

**lesser**

- [ˈlesə] *a*
- редк. *compar om* little II
  - меньший, малый; небольшой; мелкий  
 the lesser of two evils - из двух зол меньшее  
 lesser breaches of the law - мелкие нарушения закона  
 lesser circulation - *физиол.* малый круг кровообращения  
 lesser calorie - *спец.* малая калория
  - муз.* малый (об интервале)

**lesser**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**I. less-er** *BrE* [ˈlesə(r)] <sup>ˈ</sup> *NAme* [ˈlesə] <sup>ˈ</sup> **adjective only before noun**

- not as great in size, amount or importance as sth/sb else
  - people of lesser importance
  - They were all involved **to a greater or lesser degree** (= some were more involved than others) .
  - The law was designed to protect wives, and, to a lesser extent, children.
  - He was encouraged to plead guilty to the lesser offence.
  - (*humorous*) He doesn't even acknowledge us **lesser mortals** (= people who are not as important or powerful) .
  - A lesser woman would have given up.
- used in the names of some types of animals, birds and plants which are smaller than similar kinds
  - a lesser black-backed gull

**Opp:** greater

**Idioms:** ↑lesser evil ▪ ↑lesser of two evils

Word Origin:

[lesser] Middle English: a double comparative, from ↑less + ↑-er.

**II. less-er** **adverb**

- one of the lesser-known Caribbean islands

**Main entry:** ↑lesser <sup>derived</sup>

**lesser**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

**lesser** /ˈlesə \$ -ər/ *BrE* <sup>ˈ</sup> *AmE* <sup>ˈ</sup> **adjective [only before noun]**

- formal** not as large, as important, or as much as something else **OPP greater** :  
 They originally asked for \$5 million, but finally settled for a lesser sum.  
**to a lesser extent/degree**  
 This was true in Madrid and, to a lesser extent, Valencia and Seville. ⇒ **lesser mortals** at ↑mortal<sup>2</sup>, ⇒ **to a greater or lesser extent** at ↑extent(1)
  - the lesser of two evils** also **the lesser evil** the less unpleasant or harmful of two unpleasant choices
  - technical** used in the names of some types of animal, bird, or plant that are slightly smaller than the main type
- lesser adverb:**
- the lesser-known artists of the period
  - one of Glasgow's lesser used venues

**lesser**

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3782**<sup>MCW</sup>  
 15000 **131**<sup>COCA</sup>  
 RANGE: **1k LESS** 293544  
 less 152288  
 lessen 1333  
 lessened 646  
 lessening 480  
 lesser 4789  
 least 134008  
 COCA 500k Unlemmatized  
 4024 **7301**<sup>4789</sup> *jj*