



as...as

We use as + adjective/adverb + as to make comparisons when the things we are comparing are equal in some way:

- The world's biggest bull is **as big as** a small elephant.
- The weather this summer is **as bad as** last year. It hasn't stopped raining for weeks.
- You have to unwrap it **as carefully as** you can. It's quite fragile.

Not as ... as

We use “**not as ... as**” to make comparisons between things which aren't equal:

- This bag is **not as heavy as** I thought it would be.
- Rory hasn't **grown as tall as** Tommy yet.

not SO...as

(formal) We used in comparisons to say that something or someone has less of a particular quality than another person or thing

- The cycling was good but **not so hard as** the cross country skiing we did.
- The bed was **not so comfortable as** his own.
- The idea is **not so silly as** it sounds.

Common mistake :

In comparisons without ‘not’, we use “as ... as”:

- Your writing is as bad as mine.

✗ Don't say: Your writing is so bad as mine.

“**Not so ... as**” is less common than “**Not as ... as**”.