

- acute**
1. [ə'kju:t] *n лингв.*  
акут, акутовое ударение; ударение, обозначенное диакритическим знаком (')
  2. [ə'kju:t] *a*
    1. острый  
acute angle - острый угол  
acute point - *с.-х.* острый наконечник (для культиваторных зубьев)
    2. 1) острый; пронизательный  
acute mind - острый ум  
acute observer - тонкий наблюдатель  
acute man - пронизательный человек
    - 2) острый, тонкий (о слухе и т. п.)  
acute sense of smell - тонкое обоняние  
acute eyesight - острое зрение
    3. сильный, резкий (об ощущениях)  
acute pain - острая /резкая/ боль  
acute pleasure - острое наслаждение  
acute jealousy - жгучая ревность
    4. крайний; решающий, критический  
acute shortage - острая нехватка  
acute distress - крайняя нужда
    5. резкий, высокий, пронзительный (о звуке)
    6. *мед.* острый  
acute gastritis - острый гастрит  
acute alcoholism - *мед.* острое опьянение; отравление алкоголем
    7. *лингв.* акутовый, обозначенный диакритическим знаком (') (*напр.*, café, élité)  
acute accent - а) акут, акутовое ударение; б) значок ударения, диакритический знак (')

**acute**  
**acute** [acute acuter acutest] *BrE* [ə'kjuːt] <sup>m</sup> *NAmE* [ə'kjuːt] <sup>m</sup> **adjective**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

1. very serious or severe
    - There is an acute shortage of water.
    - acute pain
    - the world's acute environmental problems
    - Competition for jobs is acute.
    - The scandal was an acute embarrassment for the President.
  2. an **acute** illness is one that has quickly become severe and dangerous
    - acute appendicitis
- Opp:** ↑chronic
3. (of the senses) very sensitive and well developed  
**Syn:** ↑keen
    - Dogs have an acute sense of smell.
  4. intelligent and quick to notice and understand things
    - He is an acute observer of the social scene.
    - Her judgement is acute.
  5. (geometry) (of an angle) less than 90°  
**Derived Word** ↑acuteness

Word Origin:

late Middle English (describing a disease or its symptoms): from Latin *acutus*, past participle of *acuere* 'sharpen', from *acus* 'needle'.

Example Bank:

- He was suffering from acute chest pains.
- She determined to do something about the world's acute environmental problems.

**acute**  
**acute** /ə'kjuːt/ *BrE* <sup>m</sup> *AmE* <sup>m</sup> **adjective**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

[**Date:** 1300-1400; **Language:** Latin; **Origin:** past participle of *acuere* 'to sharpen', from *acus* 'needle']

1. **PROBLEM** an acute problem is very serious:  
" The housing shortage is more acute than first thought.
2. **FEELING** an acute feeling is very strong:  
" acute pain  
" acute embarrassment  
" acute anxiety
3. **ILLNESS** *technical* an acute illness or disease quickly becomes very serious **OPP** chronic:  
" acute arthritis
4. **SENSES** acute senses such as hearing, taste, touch etc are very good and sensitive:  
" Young children have a particularly acute sense of smell.

5. INTELLIGENT quick to notice and understand things **SYN sharp**:

" Simon's vague manner concealed an acute mind.

" an acute analysis of Middle Eastern politics

6. MATHEMATICS *technical* an acute angle is less than 90° ⇒ **obtuse**

7. PUNCTUATION an acute **↑accent** (=a mark used to show pronunciation) is a small mark written above a vowel. In 'café', the letter 'e' has an acute accent ⇒ **grave, circumflex**

—**acuteness** *noun* [uncountable]

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## THESAURUS

### ■ very bad

- **serious** very bad – used about problems, accidents, illnesses, or crimes: Violent crime is a serious problem in and around the capital. | The boy was taken to hospital with serious head injuries. | Fortunately, the damage to the car was not serious.
- **severe** very serious – used about problems, injuries, and illnesses: He suffered severe injuries in a car crash. | The problem became so severe that they had to bring water in from other countries. | severe epilepsy
- **grave** used about a situation that is very serious and worrying, especially because it is dangerous or seems likely to get worse: A thick fog descended and I knew that we were in grave danger. | The situation is grave – war now seems inevitable.
- **acute** used about an illness, problem, or situation that has become very serious or dangerous, and needs to be dealt with quickly: She was taken to the hospital suffering from acute appendicitis. | In San Diego, the shortage of skilled workers is acute.
- **desperate** used about a situation or problem that is very serious or dangerous, especially because a lot of people need urgent help: The situation is desperate – people here need aid before the harsh winter sets in. | The hospital is full of people in desperate need of medical attention.
- **critical** used about a situation that is very serious and dangerous and might get worse suddenly: In 1991, the food supply situation became critical. | Eight people were killed and four are still in a critical condition.
- **life-threatening** used about a situation, illness, or condition in which someone could die: Her child had a potentially life-threatening illness. | The situation was not life-threatening, but it was very worrying.
- **be a matter of life and death** *spoken* to be extremely serious – used when a situation is very urgent or important: For people living with HIV, getting the right treatment is literally a matter of life and death.

## acute

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3254**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **3567**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **7k ACUTE** <sup>6177</sup>

acute <sup>4953</sup>

acutely <sup>1192</sup>

acuteness <sup>32</sup>

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

<sup>3136</sup> **7136**<sup>4953</sup> *jj*