

Commas Separating Two or More Coordinating Adjectives

Coordinate adjectives are those adjectives that carry equal relationship to the noun. The adjectives modify the noun and not each other. You can determine the status of the adjectives by the following:

- If you reverse the order of the adjectives, does the sentence still make sense? If yes, then you should place a comma because they are equal.
- Will the sentence still make sense if you place *and* between each adjective? If so, you need a comma.
- 1. She is an agreeable, happy girl.
 - She is an agreeable and happy girl. You can place and between the adjectives and the sentence makes senses
 - She is a happy, agreeable girl. You can reverse the order of the adjectives and the sentence makes sense.
- 2. The narrow, rough, slick highway should be avoided.
 - The narrow and rough and slick highway should be avoided. <u>You can place and between the adjectives and the sentence makes sense.</u>
 - The slick, narrow, rough highway should be avoided. <u>You can reverse the order of the adjectives</u> and the sentence makes sense.
 - The rough, narrow, slick highway should be avoided. You can reverse the order of the adjectives and the sentence makes sense.