

Superlatives



*In the **superlative** you talk about one thing only and how it is the best, worst, etc. You do not compare two things. The following guidelines apply to the superlative:*

1-syllable adjectives: add **-est** to the adjective (plus the)

- °The earth is **the coolest** planet to live.
- °Mercury is **the coldest** planet.

2-syllable adjectives ending in -y: change the **-y** to **-iest** (plus the)

- °Which do you think is **the easiest** way to save our planet?
- °We are **the luckiest** because we live in the earth planet.

Note: If the word ends: consonant-vowel-consonant, then the last consonant is usually doubled in the superlative.
Examples: big-biggest, fat-fattest, hot-hottest.

Beware: Do not confuse adjectives and adverbs. 2-syllable adverbs ending in **-y** form their superlative with the words **the most**. Example:
Of all the people I know my father drives the most quickly (quickest).

Other 2-syllable adjectives: use **the most** with the unchanged adjective

- °What is **the most boring** fact about the solar system?

Note: The superlative of some shorter 2-syllable adjectives can be formed with **-er**.
Examples: simple-simplest, clever-cleverest, and narrow-narrowest. To be sure which superlative method to use, you will need to consult a good dictionary.

Adjectives with 3 or more syllables: use **the most** with the unchanged adjective

- °Humans are the **most intelligent** creatures in the earth.

Following are two common irregular superlative forms:

- °**good** - the best
- °**bad** - the worst

