

Adjective Order

Determiners	Adjectives								Nouns
	more subjective ← ← ← ←				→ → → → more objective				
	less permanent ← ← ← ←				→ → → → more permanent				
	opinion	size	age	shape	colour	nationality / origin	material	noun used as adjective	
a the some my this	stupid beautiful difficult wonderful terrible	big small large enormous tiny	young old new ancient modern	round square flat curved	red black coloured greenish opaque	French Beninese western foreign local	metal plastic cotton paper	spider camping school government	man car site buildings departments

Notes

- In spoken English it is rare to have more than **2 adjectives** in front of a noun.
- In written English it is rare to have more than **3 adjectives** in front of a noun.
- The order given above is **not absolute**. It depends on the **context**.

Start with the noun and ask the question: "What sort of ...?"

Examples:

	A man
What sort of man?	A Chinese man.
What sort of Chinese man?	A young Chinese man.
What sort of young Chinese man?	A wonderful young Chinese man.
	Buildings
What sort of buildings?	Government buildings.
What sort of government buildings?	Black government buildings.
What sort of black government buildings?	Ancient black government buildings.