Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

petite

pe-tite BrE [pə'ti]t NAmE [pə'ti]t adjective (approving)

(of a girl, woman or her figure) small and thin

• a petite blonde

Word Origin:

[petite] late 18th cent.: French, feminine of petit 'small'.

Example Bank:

• She was fair-haired and petite.

• With her slim, petite figure, she could have been any age from 13 to 30.

petite

pe tite /pə'ti ut BrE AmE adjective

[Date: 1500-1600, Language: French, Origin: petit 'small' used for feminine nouns]

a woman who is petite is short and attractively thin SYN slim

THESAURUS

person

• short someone who is short is not as tall as most people: He was a short fat man.

• not very tall quite short. This phrase sounds more gentle than saying that someone is **short**. She wasn't very tall – maybe about 1.60 m.

• small short and with a small body: My mother was a small woman. | The girl was quite small for her age (=smaller than other girls of the same age).

- petite used about a woman who is attractively short and thin: She was a petite woman with blonde hair.
- stocky used about a boy or man who is short, heavy, and strong: Harry was stocky and middle-aged.
- dumpy short and fat: a dumpy girl with red hair
- diminutive formal literary very short or small used especially in descriptions in novels: a diminutive figure dressed in black
 stubby stubby fingers or toes are short and thick: the baby's stubby little fingers
- stubby stubby fingers or toes are short and thick: the baby's stubby little fingers

petite

¹²⁵⁰⁰**9954**^{MCW} ¹⁵⁰⁰⁰**7854**^{COCA} RANGE: **8k** PETITE ¹²¹⁹ petite ¹²¹⁹ COCA 500k Unlemmatized ₉₇₆**18602**¹²¹⁹ *jj* Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

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