

Adjectives masquerading as adverbs

The following are adjectives which happen to end in -ly and so look like adverbs. They are not all formed from noun + -ly but many are.

Forming adverbs from many of them is simply impossible and in some cases results in a clumsy expression such as *friendlily* or *livelily*.

The preferred formulation with most is, therefore:

in a _____ way / manner

The adjective sly forms an adverb normally.

The words marked * are also adverbial and mostly refer to definite frequency. The exceptions are annually and seasonally which are only adverbs derived from corresponding adjectives. The adjectives

early, kindly, unkindly and only also function as adverbs (usually in the last case). authorly lively rumbly gangly ugly beastly saintly ghastly Ionely unearthly bodily ghostly lovely scaly unfriendly brambly dastardly lowly scholarly ungainly bubbly deadly maidenly seemly ungentlemanly burly deathly manly shapely ungodly chilly disorderly mannerly shaly unholy * unkindly comely drizzly masterly shelly costly * early matronly sisterly unlikely slovenly unlovely cowardly earthly measly crackly easterly melancholy smelly unmannerly crawly elderly miserly southerly unmanly fatherly * monthly shingly crinkly unruly fiddly sickly crumbly motherly unseemly unsightly cuddly * fortnightly muscly silly * nightly slatternly courtly giggly untimely curly girly slovenly neighbourly unworldly * daily * weekly godly sly northerly dastardly goodly oily southerly westerly * only deadly gravelly sparkly wifely deathly grisly orderly spindly wily disorderly grizzly otherworldly wobbly sprightly drizzly heavenly painterly womanly squally hilly * early pally squiqqly woolly holy earthly pearly stately worldly pebbly steely easterly homely wriggly * hourly elderly pimply straggly wrinkly fatherly jolly portly stubbly writerly fiddly * kindly prickly surly * yearly * fortnightly kingly thistly priestly friendly knobbly princely tickly frilly leisurely * quarterly timely gentlemanly likely queenly treacly

The -y suffix is productive for the formation of adjectives from nouns and nonce words, such as *jungly* or *tangly* will often be formed from any noun ending in -l or -le.