

## cheap vs. inexpensive

Source -1.

When an item or service is perceived as costing the buyer less than is normally expected, the price or the item or service may be called either "inexpensive" or "cheap".

This signals that it is relatively less than one would normally expect to pay for something of similar value. In this case, "cheap" is more a colloquial term, and "inexpensive" is of a higher register. The meaning is the same.

Source -2.

"Cheap" can mean poor quality as well as low price, while "inexpensive" refers only to the price.

expense (←expensive) [ɪkˈspens] : [명사] (어떤 것에 드는) 돈, 비용

Expense is the money that something costs you or that you need to spend in order to do something.

He's bought a specially big TV at vast expense so that everyone can see properly.

expensive [ɪkˈspensɪv] : [형용사] 비싼, 돈이 많이 드는

an expensive car / restaurant / holiday 비싼 차/식당/돈이 많이 드는 휴가  
costing a lot of money:

Big houses are expensive to maintain.

She has expensive tastes (= she likes things that cost a lot of money).

less expensive :

Do you have a less expensive room?

This book is less expensive than that book.

Do you like this coat, or would you like to see something a little less expensive?

Is it less expensive to leave lights on all the time, rather than turning them on and off?