

Adverb formation rules

Adverbs are formed by adding a suffix (or ending) to an adjective.

Adjectives ending in -ic

Rule: Add **-ally**

Adjective	Adverb
dramatic	dramatically
strategic	strategically

Example sentences

Adjective: There was a **dramatic** increase in unemployment in the first two quarters of 2020.

Adverb: In 2020, unemployment rose **dramatically** in the first two quarters.

Adjectives ending in -le (with a consonant before it)

Rule: Drop the **-e** and add **-y** when forming an adverb.

Adjective	Adverb
considerable	considerably
possible	possibly

Example sentences

Adjective: There was a **considerable** rise in the price of chicken.

Adverb: The price of chicken rose **considerably**.

Adjectives of more than one syllable that end in -y.

Rule: Drop the **-y** and add **-ily** when you form the adverb.

Adjective	Adverb
steady	steadily
easy	easily

Example sentences

Adjective: There was a **steady** decline the rate of imprisonment in Vancouver.

Adverb: The rate of imprisonment in Vancouver declined **steadily**.