

# Hyphenated Compound Adjectives

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

When a number and a noun work together to describe another noun, they are joined with a hyphen, forming a compound adjective.

Example: a three-course meal

Match the compound adjectives to the nouns they describe:

three-day	report	five-minute	subscription service
five-kilogram	band	eight-hour	service
five-year-old	bag	eighteen-hole	tent
six-mile	bicycle	fifty-year	speech
second-hand	apartment	twenty-four-hour	anniversary
third-place	highway	thirty-second	shift
four-piece	child	twelve-month	advertisement
ten-page	winner	twenty-storey	binder
three-bedroom	trip	three-ring	building
eight-lane	hike	two-person	golf course

Compound adjectives are hyphenated when placed before the noun they describe. They are NOT hyphenated when placed after the noun.

Rewrite the sentences using a compound adjective:

1. The walk was five miles long. It was a five-mile walk.
2. The journey took three weeks. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The building has four storeys. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The child is two years old. \_\_\_\_\_
5. The camp lasted three days. \_\_\_\_\_

Underline the noun, circle the mistakes and state why it is an error:

We stayed in a three bedroom apartment near the beach. Use hyphens before the noun.

The movie lasted three-hours. \_\_\_\_\_

They booked a two week holiday in Fiji. \_\_\_\_\_

Dad drove a four wheel drive vehicle through the mud. \_\_\_\_\_

The race covered twenty-miles. \_\_\_\_\_

The chef prepared a six course dinner. \_\_\_\_\_

The hikers completed a seven mile walk. \_\_\_\_\_

My cousin is a twelve year old student. \_\_\_\_\_

The baby is eighteen-months old. \_\_\_\_\_

When a fraction and a noun work together to describe another noun, they are joined with a hyphen, forming a compound adjective.

Example: a half-hour delay

Write the compound adjectives:

- a lesson that last for half an hour... is a \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ lesson.
- an excursion that lasts for half a day ... is a \_\_\_\_\_
- a flight that lasts one hour and a half ... is a \_\_\_\_\_
- an answer that takes up a quarter of the page... is a \_\_\_\_\_

