

adult²

W3 AC

adjective

1 [only before noun] ADULT fully grown or developed:

an adult lion

the adult population

*He lived most of his **adult life** in Scotland.*

2 ADULT typical of an adult's behaviour or of the things adults do:

dealing with problems in an adult way

That wasn't very adult of you.

3 SEX/HAVE SEX WITH [only before noun] adult films, magazines etc are about sex or related to sex:

The film is rated R for language and adult themes.

Word origin

Date: 1500–1600

Language: Latin

Origin: past participle of *adolescere* 'to grow up'

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

© Pearson Education Limited 2009, 2011, 2015