

Positive adjectives that start with S

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

Sacred adj.

Deeply valued and treated with reverence or respect.

The grove remained sacred to families across the valley.

Safe adj.

Protected from likely harm, danger, or avoidable risk.

Every worker needs a safe way to report a fault.

Sagacious adj.

Showing wise and practical judgment.

The sagacious elder asked the question that settled the dispute.

Salubrious adj.

Health-giving, pleasant, and beneficial to well-being.

The salubrious sea air encouraged long morning walks.

Salutary adj.

Producing a beneficial or healthful effect.

The review had a salutary effect on safety practices.

Sanative adj.

Having the power to heal or restore health.

Rest and clean water had a sanative effect.

Sanguine adj.

Hopeful and confident about the future.

She remained sanguine after the first trial failed.

Sapient adj.

Possessing deep wisdom and discerning judgment.

Her sapient counsel helped both families reach peace.

Satisfactory adj.

Good enough to meet a need or standard.

The repaired roof passed every test with satisfactory results.

Satisfied adj.

Pleased because a need, hope, or standard has been met.

The customers were satisfied with the careful repair.

Satisfying adj.

Giving pleasure through meaning, progress, or completion.

Solving the final clue was deeply satisfying.

Savory adj.

Pleasantly flavorful, appetizing, and satisfying to eat.

A savory vegetable pie warmed everyone after the hike.

Savvy adj.

Showing practical knowledge and good judgment.

The savvy shopper compared repair costs before choosing.

Scenic adj.

Offering beautiful and enjoyable natural views.

The scenic path curved beside a clear mountain stream.

Scholarly adj.

Showing careful study, knowledge, and academic skill.

The museum published a scholarly guide to the collection.

Scintillating adj.

Brilliantly lively, clever, or exciting.

Their scintillating conversation made the long journey pass quickly.

Scrumptious adj.

Extremely delicious and delightful to eat.

The bakery served scrumptious rolls still warm from the oven.

Scrupulous adj.

Careful, honest, and attentive to what is right.

The scrupulous treasurer published every receipt for review.

Seamless adj.

Smoothly connected without awkward gaps or interruptions.

The translators provided a seamless conversation across three languages.

Seasoned adj.

Experienced, skilled, and reliable through extensive practice.

A seasoned guide led the group through changing weather.

Second-to-none adj.

Equaled by nobody in quality or excellence.

Her second-to-none craftsmanship made the cabinet an heirloom.

Secure adj.

Safe, stable, and protected from likely loss or harm.

The new lock keeps the equipment secure.

Self-actualized adj.

Fulfilling one's abilities, values, and meaningful potential.

The self-actualized artist chose work aligned with her deepest values.

Self-assured adj.

Calmly confident in one's own ability or judgment.

The self-assured apprentice explained her design clearly.

Self-aware adj.

Conscious of one's own feelings, qualities, and effects on others.

The self-aware leader noticed when he needed to listen.

Self-confident adj.

Trusting one's ability without needing to diminish others.

The self-confident speaker welcomed difficult questions.

Self-determined adj.

Guided by one's own informed choices and goals.

Self-determined residents shaped the future of their neighborhood.

Self-directed adj.

Able to choose and manage one's own learning or work.

The self-directed apprentice planned each stage of the restoration.

Self-disciplined adj.

Able to direct one's effort and choices toward a goal.

The self-disciplined student practiced a little each morning.

Self-empowered adj.

Confidently able to make choices and take constructive action.

The self-empowered students presented their proposal to the council.

Self-forgiving adj.

Able to meet personal mistakes with compassion and perspective.

A self-forgiving mindset helped Mina try the difficult passage again.

Self-improving adj.

Actively developing one's knowledge, habits, or abilities.

The self-improving manager requested honest feedback after each project.

Self-made adj.

Successful largely through one's own sustained effort.

The self-made designer built her studio from modest beginnings.

Self-motivated adj.

Able to begin and continue useful work without outside pressure.

