

So vs Such

So ... that, Such ... that

We use so ... that, such ... that:

a) to show a fact (usually with a result or consequence)

- Pamela Ander's feet are big.
(Expresses a fact).
- Pamela Ander's feet are **so big that** she can't find shoes her size.
(Emphasizes that you feel strongly about the size of her feet).

b) to show extreme feelings or an opinion about something

- George Bushoff is an idiot.
(Merely a statement of fact/opinion).
- George Bushoff is **such an idiot that** he doesn't even know the capital of his own country.
(Emphasizes the speaker's opinion of the intensity of George Bushoff's idiocy).

SO with adjectives and adverbs

so + adjective/adverb + that + result

- The teacher speaks so clearly that everyone can understand her.
- The sun was so strong that they got burned within 15 minutes.

SUCH + Nouns

such + a + (adjective) + singular noun + that + result

(It is common to put an adjective before the noun)

- He is **such a tight person that** he even reuses his servillettes.
- Christopher is **such a handsome man that** all the ladies want him.
- She had **such a long speech that** everyone stopped paying attention to her.

such + plural/uncountable noun + that + result

- She has **such big feet that** she has to buy special shoes.
- Woodward Restaurant has **such good food that** it's always full of people.

SO / SUCH in exclamations

In exclamations we drop the word 'that' and use:

i) such + noun (singular/plural)

ii) so + adjective

- You are **such** an idiot! (noun)
- Celebrities have **such** weird tastes! (noun)
- You are **so** stupid! (adjective)
- It's **so** sunny outside! (adjective)

Such-and-such

This is used to talk about a particular type of person or thing that doesn't need to be specified. It is an unstated generic placeholder.

- People from **such-and-such** areas tend to be wealthy.
- If you do **such-and-such** a job, you will become famous.