


1. gender
2. number

**Regular** adjectives are formed by adding an **e** to the masculine form in the singular (content / content**e**), or by adding an **s** to the masculine and feminine forms in the plural (Tex et Edouard sont contents / Tammy et Bette sont content**es**). This group of adjectives is by far the most common. There are, however, a number of adjectives which are called irregular, because they do not have the normal **-e**, **-s**, or **-es** endings. The endings of these irregular adjectives vary widely and often change the pronunciation.


### gender

Some adjectives are completely irregular:



masculine	feminine	translation
doux	douce	soft
faux	fausse	false
favori	favorite	favorite
frais	fraîche	fresh
long	longue	long
public	publique	public


Other adjectives can be grouped in categories:



masculine ending	feminine ending	french	english
-el	-elle	cruel • cruelle	cruel
-eil	-eille	pareil • pareille	similar
-il	-ille	gentil • gentille	kind, nice
-on	-onne	mignon • mignonne	cute
-s	-sse	gros • grosse	big, fat
-en	-enne	ancien • ancienne	old
-et	-ète	secret • secrète	secretive
-er	-ère	cher • chère	dear, expensive
-eux	-euse	heureux • heureuse	happy
-eur	-euse	trompeur • trompeuse	deceptive
-teur	-trice	créateur • créatrice	creative
-f	-ve	actif • active	active
-c	-che	franc • franche	frank
-ou	-olle	fou • folle	crazy

Some adjectives have identical masculine and feminine forms. This is generally the case with adjectives ending in **e** in


their masculine form and with foreign adjectives like 'snob', 'cool', etc. For example: Tex est un tatou **imaginaire**; Tammy aussi est **imaginaire**. Ils sont **imaginaires**. (Tex is an imaginary armadillo; Tammy too is imaginary. They are imaginary.) Here are a few of these adjectives:

 <b>pauvre</b> (poor)	<b>difficile</b> (difficult)	<b>sensible</b> (sensitive)
<b>riche</b> (rich)	<b>calme</b> (calm)	<b>semblable</b> (similar)
<b>mince</b> (slim)	<b>minuscule</b> (tiny)	<b>ridicule</b> (ridiculous)
<b>propre</b> (clean)	<b>ironique</b> (ironic)	<b>imaginaire</b> (imaginary)

### number

The majority of adjectives are regular in the plural; that is, an **-s** is added to the singular masculine or feminine forms. There are two major exceptions to this rule:

1. Do not add an **s** to the masculine form of adjectives ending in **s** or **x**. The masculine singular and plural forms are thus identical: un animal **heureux** (a happy animal), des animaux **heureux** (happy animals). However, the feminine plural form of these adjectives is regular; it is formed by simply adding an **s** to the feminine singular form: une fille **heureuse** (a happy girl), des filles **heureuses** (happy girls).
2. Adjectives ending in **al** in the masculine singular form change to **aux** in the masculine plural form.

 Tex est un tatou international. Edouard et Tex sont des animaux <b>internationaux</b> .	Tex is an international armadillo. Edouard and Tex are international animals.
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The feminine plural form of these adjectives is regular; it is formed by simply adding an **s** to the feminine singular form: Tex aime lire la presse **internationale**. Tex aime aussi les revues **internationales**. (Tex likes to read international papers. Tex also likes international magazines).

Listen to this dialogue:



 Tex: Mais, qu'est-ce qui ne va pas?	Tex: But, what's wrong?
Tammy: C'est encore Bette! Elle n'est jamais <b>sincère</b> ! Sois <b>franc</b> Tex. Tu ne la trouves pas <b>capricieuse</b> et <b>cruelle</b> ?	Tammy: It's Bette again! She is never sincere! Be frank Tex. Don't you find her capricious and cruel?
Tex: Non! Elle est <b>gentille</b> ! C'est une <b>bonne</b> amie! Qu'est-ce qu'elle a fait?	Tex: No! She is nice! She is a good friend! What did she do?
Tammy: Comme tu es <b>naïf</b> ! Elle me raconte que tu me trouves <b>ennuyeuse</b> , que tu es <b>amoureux</b> d'une de tes étudiantes. C'est vrai?	Tammy: You are so naive! She tells me that you think I'm boring, that you are in love with one of your students. Is that true?
Tex: Tu es <b>folle</b> ! C'est une <b>fausse</b> accusation!	Tex: You're crazy! It's a false accusation!
Tammy: Hmm ... Tu veux que je t'explique? C'est très clair. Elle est <b>jalouse</b> !	Tammy: Hmm ... Do you want me to explain? It's very clear. She is jealous! It's

C'est le complot **classique**. Elle essaie de nous séparer, nous des amis si **loyaux**!

us, such loyal friends!



exercices

### fill in the blanks

Give the correct form of the adjective indicated in parentheses.

1. Tammy a une voix \_\_\_\_\_. (doux, 'soft')
2. Tammy, quelle est ta chanson \_\_\_\_\_ ? (favori, 'favorite')
3. Bette et Tammy sont \_\_\_\_\_ de la même personne. (amoureux, 'in love')
4. Tex et Tammy sont \_\_\_\_\_ d'amour. (fou, 'crazy')
5. Joe-Bob et Corey ne sont pas \_\_\_\_\_. (vif, 'quick, clever')
6. Fiona est très \_\_\_\_\_. (gentil, 'kind')
7. Tex et Edouard sont des animaux \_\_\_\_\_. (cosmopolite, 'cosmopolitan')
8. Les derniers poèmes de Tex sont \_\_\_\_\_! (génial, 'great')
9. Bette est une chatte \_\_\_\_\_. (sensuel, 'sensuous')
10. Tammy a de belles lèvres \_\_\_\_\_. (pulpeux, 'full, juicy')
11. Tammy et Bette sont \_\_\_\_\_ de peinture. (amateur, 'amateur')
12. Bette est \_\_\_\_\_. (rancunier, 'resentful')