

Adverbs

Adverbs are words that tell you when, where or how something happens. They help the reader get a better idea of what is happening in a sentence or a text.

Function: to modify verbs, adjectives or other adverbs

For example: My father is a **very** careful driver. (The adverb **very** modifies the adjective.)

My father drives **carefully**. (The adverb **carefully** modifies the verb.)

My father drives **very** carefully. (The adverb **very** modifies the adverb.)

Sometimes an adverb can modify an entire sentence.

For example: **Fortunately**, he found his missing watch in his locker.

General rules about forming adverbs from adjectives

You can change adjectives into adverbs by adding **-ly** to the adjective.

For example: safe → safely careful → carefully usual → usually

However, for adjectives that end in

◆ **-ic**, add **-ally**

For example: basic → basically scientific → scientifically artistic → artistically

◆ **-y**, change the **y** to **i** before adding **-ly**

For example: easy → easily lucky → luckily angry → angrily

◆ **-ble**, drop the final **e** before adding **-ly**

For example: incredible → incredibly possible → possibly amicable → amicably

Some common exceptions

good → well

hard → hard

fast → fast

low → low

late → late

enough → enough

Adverbs are usually divided into five main categories.

TYPES OF ADVERBS	EXAMPLES
Manner easily, quickly, slowly, loudly, fast, happily, kindly, proudly	The tortoise walked slowly . The parent spoke loudly and angrily .
Frequency daily, weekly, always, often, sometimes, rarely	Marian practices the violin weekly . Mr. Felix sometimes complains about his dog.
Degree/Intensity very, really, extremely, quite, simply, much, hardly, only, slightly, so	He plays guitar extremely well. I really hope Jessica did not get lost.
Place/Position up, down, here, there, nowhere, by, anywhere	Alexia sat down by the fireplace and read her book. Put your schoolbag anywhere and come to my room.
Time yesterday, late, early, now, soon, yet, still, today	We have no homework today . If we want to arrive early , we have to leave in ten minutes.

GRAMMAR
POINT
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General rules about where an adverb goes in a sentence

i) **Adverbs of manner** usually go **after** the verb they modify.

For example: Chester draws his cartoons **carefully**.

That boy runs **fast**.

Note: Do **not** put an adverb of manner between the verb and the direct object.

For example: He patted the dog **kindly**. He patted **kindly** the dog.

ii) **Adverbs of frequency** can go at the **beginning**, **middle** or **end** of a sentence.

Sometimes, Ross comes to my house after school.

That actor **rarely** appears in interviews.

He takes vitamins **daily**.

Note: Do **not** put an adverb of frequency before the verb **to be**.

For example: Jude is **never** at church. Jude **never** is at church.

iii) **Adverbs of degree** usually go **before** the word they modify.

For example: Anna **really** tries to get better grades.

George is **very** handsome and intelligent.

Note: Both *really* and *very* are adverbs, but *very* can only be used to describe adjectives and other adverbs. *Really* can describe either adjectives, other adverbs or verbs.

iv) **Adverbs of time** usually go **after** the verb or at the **beginning** of a sentence.

For example: I hope that teenager will learn his lesson **soon**.

You have to work hard **now**.

Note: Do not put adverbs between verbs and direct objects.

For example: I take the bus **every day**. I take **every-day** the bus.

The adverb *enough* usually goes after the word it modifies.

For example: I said that is loud **enough**.

Is Bobby mature **enough** to have his own car?

Watch out!

◆ Many words that end in **-ly** are not adverbs.

For example: costly ugly friendly cowardly
lively lonely lovely silly

◆ Some **-ly** words are verbs.

For example: comply rely rally bully

◆ Some words can be either adverbs or adjectives, depending on their use in the sentence.

For example: The twins arrived in **late** summer. (adjective)
The twins arrived **late** for the concert. (adverb)
I had an **early** graduation party because I was leaving for college. (adjective)
I had a graduation party **early** in the afternoon. (adverb)
Sue Bergen thinks she's **fast**. (adjective)
Sue Bergen drives way too **fast**. (adverb)



Name: _____

Group: _____

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| 13. rare | → _____ | 17. fast | → _____ |
| 14. good | → _____ | 18. lazy | → _____ |
| 15. truthful | → _____ | 19. violent | → _____ |
| 16. late | → _____ | 20. warm | → _____ |

4 ★ Find the adjective in the sentence and write it as an adverb in the blank space.

1. This quiz is simple. You _____ have to find the right adverb.
2. That baby is so loud. He cries _____ all the time.
3. Is she a fluent speaker? Yes, she speaks English _____.
4. The principal was angry. He spoke to us _____ after the substitute left.
5. The artist's painting is terrible. He paints _____, but people still buy his paintings.
6. My grandmother is a careless driver. She drives _____, but she never admits it.
7. Anthony is a wonderful dancer. He dances the tango _____.
8. My neighbour is very quiet. Every day, he sits _____ on the back porch.
9. Edward is ecstatic! He is jumping up and down _____.
10. The cheesecake is good. She bakes really _____ for a beginner.



5 ★ Circle the adverbs in each sentence and identify the type of adverb (time, place, frequency, manner or degree)

1. Have you seen my glasses anywhere? _____
2. Eat quietly. _____
3. We haven't started our homework yet. _____
4. Linda still wears that T-shirt with the hole in the arm. _____
5. I am quite tired. _____
6. My daughter never has trouble in math. _____
7. She lost so much weight, I hardly recognized her. _____
8. Jack and Jane were sitting here. _____

6 ★ Underline each adverb in each sentence below and draw an arrow to the word(s) it modifies.

1. My dad's twelve-year-old car breaks down constantly.
2. He refuses categorically to sell the car.
3. Dad frequently calls the mechanic or goes to the garage.
4. My mom sometimes says Dad loves that car more than her.
5. I know that's certainly false.
6. Yesterday, it emitted black smoke.
7. Then the car was making a very funny noise.
8. The noise got slowly louder.
9. A new mechanic kindly helped my dad solve the problem.
10. Eventually, the old car had more problems.
11. My mom was really unhappy.
12. Finally my dad sold the car.
13. He says he will never forget that car.
14. My mom is extremely satisfied.
15. My dad will buy a new car today.



7 ★ Rewrite each sentence and put the adverb in the correct place.

1. Slowly, I went to school.

2. We have to now study for the test.

3. He comes always to my house.

4. Quickly, she prepared breakfast.

5. The teacher cares really about her students.
