

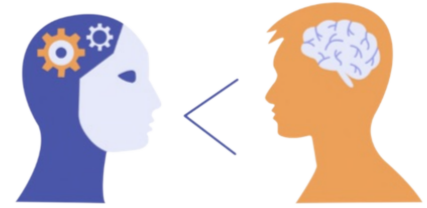
## 5 spelling rules for forming comparative adjectives

### 1. One-syllable adjectives

For most adjectives with one syllable, simply add the suffix **-er** at the end of the word without changing the spelling.

smart -> smart**er**

fast -> fast**er**



### 2. One-syllable adjectives ending in -e

If a one-syllable adjective already ends in -e, just add an **-r** at the end. You don't need to add another e.

large -> larg**er**

free -> fre**er**

### 3. One-syllable adjectives ending in consonant-vowel-consonant

Be careful of one-syllable adjectives with the last three letters in a consonant-vowel-consonant format, like big or thin. For these, you have to **double the last consonant** and then add **-er**.

big -> big**ger**

thin -> thin**ner**



### 4. One- or two-syllable adjectives ending in -y

If an adjective with either one or two syllables ends in a -y, first change the y into an **i** and then add **-er**.

dry -> dri**er**

likely -> likel**ier**

### 5. Two-syllable adjectives ending in -er, -ow, or -le

If an adjective with two syllables ends with -er (like bitter) or -ow (like narrow), you can just add -er to the end without changing the spelling (bitterer or narrower). If a two-syllable adjective ends in -le, you can just add -r without adding a second e.

clever -> clever**er**

shallow -> shallow**er**

simple -> simpl**er**

