

FRENCH «TOUT»

ADJECTIVE - ADVERB NOUN - PRONOUN



How to use the different forms of TOUT

There are many ways to use **TOUT, TOUS, TOUTE, TOUTES**.

Sometimes you pronounce the **S** on **TOUS**, and other times you don't.

Tout can be any of the following:

ADJECTIVE: **Tous** mes amis sont arrivés. All of my friends have arrived.

ADVERB: Il faut continuer **tout** droit. You must continue straight ahead.

NOUN: Il n'a rien mangé du **tout**. He didn't eat anything at all.

NEUTER PRONOUN: **Tout** va bien. Everything is ok.

PLURAL PRONOUN: Ils sont **tous** partis. They all left.
Pronounce the **S** when **TOUS** is a plural pronoun.

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TOUT as an adjective

As an adjective, **TOUT** has four forms.

tout	masculine singular
toute	feminine singular
tous (don't pronounce the S)	masculine plural
toutes	feminine plural

TOUT as an adjective can modify nouns

toute aide	all help
tout droit	every right
tout âge	every age
toute sollicitation	every request
à toute heure	at all times

TOUT as an adjective can be used before definite articles

tout l'avion	the whole plane
toute la classe	the whole class
tout le monde	everyone
tous les enfants	all the children
toutes les chaises	all the chairs

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TOUT can be used before possessive adjectives

tous mes cousins	all of my cousins
toutes ses voitures	all of his / her cars
toute ma vie	my whole life
tout ton gâteau	your whole cake

TOUT can be used before demonstrative adjectives

toute cette classe	this whole class
tous ces devoirs	all of this homework
toutes ces étudiantes	all of these (female) students
tout ce temps	all of this time

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TOUT as an Adverb

TOUT can be an adverb when it is in front of an adjective or another adverb.

TOUT as an adverb is invariable. This is the only way you can write it.

It means **VERY, COMPLETELY, EXTREMELY, ENTIRELY.**

tout droit	straight ahead
tout doucement	very slowly
tout à côté	right next to
tout à gauche	all the way to the left

The adverb TOUT with adjectives

Since **TOUT** as an adverb is invariable, even if the masculine adjective is plural you need to use **TOUT** and not **TOUS**.

Il est tout content d'être avec moi.	He's very happy to be with me.
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Ils sont tout tristes.	They are very sad. *Notice the subject is plural, but tout doesn't change to tous .
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TOUT gets a little tricky with feminine adjectives.

For both singular and plural adjectives that begin with a vowel or a mute H, tout stays invariable.

However, when a feminine adjective begins with a consonant or an aspirated H, you need to go ahead and use **TOUTE** or **TOUTES** if the adjective is plural. This is a huge exception to the rule on how to use **TOUT** as an adverb.

Diane a mangé la pizza tout entière.	Diane ate the whole pizza. *Despite the fact that entière is feminine (because of la pizza), tout stays in its invariable state.
C'est une toute petite fille.	She's a very small girl.

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Ces assiettes sont toutes brillantes.	These plates are very shiny.
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Tout as a pronoun

A pronoun replaces a noun. Think of *il* and *elle*, for example, these are pronouns because they replace a person or a masculine or feminine thing.

As a pronoun **TOUT** means all, everything, or everyone. It only has 3 different forms: **TOUT - TOUS - TOUTES**

The pronunciation of **TOUS** as a pronoun is special and really important. You pronounce the **S** at the end, even if the first letter of the next word is a consonant.

Tout va bien, merci.	Everything's going well, thank you. * TOUT is a neuter pronoun replacing a thing or an idea, but never a person. It means EVERYTHING or ALL.
Mes enfants sont tous adorables. *pronounce the S	My kids are all adorable.

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Les filles sont toutes allées aux toilettes.	The girls all went to the bathroom.
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Something tricky to keep in mind

Since **TOUT** can be used as both an adverb and a pronoun, sometimes the way you use it in a sentence changes the meaning.

The only way you can know the true meaning of the sentences below is pronunciation. In the first example, you must pronounce the **S** because **TOUS** is a pronoun.

<p>Ils sont tous contents de partir en vacances.</p> <p>TOUS is a pronoun and you pronounce the S.</p>	<p>They are all happy to go on vacation.</p> <p>They are all truly touched. Each person is happy.</p>
<p>Ils sont tout contents de partir en vacances.</p>	<p>They are very happy to go on vacation.</p>

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Les enfants
sont **tous**
contents.

TOUS is a
pronoun
and it comes
after the
subject and
verb.
Pronounce
the **S**.

Tous les enfants sont contents.

TOUS is an adjective and it comes before
the subject and verb. Do not pronounce
the **S**.

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