

DEGREES OF COMPARISON

Positive Compare two things that are the same

as big as

Comparative Compare two things with each other

bigger than

Superlative Compare three or more nouns.

The biggest of

The biggest ... in ...

	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Formation			
Very short words (one syllable)		+ER	THE +EST
	<i>Old</i>	<i>Older</i>	<i>The oldest</i>
Short words (two syllables)		+ER	THE +EST
Ending in -y, -ow, -er	<i>Heavy</i>	<i>Heavier</i>	<i>The heaviest</i>
	<i>Clever</i>	<i>Cleverer</i>	<i>The cleverest</i>
	<i>Narrow</i>	<i>Older</i>	<i>The narrowest</i>
Not ending in -y, -ow, -er		MORE	THE MOST
	<i>Famous</i>	<i>More famous</i>	<i>The most famous</i>
Long words (three or more syllables)		MORE	THE MOST
	<i>Beautiful</i>	<i>More beautiful</i>	<i>The most beautiful</i>
Spelling			
Ending in consonant after short vowel	<i>Big</i>	<i>Bigger</i>	<i>The biggest</i>
Ending in -e	<i>Large</i>	<i>larger</i>	<i>The largest</i>
Ending in consonant +y	<i>Happy</i>	<i>Happier</i>	<i>The happiest</i>
Ending in vowel +y	<i>Grey</i>	<i>Greyer</i>	<i>The greyest</i>
Exceptions			
	<i>Good</i>	<i>Better</i>	<i>The best</i>
	<i>Bad</i>	<i>Worse</i>	<i>The worst</i>
	<i>Much/Many</i>	<i>More</i>	<i>The most</i>
	<i>Little</i>	<i>Less</i>	<i>The least</i>
	<i>Far</i>	<i>Further</i>	<i>The furthest</i>