

More and most with short adjectives

Adjectives of three or more syllables have more and most.

Careful / more careful / most careful

Beautiful / more beautiful / most beautiful

Intelligent / more intelligent / most intelligent

Practical / more practical / most practical

There are some exceptions to this rule. The opposites of two-syllable adjectives ending in -y usually form the comparative and the superlative by adding -er and -est. Examples are: unhappy and untidy.

Unhappy / unhappier / unhappiest

Untidy / untidier / untidiest

Some compound-adjectives have two possible comparatives and superlatives.

Good-looking / more good-looking / most good-looking

Good-looking / better-looking / best-looking

Well-known / more well-known / most well-known

Well-known / better-known / best-known

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Sometimes more and most are used with short adjectives which usually take -er and -est. This usually happens when a comparative is not followed immediately by than.

The task is getting more and more hard. (OR The task is getting harder and harder.)

You are getting more and more young. (OR You are getting younger and younger.)

When we compare two descriptions of the same person or thing, we use more.

He is more lazy than stupid. (NOT He is lazier than stupid.)