The self-motivated volunteer created a clear training guide.

Self-possessed adj.

Calm, confident, and controlled in difficult situations.

The self-possessed captain reassured everyone during the delay.

Self-reliant adj.

Able to use one's own judgment and resources effectively.

The self-reliant camper repaired the torn tent.

Self-renewing adj.

Able to restore strength, resources, or effectiveness over time.

The self-renewing garden flourished through careful composting.

Self-sufficient adj.

Able to meet one's needs with limited outside help.

The self-sufficient cabin produces its own power.

Self-transcendent adj.

Reaching beyond personal concerns toward greater meaning or service.

Her self-transcendent purpose sustained decades of community work.

Selfless adj.

Putting others' needs before personal advantage.

The selfless neighbor delivered meals throughout the storm.

Sensational adj.

Exceptionally impressive, exciting, or enjoyable.
The dancers gave a sensational final performance.

Sensible adj.

Showing sound, practical judgment.
Wearing bright clothing was a sensible choice for the evening ride.

Sensitive adj.

Aware of and considerate toward feelings or subtle changes.
The sensitive teacher noticed that the new student felt excluded.

Seraphic adj.

Radiantly peaceful, beautiful, or angelic in appearance.
A seraphic smile spread across the baby's face.

Serendipitous adj.

Happening by happy and valuable chance.
A serendipitous meeting connected the inventor with a mentor.

Serene adj.

Calm, clear, and untroubled in appearance or mood.
The garden felt serene after the morning rain.

Sharp adj.

Quick to understand, notice, or think clearly.
The sharp analyst spotted the error before publication.

Shining adj.

Bright, excellent, or inspiring.
Her recovery became a shining example of patient effort.

Shrewd adj.

Showing sharp judgment and practical understanding.
The shrewd negotiator found terms that benefited both teams.

Silky adj.

Pleasingly smooth, soft, and lustrous.
The sauce became silky after a final gentle stir.

Simpatico adj.

Pleasantly compatible, likable, and easy to understand.
The two simpatico musicians improvised together with effortless warmth.

Simple adj.

Clear, uncomplicated, and easy to use or understand.
A simple checklist prevented missed safety steps.

Sincere adj.

Honest in feeling, intention, or expression.
Her sincere thanks named the specific help she had received.

Sisterly adj.

Showing the warm support associated with a caring sister.
Her sisterly advice was gentle, honest, and practical.

Skilled adj.

Having developed ability and good technique.
A skilled interpreter made the meeting accessible.

Skillful adj.

Showing developed ability and good judgment.
The skillful repair preserved the original woodwork.

Sleek adj.

Smooth, stylish, and efficiently designed.
The sleek new bicycle was both light and comfortable.

Smart adj.

Intelligent, capable, or showing good judgment.
The smart technician tested the simplest cause first.

Smashing adj.

Exceptionally attractive, enjoyable, or successful.
Everyone had a smashing time at the garden party.

Smiling adj.

Showing warmth or happiness with a smile.
A smiling volunteer greeted each family at the door.

Smooth adj.

Even, calm, or working without difficulty.
Clear roles made the handover smooth.

Snazzy adj.

Stylish, lively, and attractively distinctive.
His snazzy bow tie brightened the formal photograph.

Snug adj.

Comfortably warm, sheltered, and secure.
The reading alcove felt snug during the winter storm.

Sociable adj.

Friendly and comfortable spending time with others.
The sociable host introduced guests who shared interests.

Soft-spoken adj.

Speaking gently and calmly with quiet consideration.
The soft-spoken mediator gave every participant room to answer.

Softhearted adj.

Kind, sympathetic, and easily moved to help.
The softhearted farmer cared for every stray animal.

Solid adj.

Dependable, strong, and of good quality.
The committee built a solid plan from the survey results.

Soothing adj.

Helping to calm pain, worry, or tension.
The nurse spoke in a soothing voice.

Sophisticated adj.

