the deaf**, **the living**, **the dead**, **the sick**, **the elderly**, etc. The government must provide more homes for **the homeless**. (homeless people in general). When we want to refer to a specific person / group, then we add the word 'people' or 'man / woman'. The **homeless people** in our city grow in number.
- Opinion adjectives (**wonderful**, **awful**, etc.) go before fact adjectives (**large**, **old**, etc.). She lives in a **lovely big** flat. She bought a **beautiful leather** bag.
- When there are two or more fact adjectives, they normally go in the following order:

Fact Adjectives									
	opinion	size	age	shape	colour	origin	material	used for / be about	noun
That's a	wonderful	large	old	rectangular	black	Chinese	wooden	linen	chest.

6 Put the adjectives in the correct order.

- 1 a(n) Asian / little / pretty girl *a pretty, little, Asian girl*
- 2 a(n) wedding / expensive / white / dress
- 3 a detective / new / brilliant / French / film
- 4 a(n) Greek / ancient / fascinating / monument
- 5 a(n) pair of / black / walking / old / shoes
- 6 a red and white / lovely / Turkish / chess set

7 Put the adjectives in the correct order.

Dear Laura,

I'm writing to thank you for the fabulous gift you sent me. It was very kind of you. It looks terrific in my newly redecorated room.

Since your last visit, I've put up a pair of 1) *purple Italian* (purple/Italian) curtains and a(n) 2) *modern/large* (modern/large) painting. My parents bought me a(n) 3) *antique/big/black* (antique/big/black) bed and some 4) *colourful/lovely* (colourful/lovely) linen sheets. We recently went to a flea market where I found a 5) *wooden/round/small* (wooden/round/small) table. I put it next to my wardrobe. Your 6) *silver/beautiful* (silver/beautiful) vase looks great on it!

I hope you can visit me soon so you can see the changes I've made.

Yours,

Lucy

8 Fill in the gaps with *the* and one of the adjectives from the list.

• young • ~~blind~~ • disabled • hungry • sick • elderly

- 1 The students threw a concert to raise money for *the blind*.
- 2 Concern is a charity organisation which gives food to *the disabled* in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.
- 3 There is extra space in the new cinema for *the elderly* to sit and watch a film.
- 4 We should respect *the hungry*.
- 5 *The sick* have a lot of energy.
- 6 Lisa is a nurse who looks after *the blind*.

9 Turn the following into adjectives as in the example:

- 1 a book report that is five pages long *a five-page book report*
- 2 a holiday which lasts three weeks *a three-week holiday*
- 3 a lesson which takes place in the morning *a morning lesson*
- 4 a street which goes one way *a one-way street*
- 5 a building which has ten storeys *a ten-storey building*
- 6 a table on which coffee is served *a coffee table*

Order of Adverbs

- Adverbs can go at the **front**, **mid** or **end**, position in a sentence. **Front** position is at the beginning of the sentence. **Mid** position is before the main verb or after the auxiliary. **End** position is at the end of the sentence.

Front Mid End
Finally, he will **probably** start working here next week.

- Adverbs of frequency** (*often, usually, never, ever, regularly, seldom, etc.*) normally go before main verbs but after auxiliary verbs (mid position). However, in short answers they go before the auxiliary verb. *He often brings me flowers. He is always coming late. "He is always telling jokes, isn't he?" "Yes, he always is."*
Frequency adverbs can also go at the beginning or the end of the sentence for reasons of emphasis. *Sometimes I get up late. I go to that park occasionally.*
- Adverbs of time** usually go at the end of the sentence (*She left Madrid yesterday.*) or at the beginning of the sentence if we want to put emphasis on the time (*Yesterday, she left Madrid.*).
- The adverbs: *already, no longer, normally, hardly, nearly, almost* usually go in mid position. *He nearly missed the train. They are no longer working here. There's hardly any cake left.*
- Sentence adverbs** (*probably, certainly, possibly, clearly, fortunately, etc.*) go in any position, front, mid or end; the front position is the most usual though. *Probably he believed you. He probably believed you. He believed you probably.* In negations *certainly, possibly, and probably* go before the auxiliary. *He probably didn't believe you.*
- Adverbs of degree** (*absolutely, just, totally, completely, very, a lot, really, terribly, much, quite, enough, too, etc.*) can go before the adjective or the adverb they modify. *She's quite good at Maths.* Most of these adverbs can also go before a main verb or after an auxiliary verb. *I rather like this film. I can't quite understand it.*
- Adverbs of manner** (*beautifully, badly, eagerly, etc.*) and **place** (*here, there, etc.*) go after the verb or the object of the verb if there is one (end position). *She looked at me angrily.* Adverbs of manner can also go in mid position. *She looked angrily at me.* When there is more than one adverb in a sentence, their order is **manner – place – time**. However when there is a verb of movement (*go, run, leave, etc.*) the place adverb goes next to the verb of movement.

	manner	place	time		place	manner	time
He spoke	well	at the meeting	yesterday.	She goes	to work	on foot	every day.

10 Rewrite the sentences using the adverbs in brackets.

- The dentist checks my teeth. ... *The dentist checks my teeth twice a year.* (twice a year)
- The weather is warm in Portugal. (quite)
- He won't be late. (probably)
- Andrew drives. (carelessly)
- There isn't any food left. (hardly)
- She carried the vase. (carefully)

11 Say the sentences putting the words in the correct order.

- on Saturdays / in the café / eats breakfast / always / he
He always eats breakfast in the café on Saturdays.
- safely / they / arrived / this morning / home
- drinks coffee / in the evening / never / Sam
- on a yacht / she sails / every summer / round the islands
- quietly / in his bed / slept / the baby / all night
- often / home / she / goes / on Fridays / early
- rarely / you / see / cricket / these days / on TV
- all day / Laura / busy / very / has been