Synonyms

 [prudent](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/prudent" \o "marked by sound judgment)

marked by sound judgment

He remains committed to **prudent** spending and developing players.

 [warrant](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/warrant" \o "formal and explicit approval)

formal and explicit approval

When Parker missed a hearing last week, a **warrant** was issued.

 [retort](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/retort" \o "a quick reply to a question or remark)

a quick reply to a question or remark

“Your mom’s house,” Mr. Williams replied in a typical **retort**.

A retort is a comeback or a quick and clever answer or remark.

 [creed](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/creed" \o "any system of principles or beliefs)

any system of principles or beliefs

Older folks give off a characteristic scent that's independent of race, **creed**, or diet.

A creed can be a formal doctrine, or system of beliefs, for a church or religious group, or it can be a philosophy, or personal set of beliefs.

 [resolute](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/resolute" \o "characterized by quickness and firmness)

characterized by quickness and firmness

Since then, as rebels have made inroads across Syria, Iraq’s minority Sunnis have become increasingly **resolute**, Iraqi officials and Western diplomats say.

Use the adjective resolute to describe a purposeful and determined person, someone who wants to do something very much, and won't let anything get in the way.

 [obstinate](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/obstinate" \o "stubbornly persistent in wrongdoing)

stubbornly persistent in wrongdoing

Of course, Obama was forced into such measures by an **obstinate** opposition.

obstinate is most definitely negative because it implies a kind of hard-headed determination not to change your mind even when it might be best to rethink your position.

 [arbitrary](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/arbitrary" \o "based on or subject to individual discretion or preference)

based on or subject to individual discretion or preference

The results seem to be **arbitrary**; some are removed, but others are left in place.

Something that's arbitrary seems like it's chosen at random instead of following a consistent rule.

 [concur](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/concur" \o "be in agreement)

be in agreement

On some documents, the cardinal wrote by hand, “I **concur**.”

To concur is to agree or approve of something.

 [legacy](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/legacy" \o "a gift of personal property by will)

a gift of personal property by will

After decades in politics, David’s greatest **legacy** will be his infectious faithfulness.

Use the word, legacy, for something handed down from one generation to the next.

 [supposition](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/supposition" \o "a hypothesis that is taken for granted)

a hypothesis that is taken for granted

“Yet this **supposition** has not been supported by evidence.”

A supposition is a guess or a hypothesis.

 [monotonous](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/monotonous" \o "tediously repetitious or lacking in variety)

tediously repetitious or lacking in variety

It's rich territory, enlivened by Neilson's surreal humour, but after nearly two hours this stream of open-ended shorts becomes **monotonous**.

Monotonous things are boring and repetitive.

 [Renaissance](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/Renaissance" \o "the revival of learning and culture)

the revival of learning and culture

His Sheffield quintet are leading the **renaissance** of British metal.

 [aloof](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/aloof" \o "distant, cold, or detached in manner)

distant, cold, or detached in manner

These leaders would be peers, first among equals, accessible yet slightly **aloof**.

That emotionally cold and detached fellow who keeps to himself

 [congenial](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/congenial" \o "suitable to your needs)

suitable to your needs

Most are very **congenial**, reasonable and cooperative, while others have hidden agendas.

A congenial person is easy to get along with

 [proximity](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/proximity" \o "the property of being close together)

the property of being close together

Others do cross Earth’s orbit with varying degrees of **proximity**.

 [manifold](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/manifold" \o "many and varied; having many features or forms)

many and varied; having many features or forms

Symptoms are **manifold** and take up two pages on the Lyme Disease Association’s website

 [arduous](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/arduous" \o "characterized by effort to the point of exhaustion)

characterized by effort to the point of exhaustion

These private talks were, by all accounts, **arduous** and exhaustive.

Use the adjective, arduous, to describe an activity that takes a lot of effort.

 [unscrupulous](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/unscrupulous" \o "without principles)

without principles

“Some **unscrupulous** firms are making a profit by keeping customers in the dark.”

 [capricious](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/capricious" \o "changeable)

changeable

He said the **capricious** nature of wood governed many artistic decisions.

Capricious is an adjective to describe a person or thing that's impulsive and unpredictable,

 [ostensible](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/ostensible" \o "appearing as such but not necessarily so)

appearing as such but not necessarily so

There is no hurry; no **ostensible** hurry, at any rate.

When something is ostensible it appears to be the case but might not be.

 [omnipotent](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/omnipotent" \o "having unlimited power)

having unlimited power

Europe's once **omnipotent** banking lobby has been all but neutered by the scale of scandal.

 [uncanny](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/uncanny" \o "surpassing the ordinary or normal)

surpassing the ordinary or normal

Ms. Michelson is known for her **uncanny** ability to take over a space.

If something is uncanny, it is so mysterious, strange, or unfamiliar that it seems supernatural.

 [saturated](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/saturated" \o "unable to dissolve still more of a substance)

unable to dissolve still more of a substance

More likely, it means you never get connected because traffic channels are already **saturated**.

Unable to hold or contain more; full; soaked thoroughly

 [subjugate](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/subjugate" \o "make subservient; force to submit or subdue)

make subservient; force to submit or subdue

In the worst case, wives were frustrated and **subjugated** and husbands were domineering and entitled.

 [pragmatic](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/pragmatic" \o "concerning a theory of observable practical consequences)

concerning a theory of observable practical consequences

But I believe there are some **pragmatic** ways to address this issue.

The opposite of idealistic is pragmatic, a word that describes a philosophy of "doing what works best."

