

ADJECTIVES DESCRIBING LOOKS AND APPEARANCE

A List of English adjectives that are used for describing people's looks and appearance

attractive - a person who is good looking. (male or female)

Example sentence: Shakira is a very **attractive** woman.

bald - a person who has no hair. Some bald people shave their heads.

Example sentences: The male actor Bruce Willis is **bald**. He has a shaved head.

beautiful - a person who is extremely good looking (mainly used to describe women).

Example sentence: The American singer Beyonce is very **beautiful**.

blonde - a person who has yellow hair.

Example sentence: The American celebrity Paris Hilton has **blonde** hair.

chubby - a polite way of describing someone who is a bit overweight.

Example sentence: Russell Crowe is looking a bit **chubby** lately, isn't he?

curvy - a woman with a large bust, broad hips and a small waist.

Example sentence: Katie Price is very **curvy**.

fat - a very negative way to describe someone who is overweight (very rude and a bit insulting!).

Example sentence: Kirstie Alley starred in the American sitcom "Fat Actress".

fit - (1) someone who gets a lot of exercise and is very healthy. (2) A very attractive person.

flabby - Used to describe someone who does not get much exercise, with poor muscle tone.

Example sentence: I was looking a bit **flabby**, so I've joined a gym.

gorgeous - very attractive (used to describe men and women).

Example sentence: I think Johnny Depp is **gorgeous!**

handsome - a man who is extremely good looking.

Example sentence: Brad Pitt is very **handsome**.

large - someone who is overweight (neutral).

Example sentence: Fashionable clothes for **large** women can be hard to find.

muscular - someone who is very toned and has well defined muscles.

Example sentence: Madonna is quite **muscular** for a woman. Her arms are very toned.

obese - used to describe someone who is very fat (impolite).

Example sentence: Being **obese** is bad for your health.

ordinary - somebody who is very plain, or average looking; not especially beautiful.

Example sentence: Lady Gaga looks very **ordinary** without make up.

plain - somebody who is very ordinary-looking.

Example sentence: Some models look very **plain** when they take off their make-up.

plump - a tactful way of describing someone who is overweight (mainly British English).

Example sentence: The **plump** British actress Dawn French is a brunette.

presentable - another way of saying someone looks smart.

Example sentence: If you want to get ahead in your job, you need to look **presentable**.

redhead - a person with orange hair.

Example sentence: Nicole Kidman is a **redhead**.

scruffy - used to describe someone whose appearance is very untidy.

Example sentence: Pete Docherty is very **scruffy**.

shapely - a curvy woman with a small waist.

Example sentence: Kylie Minogue is very **shapely**.

short - used to describe someone who isn't very tall.

Example sentence: American actor Tom Cruise is fairly **short**.

skinny - used to describe someone who is very thin (impolite).

Example sentence: Many fashion models are way too **skinny**.

slender - used to describe a thin person who looks healthy.

Example sentence: Actress Julia Roberts is very **slender**.

smart - used to describe someone who takes a lot of care over their appearance.

Example sentence: It is important to look **smart** if you want to make a good impression.

stocky - someone who is broad and not very tall. Mainly used to describe men.

Example sentence: Simon Cowell is quite short, with dark hair and a **stocky** build.

tall - used to describe someone who is above average height.

Example sentence: Sports personality Michael Jordan is very **tall**.

tattooed - used to describe someone who has tattoos.

thin - used to describe someone who weighs less than the average person (impolite!).

Example sentence: Victoria Beckham is very **thin**.

unkempt - used to describe someone who looks scruffy and does not take care of their appearance.

Example sentence: Amy Winehouse sometimes looked **unkempt** in photographs.

well-built - someone whose body shape or size is bigger than the average person.

Example sentence: Arnold Schwarzenegger is **well-built**.

Important note:

Be careful using negative adjectives when commenting on a person's appearance, as some people may be very offended by them! In most situations it is safer to use a neutral or positive adjective (for example slender instead of thin, large instead of fat).