

# ADVERBS OF MANNER

by Seda Sürel

## INTRODUCTION

The suffix -ce / -ca / -çe / -ça forms manner adverbs from nouns and adjectives. These adverbs describe the style, mode, or quality of an action. The forms are invariable and function within the predicate domain.

### 1. Function

Manner adverbs specify how an action is performed.

The suffix produces adverbial forms that modify verbal predicates independently of tense, aspect, or person.

### 2. Allomorphy

The suffix exhibits four surface allomorphs determined by two phonological processes:

- (1) vowel harmony and**
- (2) consonant assimilation.**

#### 2.1. Vowel Harmony (a/e)

The vowel of the suffix harmonizes with the final vowel of the base:

Back vowels (a, ı, o, u) → -a

Front vowels (e, i, ö, ü) → -e

This selection produces the a/e component of the suffix.

#### Examples:

- güzel → güzelce
- açık → açıkça
- gizli → gizlice

#### 2.2. Consonant Assimilation (c/ç)

The consonant of the suffix surfaces as c or ç, depending on the final segment of the base.

##### 2.2.1. Base Ending in a Vowel → c

#### Examples:

- gizli → gizlice
- doğru → doğruca
- sessiz → sessizce

##### 2.2.2. Base Ending in a Voiced Consonant → c

Voiced consonants:

b, c, d, g, ğ, j, l, m, n, r, v, y, z

#### Examples:

- güzel → güzelce
- zarif → zarifçe
- değer → değerce (attested, limited)

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## 2.2.3. Base Ending in an Unvoiced Consonant → ç

Unvoiced consonants:

f, s, t, k, ç, ş, h, p  
("fıstıkçı şahap")

### Examples:

- sert → sertçe
- açık → açıkça
- yüksek → yüksekçe
- genç → genççe
- dost → dostça
- yavaş → yavaşça

## 3. Surface Behavior

The suffix attaches directly to the base.

Stem-internal vowels or consonants do not undergo alternation.

Many derived forms are lexicalized in standard use.

### Lexicalized examples:

- açıkça
- kısaca
- doğruca
- gizlice
- sessizce

## 4. Syntactic Position

The neutral position of a manner adverb is immediately before the verb phrase.

### Pattern:

**Subject + Manner Adverb + Verb Phrase**

### Examples:

- Yavaşça konuştu.
- Açıkça söyledi.

Fronting is possible for emphasis.

## 5. Lexicalized Forms

Common lexicalized manner adverbs include:

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- yavaşça (slowly, gently)
- açıkça (clearly)
- kısaca (briefly)
- doğruba (directly, straight)
- gizlice (secretly)
- sessizce (silently)
- dostça (in a friendly way)
- güzelce (nicely, thoroughly)

These forms function as fixed items in contemporary Turkish.

## 6. Distribution and Interpretation

The suffix forms invariable adverbs that:

- modify the predicate
- do not inflect
- operate across all tense–aspect systems
- derive interpretive nuance from the lexical base

### Examples

- Yavaşça konuştu. (He/She spoke slowly.)
- Açıkça söyledi. (He/She stated it clearly.)
- Kısaca anlattı. (He/She explained it briefly.)
- Sessizce beklediler. (They waited silently.)
- Dostça davranıştı. (He/She behaved in a friendly way.)
- Gizlice çıktı. (He/She left secretly.)
- Güzelce hazırladık. (We prepared it nicely.)
- Doğruba eve gitti. (He/She went straight home.)

### Notes

- The suffix has four allomorphs determined by vowel harmony and consonant assimilation.
- The resulting forms are invariable manner adverbs.
- The neutral position of the adverb is immediately before the verb phrase.