

Comparative (3) : adjectives and adverbs

➤ We usually add **-er** to *one-syllable adjectives and adverbs* to make their comparative forms.

➤ However we use '**more + adjectives**' ➤

- With *one-syllable past participle adjectives* : **bored, creased, pleased, worn.**

Ex : You should iron your shirt again it looks more creased than before. (not : ~~creaseder...~~)

- With **fun, real, right, wrong** :

Ex : I thought she was honest, I couldn't have been more wrong ! (not ...~~wronger~~)

- When we compare two **qualities** :

Ex : He is more mad than brave.

Ex : The door looks more green than blue !

➤ We can sometimes use **more** as an alternative to the **-er** form to emphasize the comparison :

Ex : You might think this one is small but the other one is more small. (or ...smaller)

➤ Other adjectives like this include **clear, cold, fair, rough, soft, true.**

➤ Some adjectives with 2 syllables are most commonly used with **more/less** :

- Participle adjectives (**worried, boring** ...).

- Adjectives ending in **-ful**, and **-less** (**careful, careless...**).

- + ➤ **afraid, alert, alike, alone, ashamed, aware.**

- + **active, cautious, certain, complex, direct, eager, exact, formal, frequent, modern, special, recent.**

➤ Most two-syllable adjectives ending **-y, -ow, -er, -ure** can take either **-er** or the '**more + adjectives**' form, *although* the **-er** form is *more frequently* used.

➤ Some adjectives (**complete, equal, favourite, ideal, perfect, unique**) have a *comparative meaning* so they are *not often* used with **-er** or **more/less**.

➤ However, we can use comparative forms for special emphasis or for a particular communicative purpose :

Ex : His cooking today was good, but less perfect than yesterday.