

WORD ORDER OF ADJECTIVES

Adjectives like *new/large/round/wooden* are **FACT** adjectives.

(They give us *factual information* about age, size, colour, etc.)

Adjectives like *nice/beautiful/gly* are **OPINION** adjectives.

(They tell us *what somebody thinks of something or somebody*.)

OPINION adjectives usually go before **FACT** adjectives:

a nice long summer holiday, an interesting young man,
a delicious hot vegetable soup, a beautiful large round wooden table

Sometimes we use two or more **FACT** adjectives. We put **FACT** adjectives in this order:

1	2	3	4	5	NOUN
How big?	How old?	What colour?	Where from?	What is it made of?	
a large	brand-new	blue	Italian	woollen	jumper
	COLOUR	ORIGIN	MATERIAL	PURPOSE	NOUN
	red	Spanish	leather	riding	boots
a	brown	German		beer	rug
a		Venetian	glass	flower	vase

QUALITY	SIZE/AGE/SHAPE	COLOUR	ORIGIN	PAST PARTICIPLE	NOUN
beautiful	old	brown	French	handmade	cupboard

Numbers usually go before adjectives: six large eggs the second big shock

FIRST, NEXT and **LAST** most often go before *one, two, three, etc.*

the first three days my last two jobs

It is unnatural to use more than two or three adjectives together in one phrase.

Determiner <small>one, a, many, every, each</small>	Opinion <small>nice, ugly</small>	Size/ Condition <small>tiny, huge, heavy, broken</small>	Age <small>young, old</small>	Shape <small>flat, round</small>	Colour <small>red, grey</small>	Pattern <small>spotted, striped</small>	Origin <small>French, Italian</small>	Material <small>woollen, wooden</small>	Compound <small>crossed, walking</small>	Noun
two	nice		young				French			men
a		huge			grey			woollen		jumper
his				round		spotted				face
Pete's		dirty	old						walking	shoes

Task: Put the adjectives in brackets in the correct position.

- 1) a table (wooden/round/beautiful) _____
- 2) a ring (gold/unusual) _____
- 3) a pullover (woollen/pink/nice/new) _____
- 4) a house (old/ugly/Turkish) _____
- 5) gloves (black/comfortable/leather) _____
- 6) a film (interesting/American/old) _____
- 7) a face (long/thin/good-looking) _____
- 8) clouds (frightening/big/black) _____
- 9) a day (lovely/sunny/happy) _____
- 10) an avenue (long/wide/noisy) _____
- 11) a painting (French/interesting/old) _____
- 12) a sweater (yellow/green/red/expensive/cheap) _____