

Positive adjectives that start with D

84 adjectives with meanings and examples. Updated 10 October 2026. Free to print and share in a classroom.

Dainty adj.

Delicately attractive, light, or carefully made.

The baker arranged dainty fruit tarts on a silver tray.

Dandy adj.

Very good, pleasing, or useful.

This folding cart is a dandy solution for moving the boxes.

Dapper adj.

Neat, stylish, and well dressed.

The dapper host wore a bright tie for the celebration.

Dappled adj.

Attractively marked with small patches of color or light.

Dappled sunlight warmed the moss beside the woodland path.

Daring adj.

Willing to attempt something difficult, new, or uncertain.

The architect proposed a daring reuse of the abandoned station.

Darling adj.

Dearly loved or especially charming.

Their darling granddaughter drew a picture for every guest.

Dashing adj.

Attractive, confident, and full of lively style.

The dashing actor greeted the stage crew by name.

Dauntless adj.

Showing determination without being discouraged by danger or difficulty.

The dauntless rescue team kept searching through the night.

Dazzling adj.

Extremely bright, beautiful, or impressive.

Her dazzling performance earned a standing ovation.

Dear adj.

Loved, valued, or regarded with deep affection.

A dear friend kept her company through the long recovery.

Debonair adj.

Confident, stylish, and charming in manner.

The debonair host welcomed everyone with easy warmth.

Decent adj.

Kind, honorable, fair, or good enough in quality.

A decent employer gives clear notice when plans change.

Decisive adj.

Able to make clear and timely decisions.

The decisive captain turned back before the storm reached them.

Decorated adj.

Honored with awards or made more attractive with ornament.

The decorated pilot thanked the crew who supported the rescue.

Decorative adj.

Made to add beauty or visual interest.

A decorative border brightened the community notice board.

Decorous adj.

Polite, dignified, and appropriate to the occasion.

The audience remained decorous during the solemn tribute.

Dedicated adj.

Committed to a purpose, task, or responsibility.

The dedicated volunteers checked on every household before the storm.

Deep adj.

Strong, sincere, or showing careful thought.

The mentor's deep respect for beginners shaped every lesson.

Defensible adj.

Supported by sound reasons, evidence, or fair principles.

Her defensible estimate included both uncertainty and maintenance costs.

Definite adj.

Clear, certain, and free from meaningful ambiguity.

The inspection found definite evidence that the repair was holding.

Definitive adj.

Authoritative, complete, and able to settle a question.

The final laboratory test gave a definitive answer.

Deft adj.

Skillful, quick, and precise in movement or thought.

With a deft adjustment, the mechanic stopped the vibration.

Delectable adj.

Especially delicious or delightful.

The café served a delectable pear tart with warm spices.

Deliberate adj.

Careful, intentional, and based on thoughtful consideration.

The deliberate schedule reserved time for questions before the vote.

Deliberative adj.

Involving careful discussion before a decision is made.

A deliberative meeting allowed quieter members to test each proposal.

Delicate adj.

Finely made, graceful, or requiring gentle care.

The artist restored the delicate pattern with a tiny brush.

Delicious adj.

Highly pleasing to the taste or smell.

The garden tomatoes made a delicious summer soup.

Delighted adj.

Feeling or showing great pleasure.

The children were delighted when the ducklings reached the pond.

Delightful adj.

Giving great pleasure, charm, or enjoyment.

We spent a delightful afternoon exploring the old bookshop.

Delish adj.

Informally, especially delicious, appealing, or enjoyable.

The roasted peaches were delish with a spoonful of yogurt.

Deluxe adj.

Especially high in quality, comfort, or included features.

The deluxe cabin included a ramp and an adapted bathroom.

Democratic adj.

Allowing people a fair and meaningful voice in decisions.

The cooperative used a democratic vote to choose its new chair.

Demonstrative adj.

Openly showing affection, enthusiasm, or other warm feelings.

Their demonstrative aunt greeted every child with delighted applause.

Demure adj.

Quietly reserved, modest, and graceful in manner.

The demure violinist smiled softly when the audience stood.

Dependable adj.

Consistently reliable and worthy of trust.

A dependable teammate follows through and communicates early.

Deserved adj.

Fairly earned through effort, character, or achievement.

The exhausted crew enjoyed a deserved evening of rest.

Deserving adj.

Worthy of help, praise, attention, or reward.

Every careful volunteer is deserving of sincere thanks.

Desirable adj.

Worth having because it is useful, pleasant, or beneficial.

Safe sidewalks are a desirable feature in any neighborhood.

Destined adj.

Likely or intended to reach a particular future outcome.

The thoughtful young scientist seemed destined for meaningful work.

Detailed adj.

Containing careful and useful attention to small parts.

Her detailed handover helped the next crew work safely.

Determined adj.

Firmly committed to reaching a goal or solving a problem.

The determined researcher repeated the test until the cause was clear.

Devoted adj.

Giving steady care, loyalty, or effort to someone or something.

