

## Comparison of Adjectives - Steigerung der Adjektive

**one-syllable** adjectives: 'Germanic' comparison with **-er and -est**  
*clean, cleaner, the cleanest*

### Exceptions to the rule

1. final 'y' after a consonant becomes *i*:  
*dry, drier, the driest*  
Exceptions: *shy, shyer, the shyest* und *sly, slyer, slyest*.
2. silent 'e' is dropped:  
*large, larger, the largest*.
3. final consonant after short, stressed vowel is doubled  
*hot, hotter, the hottest*  
*slim, slimmer, the slimmest*

**two-syllable** adjectives: "French" comparison with **more and most**  
*skillfull, more skillfull, the most skillfull*

### Exceptions to the rule

1. **two-syllabic adjectives ending in -y**:  
*busy, busier, the busiest*  
*happy, happier, the happiest*  
*ugly, uglier, the ugliest*
2. **two-syllabic adjectives ending in -er**:  
*clever, cleverer, the cleverest*.  
**Exceptions:** *eager, proper*
3. **two-syllabic adjectives ending in -le**:  
*gentle, gentler, the gentlest*  
*simple, simpler, the simplest*
4. **two-syllabic adjectives ending in -ow**:  
*narrow, narrower, the narrowest*  
*shallow, shallower, the shallowest*.
5. **two-syllabic adjectives ending in -some**:  
*handsome, handsomer, the handsomest*  
*gruesome, gruesomer, the gruesomest*
6. **two-syllabic adjectives with a stress on the second syllable**:  
*polite, politer, the politest* –  
*severe, severer, the severest*

adjectives of **three or more** syllables with **more and most**.  
*expensive, more expensive, the most expensive* (three syllables)  
*convenient, more convenient, the most convenient* (four syllables)

## Irregular Adjectives

positive form	comparative form	superlative form
good	better	<i>the best</i>
bad / ill	worse	<i>the worst</i>
little (amount)	less	<i>the least</i>
little (size)	smaller	<i>the smallest</i>
much / many	more	<i>the most</i>
far (place + time)	further	<i>the furthest</i>
far (place)	farther	<i>the farthest</i>