

1. formation
2. placement

formation

Adjectives agree in both number and gender with the noun or pronoun they modify. For regular adjectives the masculine form is the base form to which endings are added. The feminine adjective is formed by adding an **e**. The plural adjective is formed by adding **s**. Listen to the recorded examples to hear the pronunciation of the different adjective forms:

masculine singular	feminine singular	masculine plural	feminine plural
petit	petite	petits	petites

Note how the singular and plural forms of the masculine adjective sound the same, and the singular and plural forms of the feminine adjective also sound the same.



 Tex est petit .	Tex is little.
Tammy est petite .	Tammy is little.
Tex et Trey sont petits .	Tex and Trey are little.
Tammy et Bette sont petites .	Tammy and Bette are little.

The adjective takes the masculine plural when the nouns it modifies are of different genders: Tammy et Tex sont **petits**. (Tammy and Tex are little.)

Irregular adjectives do not follow the rules given above.

placement

In French, most adjectives follow the noun, unlike in English, where the adjective precedes the noun. Here are some examples of adjectives following the noun:

 Tex porte toujours un béret ron , même quand il fait du sport. Il aime les romans existentialistes . Dans son enfance, Tex a habité chez des nonnes catholiques .	Tex always wears a round beret, even when he exercises. He likes existentialist novels. As a child, Tex lived with catholic nuns.
Tammy a un nez pointu . C'est une tatou mince et sympathique . Elle apprend la langue française et fait des études littéraires .	Tammy has a pointed nose. She is a slim and nice armadillo. She's learning the French language and is studying literature.
Bette est de caractère méfiant . Elle est d'humeur changeante . C'est une chatte très	Bette has a mistrustful personality. She has changing moods. She's a very cunning cat.

maline.

Note that there is a small group of **adjectives that normally precede the noun**. Some adjectives can also be placed **before or after** the noun but changing the position of the adjectives can modify their meaning.

Listen to this dialogue:



Tammy, Bette et Tex sont à Gregory Gym. Les deux filles parlent, puis se disputent, pendant que Tex fait son sport **annuel**.

Tammy: Regarde, Bette, comme ses ongles **jaunes** tapent sur le tapis **roulant** quand il court! Quel tatou **adorable**! Et ce museau **fin** et **pointu**, ces écailles **étincelantes**, ce corps **souple**, ces gestes et ces mouvements **pleins de** grâce ...

Bette: Berk! Tu aimes vraiment ça!? Un corps **humide de** sueur et un poil **gris** comme une boule de papier **mâché**! Oh mon dieu! Et cette odeur **désagréable**! Comme un rat **noyé**! Tu n'es pas **sérieuse**!

Tammy: Bette, je ne suis pas idiote! Je connais tes intentions! Il est à moi!

Tammy, Bette and Tex are at Gregory Gym. The two girls talk, then argue, while Tex does his yearly workout.

Tammy: Bette, would you look at those yellow nails of his clicking on the tread mill when he runs! What an adorable armadillo! And that snout, so fine and pointy! Those shiny scales, that supple body, his every gesture and movement so full of grace ...

Bette: Yuck! You like that!? That clammy body, gray fur? Like a wad of paper maché! Oh, Lord! And that awful smell! Like a drowned rat! You're not serious!

Tammy: Bette, you don't fool me! I understand your intentions! He's mine!



Exercices

fill in the blanks

Give the correct form of the adjective indicated in parentheses.

1. Tex et Tammy sont des tatous _____. (charmant, 'charming')
2. Bette est une chatte _____. (rusé, 'cunning')
3. Fiona et Tammy sont _____. (intelligent)
4. Bette a un stylo _____. (vert, 'green')
5. Tammy aime le vin _____. (français, 'French')
6. Tammy a une robe _____. (ravissant, 'ravishing')
7. Tex a un charme _____ (fou, 'incredible, crazy').

8. Ah, Tex a une allure _____! (séduisant, 'attractive')
9. Joe-Bob et Corey ne sont pas _____! (dégourdi, 'resourceful')
10. Est-ce qu'Edouard est un serveur _____? (poli, 'polite')
11. Est-ce qu'Edouard et Tex sont des Français _____? (typique, 'typical')
12. Tammy et Bette aiment les tatous _____. (musclé, 'muscular')