

Table Of Contents:

- Two basic principles
- General rules

When we have **more than one adjective** before a noun, to sound naturally, these adjectives should go in a **specific order**.

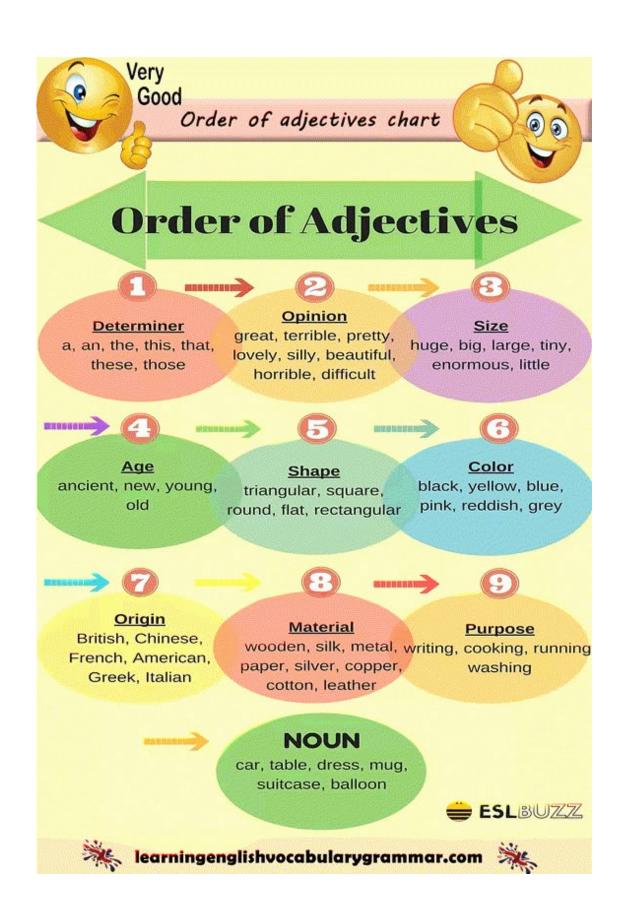
Two basic principles

There two basic principles we must observe:

- 1. **Opinion adjectives** are always put **before fact adjectives**.
- 2. The order of **fact adjectives** depends on the **facts** they describe.

The **usual order of adjectives** is presented below:







- Recently I've been to a **small German** town (size \rightarrow origin).
- Every fashion-monger should have a **small black** dress (size \rightarrow color).
- That's a **lovely young grey** kitten (opinion \rightarrow age \rightarrow color).
- I have a **beautiful French wool** sweater (opinion \rightarrow origin \rightarrow material).
- Tom is a **nice**, **intelligent young** man (general opinion \rightarrow specific opinion \rightarrow age).
- My grandmother has an **old round wooden** table in the country (age → shape → material).

General rules

There are some general rules to remember.

- 1. The most significant adjective should go immediately before the noun:
 - He gave me an *old <u>grandfather</u>* clock.
- 2. We use 'and' where the adjectives are in the same category (or when talking about colors):
 - Peter is **tall** and **slim**.
 - Cool colors such as **blue** and **green** have a calming effect.
- 3. For contrast we use 'but':
 - The house was **charming** but **rundown**.
- 4. With more than 2 adjectives use 'and' before the final one:
 - Her dress was **green**, **yellow** and **orange**.

Note: In English you **should not** put more than **three adjectives** in a row before a noun.

Here's a good video explaining how to memorize easily the correct order of adjectives:

See also:

Fact and Opinion Adjectives

Common and Demonstrative Adjectives