

Les Adverbes

Adverbs modify a verb, an adjective or another adverb. Most adverbs of manner, which tell how something is done, are formed by adding **-ment** (= **ly** in English) to the feminine form of the adjective.

parfait	parfaite	parfaitement
actif	active	activement
doux	douce	doucement
sérieux	sérieuse	sérieusement

If the masculine singular form of an adjective ends in a vowel, you add **-ment** to that form.

absolu	absolument
vrai	vraiment

If the masculine singular form of an adjective ends in **-ant** or **-ent**, **-ant** is replaced by **-amment** and **-ent** is replaced by **-emment**.

constant	constamment
prudent	prudemment

Some adverbs are irregular.

bref	brièvement
bon	bien
mauvais	mal
meilleur	mieux

French adverbs usually come right after the verbs they describe. In the **passé composé**, short, common adverbs (**bien, déjà, un peu, souvent, mal, toujours**) usually come before the past participle.

J'aime beaucoup la glace. Jean a déjà fait son devoir.

In the negative, the adverb comes after **pas** in both the simple tense and the passé composé.

Vous ne dansez pas bien. Je n'ai pas bien compris.

Adverbial expressions of time come either at the beginning or the end of a sentence.

Natalie va faire les achats demain.

Hier, nous avons apporté nos parapluies.

