

1. tout as an adjective
2. tout as a pronoun
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'tout' as an adjective

Tout means 'all' or 'every' when it modifies a noun. It agrees in number and gender with the noun that follows.

| Masculine singular | Masculine plural | Feminine singular | Feminine plural |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| tout | tous | toute | toutes |

These forms of **tout** are most often used with the definite articles **le**, **les**, **la**, **l'**, but they may also be used with a possessive determiner: **tous mes** poèmes (all my poems), **toute sa** vie (all his/her life) etc. Listen as Tex recites one of his poems:

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | Malgré toutes les filles que j'ai connues, | In spite of all the girls (or all of the girls) that I have known, |
| | je pense à toi ... | I think of you ... |
| | tout le temps, | all the time, |
| | toute la journée, | all day long, |
| | tous* les soirs, | every evening, |
| | toutes les nuits. | every night. |

*Note that the final **s** of **tous** is not pronounced when it is used as an adjective.

Tout or **toute** may also be used without an article to mean 'every.'

Tex: **Tout** tatou est poète! Every armadillo is a poet!



'tout' as a pronoun

Tout is **invariable** when it functions as the indefinite pronoun meaning 'everything' or 'all', as in the first sentence below.

The plural pronouns **tous** and **toutes** agree with the nouns they replace. Compare the examples below.

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| | <i>Indefinite singular 'everything'</i> | Tammy: Tex, tu as vu ton éditeur? Tout s'est bien passé? | Tammy: Tex, did you see your publisher? Did everything go well? |
| | <i>To replace a plural noun</i> | Tex: Les éditeurs sont des idiots, je les déteste tous !* Les maisons d'éditions ne comprennent pas mon art. Toutes refusent mes poèmes érotiques! | Tex: Publishers are fools, I hate them all ! Publishing houses don't understand my art. All refuse my erotic poems! |

*Note that the final **s** in the pronoun **tous** **is** pronounced, in contrast to the unpronounced **s** in **tous** as an adjective.

'tout' as an adverb

Tout may also be an adverb meaning 'all,' 'completely,' or 'quite' when it modifies another adverb, a preposition, or an adjective. Although **tout** is invariable before an adverb, a preposition or a masculine adjective, the feminine forms **toute** and **toutes** are used before feminine adjectives beginning with a consonant.



Invariable

Tex: Les éditeurs ne comprennent rien. Mes thèmes sont **tout** nouveaux.

Tex: Editors don't understand anything. My themes are completely new.

Before a feminine adjective beginning with a consonant

Tex: Et ma poésie est **toute** moderne.

Tex: And my poetry is very modern.

'tout' in common idiomatic phrases

Here is a list of common idiomatic phrases with **tout**:



pas du tout, not at all

en tout cas, in any case

tout de suite, right away

malgré tout, in spite of everything

tout le monde, everyone

tout à l'heure, in a little while

tout le temps, all the time

tout à coup, all of a sudden

tous les jours, every day

tout à fait, completely

tous (toutes) les deux, both

tout droit, straight ahead

tous les deux jours, every other day

tout de même, just the same

tous les trois jours ... , every three days

tout en + participe présent, all the while ...

toutes les deux semaines, every other week



**Tous LES GRANDS POÈTES
SONT INCOMPRIS !**

Listen to the dialogue:



Tammy: Alors Tex, tu as bientôt fini ton recueil de poèmes?

Tammy: So Tex, have you almost finished writing your collection of poems?

Tex: Oh ne m'en parle pas! J'ai perdu **tout mon** enthousiasme! J'ai **toutes sortes** de problèmes avec mon éditeur. Il refuse **tous mes** poèmes récents.

Tex: Oh don't ask! I have lost all my enthusiasm! I have all sorts of problems with my publisher. He refuses to publish all my recent poems.

Tammy: Ne t'inquiète pas! **Tous les** grands poètes sont incompris!

Tammy: Don't worry! All great poets are misunderstood!



exercices

fill in the blanks

Fill in the blank with the correct form of tout.

1. Tex : _____ les Américaines sont jolies!
2. Tex : Les amis, je vous invite _____ à mon anniversaire.
3. Corey : Je m'ennuie _____ le temps.
4. Edouard : A Austin, il fait beau _____ les jours.
5. Tammy : Je suis _____ excitée!
6. Tex : _____ poète est sensible.
7. Tex : Je me rase _____ les quatre jours.
8. Bette : _____ le monde aime Tex!
9. Joe-Bob : Je ne parle pas du _____ français!
10. Tammy : Bette, regarde _____ mes photos de Tex!
11. Bette : _____ les chattes détestent l'eau.
12. Joe-Bob : Je t'ai cherché _____ la journée!