

Adjectives in French

Key Information

Adjectives are words that describe things, people, places and ideas.

In French, adjectives must 'agree' with the noun they are describing. They need different endings depending on whether the noun is **masculine**, **feminine**, **singular** or **plural**.

If you look up an adjective in the dictionary or online, it will always be listed in the **masculine** singular form, e.g. **grand** (big/tall).



Look at these examples:

Remember

Most adjectives in French go **after** the noun they are describing. However, some adjectives, such as those describing size, age or beauty, go **before** the noun, e.g. **une petite souris** (a small mouse), **un grand chien** (a big dog), **un jeune enfant** (a young child) and **une jolie fleur** (a pretty flower).



Masculine Singular

Most regular adjectives

e.g. **un livre**

intéressant

(an interesting book)

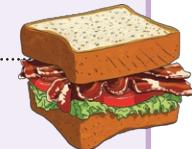
Ends in **-e**

e.g. **un pull rouge**

(a red jumper)

Feminine Singular

Add an extra **-e** at the end



une histoire

intéressante

(an interesting story)

Stays the same



une jupe rouge

(a red skirt)

Write the correct adjective for each noun depending on whether it's **masculine** or **feminine**. The first one has been done for you.

1. the green car

la voiture **verte** (vert)

2. a small house

une _____ (petit) maison

3. a tall boy

un _____ (grand) garçon

4. a yellow flower

une fleur _____ (jaune)

5. the tired dog

le chien _____ (fatigué)

6. a happy girl

une fille _____ (content)

7. a sad baby

un bébé _____ (triste)

8. a cold sandwich

un sandwich _____ (froid)

9. a hot drink

une boisson _____ (chaud)

10. the blue skirt

la jupe _____ (bleu)



Adjectives in French

Plural Adjectives



Remember

Some adjectives, like **marron** (brown) and **orange** (orange) never change, whether the noun they are describing is masculine, feminine, singular or plural.

e.g. **des chaussures marron** (some brown shoes), **des chaises orange** (some orange chairs).



Look at these examples:



Masculine Plural

Add an **-s** to the end of the adjective (unless it already ends in **-s**).



e.g. **des chats noirs** (some black cats)



Feminine Plural

Add **-es** to the end of the adjective if it ends in **-é** or a **consonant**. Just add **-s** to the end of the adjective if it already ends in **-e**.

des chaussettes noires (some black socks)

Write the correct plural adjective for each noun depending on whether it's **masculine** or **feminine**. The first one has been done

1. some red apples

des pommes (f) rouges (rouge)

2. the tired children

les enfants (m) _____ (fatigué)

3. the small presents

les _____ (petit) cadeaux (m)

4. the happy giraffes

les girafes (f) _____ (content)

5. some interesting stories

des histoires (f) _____ (intéressant)

6. the easy homework

les devoirs (m) _____ (facile)



7. the big houses

les _____ (grand) maisons (f)

8. the pretty dresses

les _____ (joli) robes (f)

9. some sad tortoises

des tortues (f) _____ (triste)

10. the brown tables

les tables (f) _____ (marron)

11. the grey hair

les cheveux (m) _____ (gris)

12. the French families

les familles (f) _____ (français)





Adjectives in French

Irregular Adjectives



Not all adjectives are regular. Some adjectives follow different patterns.



Look at these examples:

Be careful!

Some irregular adjectives, like **blanc** (white) don't follow these patterns at all.

e.g. **un chapeau blanc** (a white hat) **des chapeaux blancs** (some white hats)

une robe blanche (a white dress)
des robes blanches (some white dresses)

Adjective	Masculine Singular	Feminine Singular	Masculine Plural	Feminine Plural
Ends in -f e.g. sportif (sporty)	sportif	sportive	sportifs	sportives
Ends in a vowel -c e.g. public (public)	public	publique	publics	publiques
Ends in -er e.g. fier (proud)	fier	fière	fiers	fières
Ends in -n e.g. italien (Italian)	italien	italienne	italiens	italiennes
Ends in -x e.g. délicieux (delicious)	délicieux	délicieuse	délicieux	délicieuses

Challenge:



There are lots more irregular adjectives that don't follow any patterns! Can you find any examples?

Write the correct form of the irregular adjective for each noun depending on whether it's **masculine**, **feminine**, **singular** or **plural**. The first one has been done for you. .

- some delicious cakes
- the Italian food
- the white shoes
- the sporty children
- some active animals
- a brave woman
- the jealous brothers
- the Canadian teams
- some expensive books
- a public beach

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------|
| des gâteaux (m) | délicieux | (délicieux) |
| la nourriture | | (italien) |
| les chaussures (f) | | (blanc) |
| les enfants (m) | | (sportif) |
| des animaux (m) | | (actif) |
| une femme | | (courageux) |
| les frères (m) | | (jaloux) |
| les équipes (f) | | (canadien) |
| des livres (m) | | (chers) |
| une plage | | (public) |



Challenge:



Can you find out what the adjectives **beau**, **vieux** and **nouveau** mean? What is different about these adjectives?

Adjectives in French Answers

Write the correct form of the adjective for each noun depending on whether it's masculine or feminine. The first one has been done for you.

the green car	la voiture <u>verte</u> (vert)
a small house	une <u>petite</u> (petit) maison
a tall boy	un <u>grand</u> (grand) garçon
a yellow flower	une fleur <u>jaune</u> (jaune)
the tired dog	le chien <u>fatigué</u> (fatigué)
a happy girl	une fille <u>contente</u> (content)
a sad baby	un bébé <u>triste</u> (triste)
a cold sandwich	un sandwich <u>froid</u> (froid)
a hot drink	une boisson <u>chaude</u> (chaude)
the blue skirt	la jupe <u>bleue</u> (bleu)

Write the correct form of the adjective for each noun depending on whether it's masculine plural or feminine plural. The first one has been done for you.

some red apples	des pommes (f) <u>rouges</u> (rouge)
the tired children	les enfants (m) <u>fatigués</u> (fatigué)
the small presents	les <u>petits</u> (petit) cadeaux (m)
the happy giraffes	les girafes (f) <u>contentes</u> (content)
some interesting stories	des histoires (f) <u>intéressantes</u> (intéressant)
the easy homework	les devoirs (m) <u>faciles</u> (facile)
the big houses	les <u>grandes</u> (grand) maisons (f)
the pretty dresses	les <u>jolies</u> (joli) robes (f)
some sad tortoises	des tortues (f) <u>tristes</u> (triste)
the brown tables	les tables (f) <u>marron</u> (marron)
the grey hair	les cheveux (m) <u>gris</u> (gris)
the French families	les familles (f) <u>françaises</u> (français)

Write the correct form of the irregular adjective for each noun depending on whether it's masculine, feminine, singular or plural. The first one has been done for you.

some delicious cakes	des gâteaux (m) <u>délicieux</u> (délicieux)
the Italian food	la nourriture <u>italienne</u> (italien)
the white shoes	les chaussures (f) <u>blanches</u> (blanc)
the sporty children	les enfants (m) <u>sportifs</u> (sportif)
some active animals	des animaux (m) <u>actifs</u> (actif)
a brave woman	une femme <u>courageuse</u> (courageux)
the jealous brothers	les frères (m) <u>jaloux</u> (jaloux)
the Canadian teams	les équipes (f) <u>canadiennes</u> (canadien)
some expensive books	des livres (m) <u>chers</u> (chers)
a public beach	une plage <u>publique</u> (public)