Refined, knowledgeable, or impressively advanced in design.

The sophisticated filter removed contaminants without wasting water.

Soul-stirring adj.

Inspiring profound, uplifting, and heartfelt emotion.

The orchestra closed with a soul-stirring hymn.

Soulful adj.

Expressing deep and sincere feeling.

The singer gave a soulful performance of the old song.

Spacious adj.

Offering abundant room, openness, and comfort.

Tall windows made the modest studio feel spacious.

Sparkling adj.

Bright, lively, or brilliantly entertaining.

The host's sparkling humor lifted the room.

Special adj.

Especially valued, distinctive, or important.

The handmade album became a special family keepsake.

Spectacular adj.

Exceptionally impressive or beautiful.

The hilltop offered a spectacular view at sunrise.

Speedy adj.

Moving or happening quickly and effectively.

The clinic's speedy response prevented further illness.

Spellbinding adj.

So fascinating or beautiful that attention feels effortless.

The guide told a spellbinding story beneath the stars.

Spiffy adj.

Smart, attractive, and freshly well presented.

The restored scooter looked spiffy in its bright new paint.

Spirited adj.

Full of courage, energy, or lively feeling.

A spirited discussion produced three promising ideas.

Splendid adj.

Excellent, impressive, or beautiful.

The restored hall looked splendid in the morning light.

Spontaneous adj.

Natural and unplanned in a lively or sincere way.

A spontaneous dance began when the band returned.

Sporting adj.

Fair, generous, and gracious in competition.

The sporting captain congratulated every opponent.

Spot-on adj.

Exactly right, accurate, or well judged.

Her spot-on diagnosis saved hours of unnecessary testing.

Spotless adj.

Perfectly clean or free from fault and blame.

Volunteers left the community kitchen spotless after lunch.

Sprightly adj.

Lively, energetic, and cheerful.

The sprightly grandfather led the family walk.

Spry adj.

Active, nimble, and energetic, especially despite age.

The spry neighbor still cycled to market each morning.

Stable adj.

Steady, secure, and unlikely to fail suddenly.

The engineer confirmed that the repaired wall was stable.

Stalwart adj.

Loyal, dependable, and strong through difficulty.

The stalwart volunteers kept the shelter open all winter.

Standout adj.

Exceptionally good or noticeable for a positive quality.

Her standout performance earned a place in the final.

Star-studded adj.

Featuring many celebrated, talented, or distinguished people.

A star-studded cast volunteered for the charity performance.

State-of-the-art adj.

Using the most advanced available methods or technology.

The clinic installed state-of-the-art imaging equipment.

Stately adj.

Impressively dignified, graceful, and grand.

The stately old library welcomed visitors through carved doors.

Staunch adj.

Firmly loyal, committed, and dependable.

A staunch ally defended the community's right to clean water.

Steadfast adj.

Firm, dependable, and not easily discouraged.

Her steadfast support helped the project survive several delays.

Steady adj.

Firm, dependable, and controlled.

The nurse kept a steady hand during the procedure.

Stellar adj.

Exceptionally excellent, impressive, or successful.

The new apprentice did stellar work on the delicate repair.

Sterling adj.

Excellent, trustworthy, and of consistently high quality.
Her sterling leadership kept the relief effort fair and organized.

Stimulating adj.

Encouraging lively thought, interest, or activity.
The lecture led to a stimulating discussion.

Stirring adj.

Inspiring strong and uplifting emotion.
The choir gave a stirring performance.

Stoic adj.

Enduring hardship with courage and steady self-command.
The stoic runner finished the course despite driving rain.

Storybook adj.

Charming, picturesque, and seemingly suited to a happy tale.
They celebrated in a storybook cottage beside the orchard.

Straightforward adj.

Clear, honest, and easy to understand.
She gave a straightforward explanation of the costs.

Strategic adj.

Carefully designed to achieve an important goal.
The strategic investment removed the main production bottleneck.

Streamlined adj.

