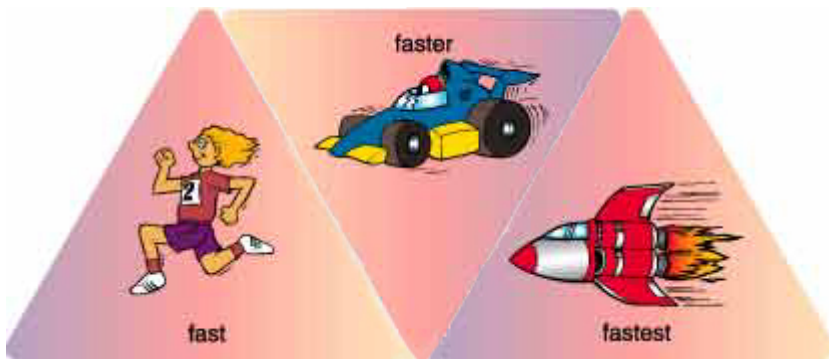


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Adverbs, like [adjectives](#), can have *comparative forms* to show how differently things happen.



via <https://www.quotemaster.org/Superlatives>

Comparative adverbs come *after* the verb they modify in a sentence.

- *Could you speak **more quietly**, please?*
- *It's Sunday, so Pete can get up **later**.*
- *Jack drives **better** than his brother.*

There are *three* ways in which the comparative adverbs are formed, depending on the *spelling* of the base adverb.

Adverbs ending in '-ly'

To make comparative forms of most adverbs, use [**more or less + adverb (...than)**]:

- *People can cycle **more safely** on special cycling roads.*
- *You should prepare for your exams **more seriously** than you do now.*
- *Tommy did his homework **less accurately** than Mary.*
- *Jacks talks to people **less politely** than Ben.*

Adverbs with the same form as an adjective

Some short adverbs, like 'early', 'fast', 'slow', 'hard', 'high', 'long', have comparative forms of adjectives with '-er' at the end:

- *Turtles move slower than hedgehogs.*
- *I came to the office **earlier** than my colleagues.*
- *Timothy always runs **faster** than his friends.*
- *Kate works harder than you, so please be **more friendly** to her.*

Irregular comparatives

Some common adverbs have irregular comparatives that we just have to learn:

- *good → well → I can cook **better** than you.*
- *bad → badly → Sally sings **worse** than her sister Emily.*

Intensifiers and mitigators

We use these words and phrases as intensifiers with these patterns:

much - far - a lot - quite a lot - a great deal - a good deal - a good bit - a fair bit

- *I forget things **much more often** nowadays.*

We use these words and phrases as mitigators:

a bit - just a bit - a little - a little bit - just a little bit - slightly

- *She began to speak **a bit more quickly**.*

In this video from MadKat English, you can learn about the basics of comparative adverbs and even test your knowledge:

See also:

[Adverbs of Manner](#)

[Superlative Adverbs](#)