

Adverbs

ADVERBS OF MANNER

Adverbs of Manner

Adverbs of manner answer the question “How?”.

Adverbs of manner describe how something happened.

They can modify verbs, adjectives, or clauses of a sentence.

They can usually be formed by adding ‘ly’ to adjectives.

There are exceptions to this.

Do not confuse adverbs of manner with adverbs of degree.

Placement of adverbs of manner can change the meaning.

Adverbs of Manner – Examples #1

They can usually be formed by adding 'ly' to adjectives.

- He is a *quick* swimmer.
- He swims *quickly*.

- She paints *beautiful* pictures.
- She paints *beautifully*.

- The *efficient* secretary organised the event.
- The secretary organised the event *efficiently*.

Adverbs of Manner – Examples #2

There are some variations.

- Sarah is *shrill* when she sings. She sings *shrilly*.
- They are *enthusiastic* musicians. They play *enthusiastically*.
- The *gentle* medic lifted the injured driver. He lifted the injured driver *gently*.
- The *agile* girl jumped over the wall. She jumped *agilely* over the wall. (standard add 'ly' rule)
- (exception: whole -> wholly)
- The problem was *easy* to solve. She solved the problem *easily*.
- (exceptions: shy -> shyly, sly -> slyly).
- The *coy* woman answered the question. She answered *coyly*. (standard add 'ly' rule)
- (exception: gay -> gaily)
- The witness spoke *true* words. The witness answered *truly*.

Adverbs of Manner – Examples #3

Some adverbs of manner don't end in 'ly' at all.

Adjective	Adverb
<i>fast</i>	fast
<i>hard</i>	hard
<i>little</i>	little
<i>much</i>	much
<i>straight</i>	straight
<i>good</i>	well

Adverbs of Manner – Examples #4

Do not confuse adverbs of manner with adverbs of degree.

- The police treated him *fairly*.
- He speaks Dutch *fairly* fluently.

- Paul explained the problem *terribly*.
- I'm *terribly* sorry!

Adverbs of Manner – Examples #5

Placement of adverbs of manner can change the meaning.

- She *quickly* agreed to go shopping.
- She agreed to go shopping *quickly*.
- He asked me *quietly* to leave the house.
- He asked me to leave the house *quietly*.