Adverbs with Adjectives

HSK 4 Grammar

Original teaching practice. Read one pattern, cover its model and try the questions before checking the separate answer section. Examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA) retain the course-reference provenance.

挺 + adjective (+ 的) – quite / pretty

挺 (tǐng) intensifies an assessment in everyday conversation. The assessment can be positive or negative. It does not have a fixed strength relative to 很: context and emphasis matter.

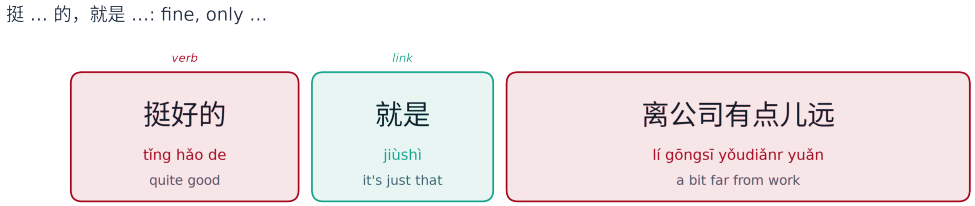
Structure: 挺 + Adjective (+ 的)

这个菜挺好吃的。
zhè ge cài tǐng hǎo chī de
Word guide: 这个 – this; 菜 – dish; 挺 – quite; 好吃 – tasty.
This dish is quite tasty.

最近大家都挺忙的。
zuì jìn dà jiā dōu tǐng máng de
Word guide: 最近 – recently; 大家 – everyone; 都 – all; 挺 – quite; 忙 – busy.
Everyone has been quite busy lately.

的 is common, but optional in many expressions. Both 挺好的 and 挺好 are natural. 挺有意思 means "quite interesting"; it can also end with 的. Do not mark an answer wrong simply because 的 is absent.

Use it in a situation: Someone asks how your new course is going. You might answer 挺好的 ("Quite well"). If an item costs more than you expected, 这个挺贵的 means "This is quite expensive".



> **Check the distinction:** Does 挺 guarantee praise? No. 挺麻烦的 means "quite troublesome". Does every 挺 phrase need 的? No. 挺好 is a natural short assessment.

Try it: Describe a course, a dish, or a journey using 挺. Then change the assessment from positive to negative. A possible pair is 这个菜挺好吃的 / 这个菜挺贵的。

Practice without the models

■ **挺 + Adj + 的 (quite / rather)**

0301.1 Casually: "The food here is pretty good." 这儿的菜 …… 好吃的。

0301.2 Which says "It isn't very expensive"?

- A. 不挺太贵。
- B. 不挺贵的。
- C. 不太贵。
- D. 挺不太贵。

0301.3 Build: "I quite like this city."

Arrange all chunks: 我 / 挺喜欢 / 的。/ 这个城市

0301.4 挺 is more casual than 很.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0301.5 A friend asks about your new apartment. It is nice, though not amazing. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson's pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

Answers and explanations

■ 挺 + Adj + 的 (quite / rather)

0301.1 挺

挺 + Adj + 的.

0301.2 C. 不太贵。

The negative of "quite" is 不太.

0301.3 我挺喜欢这个城市的。

挺 + feeling verb + object + 的.

0301.4 True.

挺 belongs to friendly conversation.

0301.5 One possible response: 挺好的，就是离公司有点儿远。

Check meaning and form:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- "Not very" is 不太 or 不怎么, not 不挺: 不太好, not 不挺好. (挺不错 / 挺不好 put 不 after 挺.)
- 挺 is spoken; in an essay prefer 比较 or 很.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

This is supported productive practice. Compare meaning and structure; your answer need not copy the model. A partner or teacher must hear the spoken response to comment on pronunciation.