

# SUPERLATIVE DEGREE OF ADJECTIVES

## I. SUPERLATIVE

A. THE + ADJECTIVE + **-EST** ⇒ one-syllable adjectives & two-syllable adjectives ending in **-Y**,

bright ⇒ the brightest      soft ⇒ the softest  
fast ⇒ the fastest      light ⇒ the lightest

1. If the adjective ALREADY ends in **-E**, then simply add **-ST**

nice ⇒ the nicest      safe ⇒ the safest

2. If the adjective ends in a **consonant + -Y**, change **Y** to **I** before adding **-EST**

pretty ⇒ the prettiest      friendly ⇒ the friendliest  
easy ⇒ the easiest

3. If the adjective ends in a *consonant-vowel-consonant* combination (CVC), DOUBLE the final consonant before adding **-EST**

C V C  
↓ ↓ ↓  
B I G      big ⇒ the biggest

\*\*Do NOT double the consonant in words ending in **-W** or **-Y**

slow ⇒ the slowest      coy ⇒ the coyest

B. **MOST**

THE + ADJECTIVE ⇒ adjectives with two or more syllables  
**LEAST**

comfortable ⇒ the most / least comfortable  
handsome ⇒ the most / least handsome  
delicious ⇒ the most / least delicious

- C. Use the superlative with **OF** when mentioning the person(s) or thing(s) being compared

My sister is *smartest* OF the class