

Special uses of some adverbs

Short and shortly

Short is used as an adverb in expressions like stop short (= stop suddenly) and cut short (= interrupt)

Shortly means 'soon'.

You will hear from us shortly.

Slow and slowly

Slow is an adjective; slowly is an adverb. However, slow can be used as an adverb after verbs like go and drive.

Go slow.

Sound and soundly

Sound is used as an adverb in a few expressions. Example: sound asleep.

The baby is sound asleep.

In other cases we usually use soundly.

The baby is sleeping soundly.

Straight

Straight is used both as an adjective and as an adverb.

A straight road goes straight from one place to another.

Tight and tightly

Tight is an adjective; tightly is an adverb. After certain verbs, tight can also be used as an adverb.

Special uses of some adverbs

Common expressions are: hold tight and packed tight. Note that before a verb, we always use tightly.

Tightly held

Tightly packed

Wrong and wrongly

The normal adverb is wrongly. In an informal style, wrong can be used instead of wrongly after a verb.

I wrongly believed that I was going in the right direction.

You guessed wrong.