

ADVERBS

Adverb

This is a word that is used to modify (describe) or qualify an adjective, a verb or verbal, or another adverb. Adverbs answer these questions: Where? When? Why? How? To what degree? Under what conditions?

Examples:

- **a.** Joel tugged *firmly* on the rope. [Tugged how?]
- **b.** Put the stack of books *there*. [Put where?]

An adverb can also modify an adjective.

Examples:

- **a.** Lola was **extremely** generous. [How generous was she?]
- **b.** Her boyfriend is **intensely** jealous. [How jealous is he?]

An adverb can modify another adverb.

Examples:

- **a.** He responded *extremely enthusiastically*. [How did he respond?]
- **b.** Judith dresses *so elegantly*.

Other adverb uses:

Modify an entire sentence:

Example: *Truthfully*, I do not agree with your statement.

Modify a **prepositional phrase**:

Example: Jacob searched *frantically* inside the house.

Types of Adverbs:

Adverbs tell **how** something was done. They make up the largest group of adverbs. Most of them are made by adding —ly to the corresponding adjective.

Adverbs tell **where something is** or **where something happened**. They sometimes have common suffixes (endings) such as –wards or –ward (backwards, upwards, forwards, etc.) or –where (everywhere, nowhere, somewhere, etc.)

Adverbs tell **when something happened**. They can be *definite* such as now, today, or tomorrow, or *indefinite* such as eventually, finally, before. Adverbs also tell **how often** something is done. There are adverbs of **definite frequency** (daily, hourly, and monthly) and adverbs of **indefinite frequency** (always, often, and rarely).

List of Common Adverbs

Most adverbs are made by adding –ly to the adjective form of the word. This is a list of 130 common single word adverbs. Those that do not end in –ly are shown in bold.

accidentally	faithfully	lazily	sadly
angrily	fast	loosely	safely
anxiously	fatally	loudly	selfishly
awkwardly	fiercely		sensibly
	fondly	madly	seriously
badly	foolishly	mortally	sharply
beautifully	fortunately	mysteriously	shyly
blindly	frankly		silently
boldly	frantically	neatly	sleepily
bravely		nervously	slowly
brightly	generously	noisily	smoothly
busily	gently		so
	gladly	obediently	softly
calmly	gracefully	openly	solemnly
carefully	greedily		speedily
carelessly		painfully	stealthily
cautiously	happily	perfectly	sternly
cheerfully	hard	politely	straight
clearly	hastily	poorly	stupidly
closely	healthily	powerfully	successfully
correctly	honestly	promptly	suddenly
courageously	hungrily	punctually	suspiciously
cruelly	hurriedly		swiftly
		quickly	
daringly	inadequately	quietly	tenderly
deliberately	ingeniously	rapidly	tensely

doubtfully	innocently	rarely	thoughtfully
	inquisitively	really	tightly
eagerly	irritably	recklessly	truthfully
easily		regularly	
elegantly	joyously	reluctantly	unexpectedly
enormously	justify	repeatedly	victoriously
enthusiastically		rightfully	violently
equally	kindly	roughly	vivaciously
eventually		rudely	
exactly			warmly
			weakly
			wearily
			well
			wildly
			wisely

Adverbs of Time

Definite points of time:

now	then	today	tomorrow
tonight	yesterday		

Indefinite points of time:

already	finally	last	previously
before	first	late	recently
early	formerly	later	since
earlier	just	lately	soon
eventually		next	still
			yet

Adverbs of Frequency

Definite:

annually	fortnightly	monthly	quarterly
daily	hourly	nightly	weekly
			yearly

Indefinite:

always constantly	generally infrequently	occasionally often	regularly seldom
ever	never	rarely	sometimes
frequently	normally	regularly	usually

Adverbs of Place

(some of these are also used as prepositions)

about	down	in	there
above	downstairs	indoors	towards
abroad		inside	
anywhere	east (etc.)		under
away	elsewhere	near	up
		nearby	upstairs
back	far		
backward		off	where
backwards	here	on	
behind		out	
below		outside	
		over	

Adverbs of Degree (informal)

almost	fairly	most	scarcely
absolutely	far	much	simply
awfully	fully		so
		nearly	somewhat
badly*	greatly		strongly
barely	hardly	perfectly	
	highly	positively	terribly*
	how	practically	thoroughly
completely	incredibly	pretty*	too
	indeed	purely	totally
	intensely		
decidedly		quite	utterly
deeply	just		very
enough	least	rather	virtually
enormously	less	really	well
entirely	little		
extremely	lots		