

# ADVERB

An adverb is a word which modifies the meaning of a verb, an adjective or another adverb.

- The manager accepted the challenge very **nicely**.
- Tears began to fall as he saw the completely **lifeless** body of his wife.
- **Surprisingly**, the cubicles of the public restroom are clean

Adverbs may be divided into the following categories.

- ❖ Adverbs of manner
- ❖ Adverbs of place
- ❖ Adverbs of time
- ❖ Adverbs of frequency
- ❖ Adverbs of degree

## a. Adverb of manner

An **adverb of manner** tells us how something happens.

- Charlie writes **neatly**.
- Rani of Jhansi fought **bravely** till the very end.
- You must not treat them **cruelly**.

## b. Adverb of place

An **adverb of place** indicates where something happens.

- The bird flew **away**.
- Do come **in**.
- Our Principal has gone **out**.

### c. Adverb of time

An adverb of time provides information on when something happens.

- I have seen this movie **before**.
- The train arrived two hours **late**.
- I met her **today**.

### d. Adverb of frequency

An **adverb of frequency** tells us how often an action takes place.

- He **often** visits his grandmother.
- My father reads the newspaper **every day**.
- He **always** works sincerely.

### e. Adverb of degree

**Adverb of degree** or **quantity** tells us about the intensity or degree of an action or a quality.

- I am **so** happy!
- She dances **very** well.
- The news is **absolutely** true.

## Adverb: - Types, Formation, Comparison

1. Types of adverb
2. Formation of adverb
3. Comparison of adverb

### 1. Types of adverb

Manner	Well, Badly, Accurately, Quickly,
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Place	<b>Here, There, In the laboratory</b>
Time	<b>Now, Yesterday, In 2000</b>
Indefinite frequency	<b>Often, Seldom, Usually</b>
Definite frequency	<b>Monthly, Never, Once a year</b>
Degree/Extent	<b>Slightly, Considerably, Totally</b>
Probability	<b>Possibly, Probably, Certainly</b>
Attitude/Opinion	<b>Naturally, Surprisingly, In my opinion</b>
Aspect	<b>Technically, Politically, Scientifically</b>

## 2. Formation of adverb

Endings	Examples	
<b>Adjective + ly</b>	Quick- Quickly Accurate- Accurately Social- Socially	
“le” – “ly”	Simple- Simply Ample- Amply	But, Whole- Wholly
“y” – “ily”	Easy- Easily Busy- Busily	But, Dry- Dryly/Drily
“ic” – “ically”	Basic- Basically Economic- Economically	But, Public- Publicly
“ical” – “ically”	Typical – Typically Economical – Economically	
“ful” – “fully”	Useful – Usefully Helpful – Helpfully	But, Full - Fully

Note: -

Adjective: Good

- His English is good

Adverb: well

- He speaks English well.

Some adverbs have the same form as adjectives like: “**Early**”, “**Fast**”, “**Likely**”, “**Straight**”.

Adjective	Adverb
He is an <b>early</b> riser	He gets up <b>early</b> .
He is a <b>fast</b> driver	He likes to drive <b>fast</b> .
What do you think is the most <b>likely</b> cause of the problem?	If I were in your place, I’d very <b>likely</b> do the same thing.
Draw a <b>straight</b> line.	The pen is on the desk <b>straight</b> in front of you.

- ❖ Some adverbs have two forms
  - a. One the same as the adjectives
  - b. The other ending in “-ly”

- a. Some of these adverbs have the same or similar meaning:
  - “**Direct/Directly**”, “**Loud/Loudly**”, “**Wrong/Wrongly**”

Adjective	Adverb
- He spoke in a <b>loud</b> voice.	- Don’t speak so <b>loud</b> . - He spoke <b>louder</b> /more <b>louder</b> than necessary.
- They have <b>direct</b> access to the data.	- They can access the data file <b>direct/directly</b> .
- His assumption is <b>wrong</b> .	- You’ve spelled my name <b>wrong/wrongly</b> . But, Something has gone <b>wrong</b> with that machine. (not, <b>Wrongly</b> )

- b. The following adverbs have two forms with different meaning:
  - You can get the book **free** if you win the competition.
  - You can move **freely** throughout the whole building.
  - He works **hard**.
  - I can **hardly** believe that.
  - The live **high** up in the mountains.
  - He is **highly** educated man.

- I have to work **late** tonight.
  - I haven't seen him **late**ly.
  - He lives **quite** near.
  - The project is **nearly** finished.
  - The window was **wide** open.
  - The opinions of these two research teams differ **widely**.
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- Some words in “-ly” are adjectives, not adverbs like: “**Friendly**”, “**Lively**”, and “**Silly**”. Adverbs have the same form of a phrase: in a “-ly” **way/manner**.
  - All our explorative drilling is done in an **environmentally-friendly way/manner**.
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- The verb “**Seem**”, “**Sound**”, “**Look**”, “**Feel**”, “**Smell**”, “**Taste**” are usually followed by an adjective not an adverb.
  - That paper **seems** (to be) quite **interesting**.
  - Their new proposal **sounds** really **good**.
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- Some of these verbs can be followed both by an adjective and an adverb. The adverbial construction has, however, a different meaning.
  - You look good/great/tired. (relates to appearance)
  - You are looking very well. (healthy)
  - It feels good to be back home. (gives me a nice feeling)
  - I'm not feeling well. (healthy)
  - The material felt soft to the touch. (I experienced it as soft)

### Common mistakes

- ❖ Using adjectives instead of adverbs
- It is a **simply** problem. (wrong)
- It is a **simple** problem. (right)

❖ Confusing “**hard**” with “**hardly**”

- If you work **hardly**, you’ll pass the examination. (wrong)
- If you work **hard**, you’ll pass the examination. (right)

❖ Using “**nearly**” with negative words.

- He knows **nearly nothing** about this problem. (wrong)
- He knows **almost nothing/ hardly anything** about this problem. (right)

### 3. Comparison of adverbs

#### a. Regular comparison

One syllable adverbs	Adverb + -er, -est	Quick	Quicker	Quickest
Adverb of two or more syllable	More, most + adverb	Easy	More easily	Most easily

#### b. Irregular comparison

Adverb	Comparative	Superlative
Well	Better	Best
Badly	Worse	Worst
Little	Less	Least
Much	More	Most, mostly
Far	Farther, Further	Farthest, Furthest

Note: The **superlative of adverbs** is usually not **preceded by the definite article** (unlike the superlative of adjectives).

- Use the tool that works (the) best.
- She speaks English best of all.

- **Most**
  - Out of everybody at the Department she was the one who helped me **most** of all.
  - The truth hurts **most**.
  
- **Mostly**
  - The international students at our department are **mostly** from France and Turkey.
  
- “**Farther**”, “**Farthest**” is used only about distance.
- “**Further**”, “**Furthest**” is used about both distance and sequence.

Common mistakes: -

- Confusing “**least**” with “**last**”
  - We found a solution **at last**.
  - The solution is difficult, but we should try **at least**.
  - **Last of** all, I’d like to thank everyone for coming.
  - Nobody could understand his explanation, **least of** all Mary.

Note: - **Last but not least** I’d like to thank all who contributed to the success of this conference

- ❖ Using “**most**” instead of “**best**” with “**know**”
  - Einstein is **most known** for his theory of relativity. (wrong)
  - Einstein is **best known** for his theory of relativity. (right)
  - Who is the **most known** British author in this country? (wrong)
  - Who is the **best known** author in this country? (right)

Note: - With “**like**” both “**most**” and “**best**” are used.

- Which of the courses do you like the **most/best**?