Made simpler, smoother, and more efficient.
The streamlined application took families only five minutes.

Street-smart adj.

Showing practical judgment learned through real-world experience.
The street-smart organizer anticipated problems before the festival opened.

Stress-free adj.

Free from worry, pressure, or needless difficulty.
Clear directions made the airport transfer stress-free.

Striking adj.

Immediately impressive, attractive, or worthy of attention.
The mural created a striking welcome at the station.

Strong adj.

Having power, resilience, skill, or sound construction.
The strong partnership made both organizations more effective.

Strong-minded adj.

Independent, determined, and firm in one's judgment.
The strong-minded advocate challenged an unfair rule respectfully.

Structured adj.

Organized in a clear and useful way.
The structured lesson gave beginners an easy path forward.

Studious adj.

Devoted to careful study and learning.

The studious apprentice kept notes on every technique.

Stunning adj.

Extremely impressive or beautiful.

The restored mosaic looked stunning in the sunlight.

Stupendous adj.

Extremely impressive, excellent, or remarkable.

The volunteers achieved stupendous results in a single weekend.

Sturdy adj.

Strongly built and able to withstand use or difficulty.

The sturdy table served the workshop for decades.

Stylish adj.

Attractive and showing a pleasing sense of style.

Her stylish jacket was made from recycled fabric.

Suave adj.

Confident, polished, and charming in manner.

The suave host handled the interruption with humor.

Sublime adj.

Of such excellence or beauty that it inspires awe.

The soprano's final note sounded sublime in the chapel.

Successful adj.

Achieving a desired or worthwhile result.

The successful repair kept the bridge open.

Suitable adj.

Right or appropriate for a particular need.

The shaded plot is suitable for lettuce.

Sumptuous adj.

Richly comfortable, beautiful, or enjoyable.

Guests shared a sumptuous harvest feast.

Sunny adj.

Bright, cheerful, or full of warm optimism.

Her sunny manner lifted the tired team.

Super adj.

Very good, enjoyable, or excellent.

The volunteers did a super job preparing the hall.

Superabundant adj.

Present in exceptionally generous and plentiful amounts.

A superabundant harvest supplied the pantry through winter.

Superb adj.

Exceptionally good or skillful.

The chef prepared a superb meal from local produce.

Superlative adj.

Representing the highest level of quality or excellence.

Reviewers praised the workshop's superlative craftsmanship.

Supportive adj.

Providing encouragement, understanding, or practical help.

A supportive colleague asked what would make the workload manageable.

Supreme adj.

Highest in quality, importance, or achievement.

The chef showed supreme skill with the simplest ingredients.

Sure adj.

Confident, dependable, or certain.

With practice, her movements became sure and controlled.

Sure-footed adj.

Moving confidently and safely, especially on difficult ground.

The sure-footed guide led the group across the rocks.

Surefire adj.

Certain or very likely to succeed.

A sincere welcome is a surefire way to ease nerves.

Surprising adj.

Unexpected in a pleasing or impressive way.

The small garden produced a surprising amount of food.

Sustainable adj.

Able to continue without exhausting the people or resources involved.

The new schedule is sustainable because it includes time for maintenance.

Swanky adj.

Fashionably stylish, luxurious, and impressive.

The renovated cinema looked swanky without losing its character.

Sweet adj.

Kind, pleasant, or pleasing to the senses.

It was sweet of him to save a seat for his grandmother.

Sweet-natured adj.

Naturally kind, gentle, and pleasant.

The sweet-natured dog welcomed every visitor.

Sweet-tempered adj.

Naturally gentle, patient, and pleasant in disposition.

The sweet-tempered pony remained calm around young riders.

Swift adj.

Moving or acting quickly and effectively.

The swift rescue brought everyone safely ashore.

Sympathetic adj.

Showing understanding and concern for another person's situation.

The supervisor was sympathetic and helped arrange a fair solution.

Systematic adj.

Carefully organized and methodical.

The systematic researcher checked every sample twice.