

L'Adjectif (I)

- 1) Adjectives in French are masculine (masculin) or feminine (féminin), singular (singulier) or plural (pluriel) according to the noun or pronoun that it qualifies. Adjectives in French must agree in gender and number.

Masculin et Féminin:

- 2) In general, to form the feminine form of the adjective, one adds an **-e** to the masculine form.

<i>masculin</i>	<i>féminin</i>	
Scott est grand	Jessica est grande	(tall)
Scott est content	Jessica est contente	(happy)
Scott est occupé	Jessica est occupée	(busy)

- 3) If the masculine adjective ends with an **-e**, the feminine remains the same.

Scott est triste	Jessica est triste	(sad)
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- 4) When the masculine adjective ends with a non-pronounced consonant (frequently the case with “t”, “d”, and “s”), one should pronounce the consonant at the end of the feminine adjective due to the additional **-e**.

Scott est grand**t**, fort**t**, et intelligent**t**.
Jessica est grande, forte, et intelligente.

- 5) Sometimes the final consonant is doubled in the feminine form before the **-e** (most often with masculine adjectives ending in “en”, “on”, “il” and “el”).

Scott est mingon t	Jessica est mingonne	(cute)
Scott est gentil t	Jessica est gentille	(kind)
Scott est italien t	Jessica est italienne	(italien)

- 6) In some specific instances, the entire ending changes:

-f → -ve	sportif → sportive	(sporty)
-eux → -euse	sérieux → sérieuse	(serious)
-eur → -euse	rêveur → rêveuse	(dreamer)
-teur → -trice	acteur → actrice	(actor/actrice)

- 7) There are many adjectives, like in English, that have a completely different form for masculine and feminine.

beau/belle	handsome/beautiful	vieux/vieille	old
fou/folle	crazy	faux/fausse	false

Singulier et Pluriel:

- 8) In general, to form the plural form of the adjective, one adds an **-s** to the singular form.

<i>singulier</i>	<i>pluriel</i>
Scott est grand	Scott et John sont grands
Jessica est grande	Jessica et Anne sont grandes

- 9) For adjectives that already end in **-s** or **-x**, the plural forms remains the same.

Scott est français	Scott et John sont français
Scott est vieux	Scott et John sont vieux

- 10) There are some adjective endings that completely change in the plural form.

-al → -aux	original/originaux	(original)
-eau → -eaux	beau/beaux	(handsome)

Of note: This does not occur in the feminine:

Jessica est original	Jessica et Annes sont originales
Jessica est belle	Jessica et Anne sont belles

- 11) If there are mixed genders, the adjective will always take the masculine form

Scott et Jessica sont grands
Scott et Jessica sont beaux

- 12) When using subject pronouns, make sure the adjectives agree in gender and number.

Je suis content(e)	Nous sommes content(e)s
Tu es content(e)	Vous êtes content(e)s
Il/Elle est content(e)	Ils/Elles sont content(e)s