

subtle['sʌtl] *a*

1. тонкий, нежный
subtle perfume - нежный /тонкий/ запах
of subtle texture - тонкой структуры
2. острый, пронизательный
subtle policy - умная /тонкая/ политика
subtle mind - острый ум
subtle senses - обострённые чувства
subtle observer - пронизательный наблюдатель
subtle remark [irony] - тонкое замечание [-ая ирония]
3. 1) трудно уловимый, едва различимый
subtle distinction - тонкое различие
subtle charm - неуловимое обаяние
2) (странный и) таинственный
subtle power [magic] - таинственная сила [-ое волшебство]
4. искусный, умелый, ловкий
subtle device - хитроумное приспособление
subtle fingers - ловкие /искусные/ пальцы
a subtle bit of work - искусное изделие
5. утончённый, изысканный
subtle delight - утончённое наслаждение
subtle art - тонкое искусство
6. 1) хитрый, коварный; изворотливый
subtle enemy - коварный враг
subtle rogue - ловкий мошенник
2) действующий исподтишка, незаметно
subtle poisons - медленно действующие яды
7. ненасыщенный; негустой

subtle

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

sub-tle [subtle subtler subtlest] *BrE* ['sʌtl] ^o *NAmE* ['sʌtl] ^o **adjective** (**sub-tler**, **sub-tlest**) **more subtle** is also common

1. (often approving) not very noticeable or obvious
 - **subtle colours/flavours/smells, etc.**
 - There are **subtle differences** between the two versions.
 - The fragrance is a subtle blend of jasmine and sandalwood.
 - She's been dropping subtle hints about what she'd like as a present.
2. (of a person or their behaviour) behaving in a clever way, and using indirect methods, in order to achieve sth
 - I decided to try a more subtle approach.
3. organized in a clever way
 - a subtle plan
 - a subtle use of lighting in the play
4. good at noticing and understanding things
 - The job required a subtle mind.

Derived Word ↑ **subtly**

Word Origin:

Middle English (also in the sense 'not easily understood'): from Old French *soutil*, from Latin *subtilis*.

Example Bank:

- infinitely subtle tonal gradations
- making infinitely subtle distinctions
- For a natural glow to your skin mix a subtle shade of blusher with loose powder.
- Her paintings are characterized by sweeping brush strokes and subtle colours.

subtle

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

sub-tle /'sʌtl/ *BrE* ^o *AmE* ^o **adjective** (comparative **subtler** or **more subtle**, superlative **subtlest**)

[Date: 1300-1400; Language: Old French; Origin: *soutil*, from Latin *subtilis* 'finely woven, subtle', from *tela* 'something woven']

1. not easy to notice or understand unless you pay careful attention **OPP obvious**:

- The pictures are similar, but there are subtle differences between them.
- The warning signs of the disease are so subtle that they are often ignored.
- a subtle form of racism

subtle taste/flavour/smell etc

- The flavour of the dried berries is more subtle.
- The dish had a subtle hint of ginger.

2. behaving in a skilful and clever way, especially using indirect methods or language to hide what you are trying to do:

- I think we need a more subtle approach.

" a subtle plan

subtle about

" She wasn't very subtle about it. She just said she didn't love him any more.

3. very clever in noticing and understanding things ⇨ **sensitive**:

" a subtle mind

—subtly *adverb*:

" a subtly different colour

subtle

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3620**^{MCW}

15000 **2668**^{COCA}

RANGE: **3k** SUBTLE ¹⁰⁵²²

subtle ⁸³⁸⁰

unsubtle ⁶⁰

subtly ¹⁶⁵²

subtleness ⁴

subtler ³⁴⁶

subtlest ⁸⁰

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

6752 **4683**⁸³⁸⁰ *jj*
