

Hyphens

Hyphens join together words or parts of words. For example:

small-scale

re-formed

Hyphens are very useful as they can help to clarify the meaning of a word or phrase and avoid ambiguity in writing. For example:

Paula decided to resign from her job but Steve re-signed his contract.

Hyphens can be used in a variety of different ways:

To Create Compound Adjectives

**The dog padded across the room on its
bear-like paws.**

**Georgina hung her hot-pink coat on
the hook.**

Clarifying a Word Meaning

**Dad decided to re-press his shirt as it
was still creased.**

**Bill requested that the email should be
re-sent later today.**

Avoiding Awkward Letter or
Sound Combinations

To Join 2 Nouns To Create a New
Noun or Objective

AVOIDING REPEATING LETTERS
Sound Combinations

The children seemed incapable of co-operating with each other.

The policeman called for help to de-escalate the situation.

In Written Numbers 21 - 99

Twenty-seven people ran the race.

There are thirty-two known species of fish in our school pond.

TO JOIN 2 NOUNS TO CREATE A NEW
Noun or Objective

Dan hung up a skeleton-head garland on Halloween.

The student-teacher taught the children about hyphens.

Create Informal Words/Phrases

The man is an out-and-out thief.

The meeting became a bit of a free-for-all with everyone speaking at once.

Splitting a Word at the End of a Line

Fiona thought that the new James Bond film was stupendously enjoyable.



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