

**brilliant**1. ['brɪljənt] *n*

1. бриллиант
2. *полигр.* диамант

2. ['brɪljənt] *a*

1. блестящий, сверкающий; яркий  
brilliant sunshine - ослепительный/яркий/ солнечный свет  
brilliant polish - тонкая полировка, полировка до блеска
2. блестящий, выдающийся  
brilliant mind [intellect] - блестящий /выдающийся/ ум [интеллект]  
brilliant wit - блестящее остроумие

**brilliant**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**bril-liant** [brilliant brilliants] *BrE* ['brɪljənt] <sup>m</sup> *NAmE* ['brɪljənt] <sup>m</sup> **adjective**

1. extremely clever or impressive
  - What a brilliant idea!
  - a brilliant performance/invention
2. very successful
  - a brilliant career
  - The play was a brilliant success.
3. very intelligent or skilful
  - a brilliant young scientist
  - She has one of the most brilliant minds in the country.
4. (*of light or colours*) very bright
  - brilliant sunshine
  - brilliant blue eyes
5. (*BrE, informal*) very good; excellent
  - 'How was it?' 'Brilliant!'
  - Thanks. You've been brilliant (= very helpful).

Derived Words ↑brilliance ▪ ↑brilliantly

Word Origin:late 17th cent.: from French **brillant** 'shining', present participle of **briller**, from Italian **brillare**, probably from Latin **beryllus** from Greek **bēryllos**.Thesaurus:**brilliant** *adj.*

1.
  - a brilliant young scientist
  - intelligent** • • **bright** • |especially *AmE* **smart** • |especially *BrE* **clever** •

**Opp:** **stupid**brilliant/clever **at sth**a brilliant/bright/intelligent/smart/clever **child/boy/girl/man/woman**brilliant/intelligent/smart/clever **thing to do/move**

2. (*BrE, informal*)

- The show was brilliant!

**excellent** • • **outstanding** • • **perfect** • • **first-rate** • • **classic** • • **superb** • • **tremendous** • |*informal* **great** • • **fantastic** • • **fabulous** • • **terrific** • • **cool** • |especially *AmE, informal* **awesome** • |*slang* **wicked** •

**Opp:** **rubbish**a/an brilliant/excellent/outstanding/perfect/superb/great/fantastic/fabulous/terrific/cool/awesome/wicked **place****have** a/an brilliant/excellent/great/fantastic/fabulous/terrific/cool/awesome **time**a/an brilliant/excellent/outstanding/superb/tremendous/great/fantastic/terrific/awesome **achievement**Synonyms:**bright**

brilliant • vivid • vibrant

These words all describe things that are shining or full of light or colours that are strong and easy to see.

**bright** • full of light; shining strongly; (of colours) strong and easy to see: ▪ a bright yellow dress**brilliant** • very bright: ▪ The sky was a brilliant blue.**vivid** • (*approving*) (of colours) bright and strong: ▪ His eyes were a vivid green.**vibrant** • (*approving*) (of colours) bright and strong: ▪ The room was decorated in vibrant blues and greens.**vivid or vibrant?**These two words are very similar, but **vivid** emphasizes how bright a colour is, while **vibrant** suggests a more lively and exciting colour or combination of colours.bright/brilliant/vivid/vibrant **colours**bright/brilliant **light/sunlight/sunshine/eyes**Synonyms:**great**

cool • fantastic • fabulous • terrific • brilliant • awesome

These are all informal words that describe sb/sth that is very good, pleasant, enjoyable, etc.

**great** • (informal) very good; giving a lot of pleasure: ▪ We had a great time in Madrid.

**cool** • (informal) used to show that you admire or approve of sth, often because it is fashionable, attractive or different ▪ I think their new song's really cool.

**fantastic** • (informal) extremely good; giving a lot of pleasure: ▪ 'How was your holiday?' 'Fantastic!'

**fabulous** • (informal) extremely good: ▪ Jane's a fabulous cook. (**Fabulous** is slightly more old-fashioned than the other words in this set.)

**terrific** • (informal) extremely good; wonderful ▪ She's doing a terrific job.

**brilliant** • (BrE, informal) extremely good; wonderful ▪ 'How was the show?' 'Brilliant!'

**awesome** • (informal, especially NAmE) very good, impressive, or enjoyable: ▪ The show was just awesome.

to have a(n) great/cool/fantastic/fabulous/terrific/brilliant/awesome **time**

to **look/sound** great/cool/fantastic/fabulous/terrific/brilliant/awesome

**really** great/cool/fantastic/fabulous/terrific/brilliant/awesome

**absolutely** great/fantastic/fabulous/terrific/brilliant/awesome

### Synonyms:

#### intelligent

smart • clever • brilliant • bright

These words all describe people who are good at learning, understanding and thinking about things, and the actions that show this ability.

**intelligent** • good at learning, understanding and thinking in a logical way about things; showing this ability: ▪ He's a highly intelligent man. ◊▪ She asked a lot of intelligent questions.

**smart** • (especially NAmE) quick at learning and understanding things; showing the ability to make good business or personal decisions: ▪ She's smarter than her brother. ◊▪ That was a smart career move.

**clever** • (sometimes disapproving, especially BrE) quick at learning and understanding things; showing this ability: ▪ How clever of you to work it out! ◊▪ He's too clever by half ▪, if you ask me.

People use **clever** in the phrase: ▪ Clever boy/girl! to tell a young child that they have learnt or done sth well. When used to or about an adult **clever** can be disapproving

**brilliant** • extremely intelligent or skilful: ▪ He's a brilliant young scientist.

**bright** • intelligent; quick to learn: ▪ She's probably the brightest student in the class.

**Bright** is used especially to talk about young people. Common collocations of **bright** include **girl, boy, kid, student, pupil.**

clever/brilliant at sth

a(n) intelligent/smart/clever/brilliant/bright **child/boy/girl/man/woman**

a(n) intelligent/smart/clever/brilliant **thing to do**

### Example Bank:

- He's brilliant at football.
- Her performance was technically brilliant but lacked feeling.
- Her performance was truly brilliant.
- Winning that race was just brilliant.
- an absolutely brilliant idea
- 'How was the show?' 'Brilliant!'
- He scored a brilliant goal a minute before the whistle blew.
- He's a brilliant young scientist.
- Thanks. You've been brilliant.
- The sky was a brilliant blue.
- This is a brilliant and fascinating piece of writing.

## brilliant

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**bril liant** **S2 W3** /'brɪljənt/ **BrE** **AmE** **adjective**

[Date: 1600-1700; Language: French; Origin: present participle of briller 'to shine', from Italian brillare, probably from Latin beryllus; ⇒ |beryl]

1. **BRIGHT** brilliant light or colour is very bright and strong:

- She closed her eyes against the brilliant light.
- We sat outside in the brilliant sunshine.
- She was dressed in brilliant white.

2. **CLEVER** extremely clever or skilful:

- I think that's a brilliant idea.
- a brilliant performance
- a brilliant young musician

3. **EXCELLENT** **British English** excellent:

- The film was absolutely brilliant.

4. **SUCCESSFUL** very successful:

- He had a long and brilliant career.
- The project was a brilliant success.

—**brilliantly** **adverb**:

- The sun was shining brilliantly.
- The goalkeeper played brilliantly.

**brilliant**

12500 **2476**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **2548**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **1k** BRILLIANT<sup>11420</sup>

brilliant<sup>10011</sup>

brilliantly<sup>1409</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

7767 **4022**<sup>10005</sup> *jj*

5 **354879**<sup>6</sup> *nnu*

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