

## Third Declension Adjectives

Third-declension adjectives fall into three classes: 1) Adjectives of three terminations in the nominative singular - one for each gender; 2) Adjectives of two terminations; and 3) Adjectives of one termination. With rare exceptions, third declension adjectives follow the inflection of I-Stem nouns.

### 1. Third Declension Adjectives of Three Terminations:

	Masculine		Feminine		Neuter	
Nom.	acer	acres	acris	acres	acre	acria
Gen.	acris	acrium	acris	acrium	acris	acrium
Dat.	acri	acribus	acri	acribus	acri	acribus
Acc.	acrem	acres	acrem	acres	acre	acria
Abl.	acri	acribus	acri	acribus	acri	acribus

celeber, -bris, -bre, *celebrated, famous*

### 2. Third Declension Adjectives of Two Terminations:

	Masc. & Fem.		Neuter	
Nom.	omnis	omnes	omne	omnia
Gen.	omnis	omnium	omnis	omnium
Dat.	omni	omnibus	omni	omnibus
Acc.	omnem	omnes	omne	omnia
Abl.	omni	omnibus	omni	omnibus

brevis, breve, *short*  
 crudelis, crudele, *cruel, bloody*  
 fidelis, fidele, *faithful*  
 gravis, grave, *heavy, serious*  
 lamentabilis, lamentabile, *deplorable*  
 omnis, omne, *all*

perennis, perenne, *perennial, eternal*  
 puerilis, puerile, *boyish*  
 regalis, regale, *royal*  
 similis, simile, *like*  
 terribilis, terribile, *terrible*  
 tristis, triste, *sad, gloomy*

### 3. Third Declension Adjectives of One Termination:

	Masc. & Fem.		Neuter	
Nom.	ingens	ingentes	ingens	ingentia
Gen.	ingentis	ingentium	ingentis	ingentium
Dat.	ingenti	ingentibus	ingenti	ingentibus
Acc.	ingentem	ingentes	ingens	ingentia
Abl.	ingenti	ingentibus	ingenti	ingentibus

audax, -acis\*, *bold, daring*  
 discors, discordis, *inharmonious, discordant*  
 felix, felicitas, *happy, fortunate*  
 ferox, ferocis, *savage, wild*  
 infelix, infelicitas, *unhappy, unfortunate*  
 ingens, ingentis, *huge, mighty*

innocens, innocentis, *harmless*  
 multiplex, multiplicis, *multiple*  
 recens, recentis, *recent*  
 sapiens, sapientis, *wise*  
 supplex, supplicis, *suppliant*  
 vetus, veteris, *old*

\*The second entry is the genitive singular.

**Note:** Observe where the characteristic **-i** appears in 3rd declension adjectives:

- 1) **-i** in the ablative singular of all genders.
- 2) **-ium** in the genitive plural of all genders.
- 3) **-ia** in the nominative and accusative plural of the neuter.

A few third declension adjectives of one ending are declined without the characteristic **-i**. Thus, **vetus, veteris, old: vetere** (abl. sing.), **veterum** (gen. plu.), **vetera** (neut. nom. and acc. plu.).

Of course a third declension adjective may be used with a noun of any declension. Note the following patterns:

3 endings	2 endings	1 ending
acer vir	omnis vir	sapiens vir
acris regina	omnis regina	sapiens regina
acre animal	omne animal	sapiens animal

### Nine Irregular Adjectives

Nine adjectives of the 1st and 2nd declension have their genitive singular in **-ius** and their dative singular in **-i** in all genders. Otherwise they show the regular endings for adjectives of the 1st and 2nd declension (e.g., bonus, -a, -um). Their plurals are regular.

alius, alia, aliud, <i>other*</i>	totus, -a, -um, <i>whole</i>	alter, altera, alterum, <i>the other</i>
nullus, -a, -um, <i>no, none</i>	ullus, -a, -um, <i>any</i>	neuter, neutra, netrum, <i>neither</i>
solus, -a, -um, <i>alone</i>	unus, -a, -um, <i>one</i>	uter, utra, utrum, <i>which (of two)</i>

Thus:

	Masc.	Fem.	Neut.
Sing.	solus	sola	solum
	solius	solius	solius
	solī	solī	solī
	solum	solam	solum
	solo	sola	solo
Plural:	solī	solae	sola
		etc.	

\**Alius* has *alterius* in the genitive singular (to avoid “aliius”). Otherwise, it follows the pattern set forth above.

Note the similarities in the declensions of the pronouns *ipse, ipsa, ipsum; ille, illa, illud; iste, ista, istud*, all of which show the same pattern as above in the genitive and dative singular.