

# Special uses of some adverbs

## Very

Very is commonly used before an adjective or another adverb in the positive degree. It means '*to a great extent*'.

She is very beautiful. (with adjective)

It is very hot. (with adjective)

He did it very nicely. (with adverb)

She is very sweet. (with adjective)

He wrote the letter very carefully. (with adverb)

Very can be used with a present participle (e.g. running, singing, reading, playing etc.) used as an adjective.

It was very amusing.

When used with well very shows agreement or assent.

Very well doctor, I will give up smoking.

Very can be used with a superlative or 'own'. It means 'in the highest degree' or 'absolutely'.

She is the very best singer here.

This tea is of the very best quality.

Keep this present for your very own. (absolutely for your own use)

Very with much

Very is often used before much.

Thank you very much.

## Much

Much is commonly used before an adjective or adverb in the comparative or superlative degree. Note that very is used with an adjective or adverb in the positive degree.

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She is much taller than her brother.

This is much better than that.

Much can be used before a past participle in the passive form. Very is used before a present participle.

I was much surprised to hear the news.

I am much interested in this program.

Notes:

Very is also used before a few past participles.

I am very tired.

They were very pleased to meet us.