

Positive words that start with Z

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

Adjectives

Zaftig adj.

Having an attractively full, rounded, and shapely figure.
The zaftig portrait subject appears warm, dignified, and confident.

Zany adj.

Amusingly unconventional, lively, or playful.
The zany costume made the parade crowd laugh.

Zappy adj.

Lively, energetic, and pleasantly fast.
The editor gave the travel guide a zappy new opening.

Zazzy adj.

Stylishly striking, shiny, colorful, and playfully bold.
She chose a zazzy scarf for the neighborhood concert.

Zealful adj.

Full of eager enthusiasm and energetic devotion.
The zealful volunteers welcomed every newcomer with patient attention.

Zealous adj.

Showing energetic devotion to a cause or aim.
The zealous advocate checked every detail before the hearing.

Zen adj.

Peacefully calm, relaxed, and free from needless agitation.
Soft rain left the busy workshop feeling unexpectedly Zen.

Zen-like adj.

Remarkably calm, balanced, and untroubled by surrounding pressure.
Her Zen-like composure steadied the crew during the delay.

Zephyrean adj.

Gentle and airy, suggesting a soft, light breeze.
Zephyrean curtains softened the sunlight across the quiet room.

Zero-carbon adj.

Causing no net release of atmospheric carbon dioxide.
The council approved zero-carbon plans for the new library.

Zero-defect adj.

Designed to prevent every avoidable fault in a process or product.
The workshop adopted a zero-defect check for safety equipment.

Zero-emission adj.

Producing no direct release of harmful exhaust gases.
The city added zero-emission buses to its busiest route.

Zero-waste adj.

Designed to prevent usable material from being discarded.
The market tested a zero-waste system for reusable containers.

Zestful adj.

Full of lively enjoyment and energy.
His zestful performance brought the old song to life.

Zesty adj.

Pleasantly lively, flavorful, or energetic.
A zesty lime dressing brightened the roasted vegetables.

Zetetic adj.

Proceeding through careful inquiry and investigation.
Her zetetic approach began with questions rather than assumptions.

Zingy adj.

Pleasantly sharp, lively, or full of flavor.
The herbs made a zingy dressing for the salad.

Zippy adj.

Lively, energetic, and pleasantly quick.
The editor gave the introduction a zippy pace.

Zoetic adj.

Relating to life or possessing living vitality.
The artist filled the mural with zoetic color and motion.

Zooming adj.

Moving or progressing quickly and energetically.
The zooming cyclists cheered as they crossed the finish line.

Zooty adj.

Stylish, lively, and noticeably fashionable.
He wore a zooty jacket to the dance.

Nouns**Zaddik** n.

A righteous, saintly person in Jewish tradition.
The community sought the zaddik's counsel before choosing mediators.

Zaddy n.

A stylish, confident man admired as attractive and charming.
His tailored velvet suit earned him playful zaddy status.

Zakat n.

Charitable giving required as an Islamic religious duty.
Their zakat funded winter meals for families facing hardship.

Zaniness n.

The quality of being amusingly unconventional and playful.
A little zaniness kept the rehearsal lighthearted and focused.

Zazen n.

Seated Zen meditation practiced with attentive, disciplined awareness.
Morning zazen helped the retreat settle into attentive silence.

Zeal n.

Strong and energetic enthusiasm for a purpose.
Their zeal for restoring the theater attracted new volunteers.

Zealousness n.

Energetic devotion to a cause, task, or purpose.
Her zealousness for patient safety raised the standard for everyone.

Zedakah n.

Righteous charitable giving practiced as a Jewish duty.
The youth group collected zedakah for the community pantry.

Zenith n.

The highest point of success, power, or development.
The orchestra reached its zenith under her thoughtful direction.

Zephyr n.

A soft, gentle breeze, especially one from the west.
A cool zephyr moved through the open windows.

Zest n.

Eager enjoyment, lively interest, or added flavor.
She approached the new course with real zest.

Zestfulness n.

The quality of showing lively enjoyment and energy.
Her zestfulness made the demanding project feel possible.

Zestiness n.

The quality of being lively, flavorful, or pleasantly sharp.
Lemon added freshness and zestiness to the sauce.

Zikr n.

Devotional remembrance of God through prayer or recitation.
Evening zikr brought the gathered worshippers into quiet reflection.

Zillionaire n.

An informal name for a person of enormous wealth.
The fictional zillionaire quietly endowed three new neighborhood libraries.

Zing n.

An appealing burst of energy, flavor, or excitement.
Fresh lime gave the soup a welcome zing.

Zinger n.

A particularly impressive, clever, or striking thing.
The final line was a zinger that made the whole audience smile.

Zion n.

An ideal society or place of peace and happiness.

The settlers imagined a welcoming Zion founded on mutual care.

Zip n.

Lively energy, speed, or vigor.

The percussion added welcome zip to the final song.

Zippiness n.

The quality of being lively, energetic, and pleasantly quick.

Crisp dialogue gives the comedy its zippiness.

Zoomies n.

A sudden burst of joyful, energetic running or movement.

After her bath, the puppy got the zoomies around the garden.

Zoophilist n.

A person devoted to animals and protecting their welfare.

The zoophilist campaigned for gentler standards in wildlife research.

Zootherapy n.

Therapy that uses animals to support healing and well-being.

Guided zootherapy helped the anxious child feel safe communicating.

Verbs**Zhuzh** v.

To improve something with a small adjustment or finishing touch.

A bright cushion can zhuzh the reading corner without much cost.

Zoom v.

To move quickly and energetically.

The repaired scooter can zoom smoothly up the hill.

Adverbs**Zanily** adv.

In an amusingly unconventional, playful, or lively manner.

The puppets danced zanily across the stage during intermission.

Zealously adv.

With energetic devotion to a cause or purpose.

The group zealously protected the wetland from illegal dumping.

Zestfully adv.

With lively enjoyment and energy.

The children zestfully decorated the hall for the concert.

Zestily adv.

With lively enjoyment, enthusiasm, or appealing sharpness.

The band played zestily as dancers filled the square.

Zippily adv.

In a lively, energetic, and pleasantly quick way.

The short chapters move zippily from one idea to the next.