

# 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)

- °Cinderella is **the tallest** princess.
- °Lord Farquaad is **the coldest** king.

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

- °Donkey is **the happiest** character.
- °Which do you think is **the easiest** princess to rescue?
- °Fiona is **the luckiest** princess.

**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

- °**The most boring** characters is the mirror.
- °Shrek isn't **the most careful** person.

**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

- °Fiona **is the most difficult** princess to rescue.
- °Albert Einstein **was the most intelligent** person in history.
- °Sherk 1 **is most enjoyable** movie.
- °Lord Farquaad **is the most irritating** character.

**Following are two common irregular superlative forms:**

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

