

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.*

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

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

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