

Need another word that means the same as “arbitrary”? Find 20 synonyms and 30 related words for “arbitrary” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Arbitrary” are: capricious, whimsical, random, chance, erratic, unpredictable, inconsistent, wild, haphazard, casual, despotic, tyrannical, tyrannous, peremptory, summary, autocratic, dictatorial, authoritarian, draconian, autarchic

Arbitrary as an Adjective

Definitions of "Arbitrary" as an adjective

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “arbitrary” as an adjective can have the following definitions:

- *Based on random choice or personal whim, rather than any reason or system.*
- *(of power or a ruling body) unrestrained and autocratic in the use of authority.*
- *Based on or subject to individual discretion or preference or sometimes impulse or caprice.*
- *(of a constant or other quantity) of unspecified value.*



Synonyms of "Arbitrary" as an adjective (20 Words)

- autarchic** Of or relating to or characterized by autarchy.
Characteristic of an absolute ruler or absolute rule; having absolute sovereignty.
- authoritarian** *He had an **authoritarian** and at times belligerent manner.*
- autocratic** Offensively self-assured or given to exercising usually unwarranted power.
*An **autocratic** person.*
- capricious** Determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason.
*A **capricious** refusal.*
- casual** Occurring from time to time.
*A **casual** short sleeved shirt.*
- chance** Occurring or appearing or singled out by chance.
*A **chance** meeting.*

despotic	Ruled by or characteristic of a despot. <i>His administration was arrogant and despotic.</i>
dictatorial	Characteristic of an absolute ruler or absolute rule; having absolute sovereignty. <i>His mother in law was somewhat dictatorial.</i>
draconian	(of laws or their application) excessively harsh and severe. <i>The Nazis destroyed the independence of the press by a series of draconian laws.</i>
<u>erratic</u>	Likely to perform unpredictably. <i>Erratic winds are the bane of a sailor.</i>
<u>haphazard</u>	Dependent upon or characterized by chance. <i>A most haphazard system of record keeping.</i>
inconsistent	Displaying a lack of consistency. <i>He had done nothing inconsistent with his morality.</i>
peremptory	Not allowing contradiction or refusal. <i>Spoke in peremptory tones.</i>
random	Unfamiliar or unspecified. <i>The class was hard but he was so random that it was always fun.</i>
summary	Not including needless details or formalities; brief. <i>Summary arrest.</i>
<u>tyrannical</u>	Characteristic of tyranny; oppressive and controlling. <i>A tyrannical parent.</i>
tyrannous	Marked by unjust severity or arbitrary behavior. <i>A tyrannous disregard for the welfare of the workers.</i>
<u>unpredictable</u>	Unknown in advance. <i>An unpredictable or indeterminable future.</i>
<u>whimsical</u>	Determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason. <i>The victim of whimsical persecutions.</i>
wild	Produced from wild animals or plants without cultivation. <i>Wild tribes.</i>

Usage Examples of "Arbitrary" as an adjective

- *Arbitrary division of the group into halves.*
- *An arbitrary choice.*
- *Of arbitrary size and shape.*
- *The arbitrary rule of a dictator.*

- An arbitrary decision.
- An arbitrary penalty.
- A country under arbitrary government.

Associations of "Arbitrary" (30 Words)

arbitrarily	In a random manner. <i>Everyone has the right not to be arbitrarily detained.</i>
arrhythmic	Not rhythmic; without rhythm or regularity. <i>An arrhythmic heartbeat.</i>
assigned	Appointed to a post or duty. <i>Assigned duties.</i>
<u>careless</u>	Without due thought or consideration. <i>Careless proofreading.</i>
cursor	Hasty and without attention to detail; not thorough. <i>A cursor glance at the figures.</i>
discretionary	Denoting or relating to investment funds placed with a broker or manager who has discretion to invest them on the client's behalf. <i>Discretionary income.</i>
<u>haphazard</u>	Marked by great carelessness. <i>A most haphazard system of record keeping.</i>
haphazardly	Without care; in a slapdash manner. <i>A hodgepodge of family photos haphazardly arranged on a table.</i>
hasty	Excessively quick. <i>Hasty decisions.</i>
headlong	Extremely or recklessly hasty. <i>A headlong rush to sell.</i>
hurried	Done in a hurry; rushed. <i>A hurried job.</i>
impetuosity	Rash impulsiveness.
<u>impetuous</u>	Moving forcefully or rapidly. <i>Impetuous heaving waves.</i>
impulsive	Acting as an impulse. <i>Liable to such impulsive acts as hugging strangers.</i>
indiscriminate	Done at random or without careful judgement. <i>The indiscriminate use of antibiotics can cause problems.</i>

<u>indiscriminately</u>	In a random manner. <i>People who are sedentary and who eat indiscriminately.</i>
madcap	Amusingly eccentric. <i>Madcap escapades.</i>
perfunctorily	In a set manner without serious attention. <i>He kissed her cheek perfunctorily.</i>
precipitant	A cause or stimulus which precipitates a particular condition. <i>The immediate precipitants of the conflict.</i>
random	(of masonry) with stones of irregular size and shape. <i>Some randoms in the crowd asked Ivan Ljubicic to take a photo for them.</i>
randomize	Arrange in random order. <i>You can randomize the ingredients with the tap of a button.</i>
randomly	In a random manner. <i>I randomly split the ironing into two piles.</i>
rashly	Without careful consideration of the possible consequences; impetuously. <i>He rashly promised crime would fall sharply by September.</i>
rushed	Done or completed too hurriedly; hasty. <i>A rushed job.</i>
slapdash	Hurriedly and carelessly. <i>Slapdash work.</i>
slipshod	Marked by great carelessness. <i>Slipshod spelling.</i>
spasmodic	Occurring or done in brief, irregular bursts. <i>Spasmodic fighting continued.</i>
<u>swift</u>	A swift flying insectivorous bird with long slender wings and a superficial resemblance to a swallow spending most of its life on the wing. <i>The water was very swift.</i>
<u>unjustified</u>	Not shown to be right or reasonable. <i>Unjustified price increases.</i>
<u>unpredictable</u>	Not capable of being foretold. <i>The unpredictable weather of the Scottish islands.</i>