 [peevish](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/peevish" \o "easily irritated or annoyed)

easily irritated or annoyed

Bonded males get a bit **peevish** if their partner visits another potential mate, nipping her or performing threatening displays.

When you're peevish, you're easily irritated and grumpy. Everything seems to get under your skin.

 [adept](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/adept" \o "having or showing knowledge and skill and aptitude)

having or showing knowledge and skill and aptitude

H7N9 is gradually becoming more **adept** at invading mammalian airways.

a adept person who is highly skilled, very proficient or expert at something

 [candor](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/candor" \o "the quality of being honest and straightforward)

the quality of being honest and straightforward

His **candor** is already winning points among military officials and industry executives alike.

Candor usually means the quality of being open, honest, and sincere.

 [wry](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/wry" \o "humorously sarcastic or mocking)

humorously sarcastic or mocking

Players wore **wry** smiles while taping bags of ice to aching elbows, knees

 [jargon](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/jargon" \o "technical terminology characteristic of a particular subject)

technical terminology characteristic of a particular subject

Some **jargon**, like “hashtag,” stick around while others vanish as quickly an HD

 [digress](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/digress" \o "wander from a direct or straight course)

wander from a direct or straight course

Don't **digress** when you give a lecture

When a person digresses, they stray from the topic.

 [morose](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/morose" \o "showing a brooding ill humor)

showing a brooding ill humor

He sat **morose** and unheeding, his hands clasping his stick, his sightless eyes staring at the fire.

A morose person is sullen, gloomy, sad, glum, and depressed — not a happy camper.

 [vanguard](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/vanguard" \o "the position of greatest importance or advancement)

the position of greatest importance or advancement

In some cases, places or events became rallying points for **vanguard** activity.

If you are in the vanguard, you're up front.

 [paraphrase](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/paraphrase" \o "express the same message in different words)

express the same message in different words

This can be done by simply **paraphrasing** what he/she just said, in your own words.

The verb paraphrase means to sum something up or clarify a statement by rephrasing it.

 [commodious](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/commodious" \o "large and roomy)

large and roomy

A plain, **commodious**, and substantial Meeting House was erected.[Coleman, Thomas](https://corpus.vocabulary.com/go/717619)

 [flippant](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/flippant" \o "showing an inappropriate lack of seriousness)

showing an inappropriate lack of seriousness

This option was, he said, not entirely **flippant**.

 [urbane](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/urbane" \o "showing a high degree of refinement)

showing a high degree of refinement

The evening featured several excerpts from his **urbane**, finely wrought dances.

 [lacerate](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/lacerate" \o "deeply hurt the feelings of; distress)

deeply hurt the feelings of; distress

One meditation called the Middle East "a land **lacerated** by injustice and violence".

 [adamant](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/adamant" \o "impervious to pleas, persuasion, requests, or reason)

impervious to pleas, persuasion, requests, or reason

The 43-year-old is **adamant** about making it home every night for dinner.

If you stubbornly refuse to change your mind about something, you are adamant about it.

 [obligatory](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/obligatory" \o "required by compulsion or convention)

required by compulsion or convention

General labor service has an **obligatory** character; but this does not mean at all that it represents violence done to the working class.

Obligatory describes something you do because you have to, not because you want to.

 [blatant](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/blatant" \o "without any attempt at concealment; completely obvious)

without any attempt at concealment; completely obvious

How on earth are they allowed to get away with such **blatant** discrimination?

Something blatant is very obvious and offensive.

 [sporadic](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/sporadic" \o "recurring in scattered or unpredictable instances)

recurring in scattered or unpredictable instances

The mailman comes every day but the plumber visits are **sporadic**––he comes as needed.

Sporadic is an adjective that you can use to refer to something that happens or appears often, but not constantly or regularly.

 [inviolable](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/inviolable" \o "immune to attack; incapable of being tampered with)

immune to attack; incapable of being tampered with

It’s like being a family, sort of an **inviolable** thing.

 [negligible](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/negligible" \o "so small as to be meaningless; insignificant)

so small as to be meaningless; insignificant

The amount of interest you'll get on your savings is **negligible**, so you might as well spend your money.

When something is meaningless or insignificant because it is so little, it's negligible.

 [pliant](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/pliant" \o "capable of being shaped or bent or drawn out)

capable of being shaped or bent or drawn out

Mr. Dolié sang in a light, warm and **pliant** voice

it can also describe something that is flexible, but less tangible.

 [tawdry](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/tawdry" \o "tastelessly showy)

tastelessly showy

A: There's nothing **tawdry** about offering your wares on the street.

Gaudy and cheap in nature or appearance

 [genesis](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/genesis" \o "a coming into being)

a coming into being

Talking about the project's **genesis**, Mr. Mulhern cites a wide range of artistic influences.

 [cantankerous](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/cantankerous" \o "stubbornly obstructive and unwilling to cooperate)

stubbornly obstructive and unwilling to cooperate

As Allen points out, Italians are in a **cantankerous** mood these days.

 [personable](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/personable" \o "pleasant in manner and appearance)

pleasant in manner and appearance

She was pretty, **personable** and, it turned out, smart and capable.

If you're personable, you're friendly and get along well with other people.

 [precociousness](https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/precociousness" \o "intelligence achieved far ahead of normal developmental schedules)

intelligence achieved far ahead of normal developmental schedules

Such **precociousness** is apt to result in a purely negative character.

Early development or maturity, especially in mental ability