

a·dapt W3

/ə'dæpt/

verb

- 1 [intransitive and transitive] CHANGE/MAKE SOMETHING DIFFERENT to gradually change your behaviour and attitudes in order to be successful in a new situation:

adapt to

The children are finding it hard to adapt to the new school.

*flowers which are **well adapted** to harsh winters*

The ability to adapt is a definite asset in this job.

adapt yourself/itself etc (to something)

How do these insects adapt themselves to new environments?

- 2 [transitive] CHANGE/MAKE SOMETHING DIFFERENT to change something to make it suitable for a different purpose:

adapt something to do something

The car has been adapted to take unleaded gas.

adapt something for somebody

These teaching materials can be adapted for older children.

- 3 [transitive usually passive] if a book or play is adapted for film, television etc, it is changed so that it can be made into a film, television programme etc → **adaptation:**

be adapted for something

Many children buy books after they have been adapted for television.

— **adapted** adjective:

She lives in a specially adapted flat.

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Date: 1400–1500

Language: French

Origin: *adapter*, from Latin *adaptare*, from *ad-* 'to' + *aptare* 'to make fit', from *aptus*;

→ APT

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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