

bril·liant

S2 W3

/'brɪljənt/

adjective

1 BRIGHT **bright** brilliant light or colour is very bright and strong:

*She closed her eyes against the **brilliant light**.*

*We sat outside in the **brilliant sunshine**.*

She was dressed in brilliant white.

2 GOOD ENOUGH **clever** extremely clever or skilful:

*I think that's a **brilliant idea**.*

a brilliant performance

a brilliant young musician

3 **excellent** (BrE) GOOD/EXCELLENT excellent:

*The film was **absolutely brilliant**.*

4 SUCCESSFUL **successful** very successful:

*He had a long and **brilliant career**.*

*The project was a **brilliant success**.*

— **brilliantly** adv:

The sun was shining brilliantly.

The goalkeeper played brilliantly.

Word origin

Date: 1600–1700

Language: French

Origin: present participle of *briller* 'to shine', from Italian *brillare*, probably from Latin *beryllus*; → [BERYL](#)