

**What Is the Difference Between *Affect* and *Effect*?**

The majority of the time you use *affect* with an *a* as a [verb](http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/subject-verb-agreement.aspx) and *effect* with an *e* as a [noun](http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/collective-nouns.aspx).

**When Should You Use *Affect?***

*Affect* with an *a* means "to influence," as in, "The arrows affected Ardvark," or "The rain affected Amy's hairdo." *Affect* can also mean, roughly, "to act in a way that you don't feel," as in, "She affected an air of superiority."

**When Should You Use *Effect*?**

*Effect* with an *e* has a lot of subtle meanings as a [noun](http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/Capitalizing-Proper-Nouns.aspx), but to me the meaning "a result" seems to be at the core of all the definitions. For example, you can say, "The effect was eye-popping," or "The sound effects were amazing," or "The rain had no effect on Amy's hairdo."