He was a devoted mentor who made time for careful questions.

Devout adj.

Sincerely committed to a faith, belief, or worthy practice.

A devout peace advocate, she worked patiently across divisions.

Dewy adj.

Fresh, soft, and lightly covered with moisture.

Dewy leaves sparkled along the path after sunrise.

Dexterous adj.

Skillful and precise with the hands or mind.

The dexterous surgeon completed the delicate repair.

Diaphanous adj.

Delicately light and almost transparent in appearance.

Diaphanous curtains softened the afternoon light across the studio.

Diehard adj.

Firmly loyal or committed despite difficulty or disappointment.

The diehard supporters kept the community theater open through winter.

Digestible adj.

Easy to understand, absorb, or comfortably consume.

The guide turns complex tax rules into digestible steps.

Dignified adj.

Calm, worthy, and deserving of respect.

She gave a dignified response even when the discussion became tense.

Diligent adj.

Careful and persistent in one's work or duties.

Her diligent notes allowed the next shift to continue safely.

Diplomatic adj.

Skilled at handling disagreement with tact and fairness.

His diplomatic question helped both sides explain what they needed.

Direct adj.

Clear, honest, and straightforward in communication.

Her direct answer saved the team from pursuing the wrong option.

Disarming adj.

Charming or sincere enough to reduce tension or suspicion.

His disarming honesty changed the tone of the meeting.

Discerning adj.

Able to notice fine differences and make sound judgments.

A discerning reader checks the source before sharing the claim.

Discreet adj.

Careful, tactful, and respectful of privacy.

The discreet counselor found a private room for the conversation.

Dispassionate adj.

Calm and fair because personal feelings do not control judgment.

A dispassionate review considered evidence from both sides.

Distinct adj.

Clearly recognizable and attractively different.

Each singer brought a distinct voice to the ensemble.

Distinctive adj.

Having an appealing quality that is easy to recognize.

The artist's distinctive use of color brightens the station.

Distinguished adj.

Respected and admired for notable achievement.

The distinguished engineer still mentors new graduates.

Diverse adj.

Including people, ideas, or things with varied qualities.

A diverse panel brought several useful perspectives to the decision.

Diversified adj.

Made broader and stronger by including varied parts.

The diversified farm remained productive during the dry year.

Diverting adj.

Entertaining and pleasantly able to hold attention.

The diverting puzzle kept the passengers occupied.

Divine adj.

Extremely pleasing, excellent, or connected with the sacred.

The bakery filled the street with the divine smell of cinnamon.

Doable adj.

Possible to complete with the time and resources available.

With four volunteers, the repair is doable before sunset.

Dogged adj.

Persistently determined despite difficulty, delay, or discouragement.

Her dogged research restored the names missing from the memorial.

Done adj.

Successfully finished, settled, or ready for use.

The repaired playground was done before the summer program began.

Doting adj.

Showing great fondness and loving attention.

The doting uncle saved every drawing his niece sent.

Doughty adj.

Brave, determined, and persistent in difficulty.

The doughty hikers continued after repairing the torn pack.

Dovish adj.

Favoring peaceful negotiation instead of force or conflict.
The dovish minister reopened talks before the ceasefire expired.

Down-to-earth adj.

Practical, sincere, and easy to relate to.
The down-to-earth professor welcomed basic questions.

Downy adj.

Pleasantly soft and light like fine feathers.
Downy seed heads drifted across the sunlit meadow.

Dramatic adj.

Striking, exciting, or impressive in effect.
The repaired lighting created a dramatic improvement in the hall.

Dreamlike adj.

Wonderfully beautiful or unreal in appearance.
Mist made the quiet forest look dreamlike at sunrise.

Dreamy adj.

Pleasantly beautiful, peaceful, or lost in happy thought.
The café has a dreamy view across the moonlit harbor.

Dressy adj.

Stylish and suitable for a special or formal occasion.
Her dressy jacket made the simple outfit celebration-ready.

Drinkable adj.

Safe or pleasant enough to be consumed as a drink.
The filter made the well water clean and drinkable.

Drivable adj.

Safe and suitable for travel by car.
Crews cleared enough snow to keep the hospital road drivable.

Driven adj.

Strongly motivated to achieve a worthwhile result.
The driven researcher kept searching for a safer material.

Droll adj.

Amusing in an unusual, subtle, or dry manner.
His droll commentary kept the delayed passengers smiling.

Dulcet adj.

Sweet, gentle, and soothing to hear.
Dulcet harp notes floated through the quiet gallery.

Durable adj.

Able to remain useful or strong over a long period.
The team chose a durable repair that would survive winter weather.

Dutiful adj.

Careful and reliable in meeting responsibilities.
The dutiful ranger checked every fire pit before leaving.

Dynamic adj.

Energetic, active, and able to produce change.

The dynamic facilitator kept the discussion focused and inclusive.

Dynamite adj.

Informally, exceptionally exciting, effective, or excellent.

The student band gave a dynamite final performance.