**Comparison of Adverbs**

It’s often helpful to see adverbs in all their forms in order to get a clear idea of the degrees of comparison. Here is a list of several common adverbs in the positive, comparative, and superlative form.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Positive** | **Comparative** | **Superlative** |
| soon | sooner | soonest |
| loud | louder | loudest |
| quick | quicker | quickest |
| fast | faster | fastest |
| long | longer | longest |
| hard | harder | hardest |
| sweetly | more sweetly | most sweetly |
| angrily | more angrily | most angrily |
| brightly | more brightly | most brightly |
| abruptly | more abruptly | most abruptly |
| frequently | more frequently | most frequently |
| quietly | more quietly | most quietly |
| carefully | more carefully | most carefully |
| happily | more happily | most happily |
| anxiously | more anxiously | most anxiously |
| perfect | more perfect | most perfect |
| assuredly | more assuredly | most assuredly |
| graciously | more graciously | most graciously |

**Sentence examples containing superlative adverbs:**

Next Friday is the *soonest*we can arrive.

Josh is the*fastest*runner on the team.

Caroline smiles the *most sweetly*.

Stars shine *most brightly* on a clear night.

Our rotary telephone is the *least frequently* used device in our house.

Ben moved *most quietly* as the boys walked down the darkened ally.

The last remark was the *least clearly* stated.

Karen accepted the award *most graciously.*

The accident occurred *most abruptly*.

Lisa drives *most carefully* in heavy traffic.

I *most anxiously* await your arrival.

Kerri *most assuredly* did not do what you accused her of!

**Irregular Forms**

Some adverbs have irregular forms, which means the superlative can’t be created by adding the suffix –est or by using most or least. Here are some examples:

Many – most

Much – most

Well – best

Bad – worst

Far – farthest/furthest

Little – least