

Need another word that means the same as “attrition”? Find 23 synonyms and 30 related words for “attrition” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Attrition” are: abrasion, corrasion, detrition, contriteness, contrition, grinding, wearing down, wearing away, weakening, debilitation, sapping, attenuation, friction, rubbing, chafing, corroding, corrosion, erosion, eating away, scraping, wearing, excoriation, deterioration

Attrition as a Noun

Definitions of "Attrition" as a noun

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “attrition” as a noun can have the following definitions:

- *Erosion by friction.*
- *The wearing down of rock particles by friction due to water or wind or ice.*
- *Wearing away by friction; abrasion.*
- *A wearing down to weaken or destroy.*
- *The gradual reduction of a workforce by employees leaving and not being replaced rather than by redundancy.*
- *Sorrow for sin arising from fear of damnation.*
- *(in scholastic theology) sorrow for sin, falling short of contrition.*
- *The act of rubbing together; wearing something down by friction.*
- *The process of reducing something's strength or effectiveness through sustained attack or pressure.*

Synonyms of "Attrition" as a noun (23 Words)

abrasion	Erosion by friction. <i>The metal is resistant to abrasion.</i>
attenuation	The property of something that has been weakened or reduced in thickness or density. <i>Human security required the attenuation of a wide range of threats to people.</i>
chafing	Anger produced by some annoying irritation.
contriteness	The faculty of contriving; inventive skill. (in the Roman Catholic Church) the repentance of past sins during or after confession.
contrition	<i>Prayers of contrition.</i>
corrasion	Erosion by friction.
corroding	Erosion by chemical action.
corrosion	Damage caused to metal stone or other materials by corrosion. <i>Engineers found the corrosion when checking the bridge.</i>
debilitation	Serious weakening and loss of energy.
deterioration	A symptom of reduced quality or strength. <i>A deterioration in the condition of the patient.</i>
detrition	The action of wearing something away by friction.
eating away	The act of consuming food.
erosion	Erosion by chemical action. <i>The problem of soil erosion.</i>
excoriation	Severe censure.
friction	A state of conflict between persons. <i>A considerable amount of friction between father and son.</i>
grinding	A harsh and strident sound as of the grinding of gears. <i>The roasting and grinding of grain usually barley for use in brewing.</i>
rubbing	The action of rubbing something. <i>Dab at the stain vigorous rubbing could damage the carpet.</i>
sapping	A watery solution of sugars, salts, and minerals that circulates through the vascular system of a plant.
scraping	A small amount of something that has been obtained by scraping it from a surface. <i>All that bowing and scraping did not impress him.</i>
weakening	Becoming weaker.

- wearing** Geology the mechanical process of wearing or grinding something down as by particles washing over it.
- wearing away** The act of having on your person as a covering or adornment.
- wearing down** The mechanical process of wearing or grinding something down (as by particles washing over it).

Usage Examples of "Attrition" as a noun

- *The squadron suffered severe attrition of its bombers.*
- *A war of attrition.*
- *The skull shows attrition of the edges of the teeth.*
- *The company said that it will reduce its worldwide employment by about 10% through attrition.*
- *The council is trying to wear down the opposition by attrition.*

Associations of "Attrition" (30 Words)

- abrade** Rub hard or scrub.
*It was a landscape slowly **abraded** by a fine stinging dust.*
- abrasion** The process of scraping or wearing something away.
*There were cuts and **abrasions** to the lips and jaw.*
- abrasive** (of a substance or material) capable of polishing or cleaning a hard surface by rubbing or grinding.
*The wood should be rubbed down with fine **abrasive** paper.*
- aphasia** Inability to use or understand language (spoken or written) because of a brain lesion.
- bleed** An instance of bleeding.
*The cut was **bleeding** steadily.*
- bruise** Inflict a bruise or bruises on a part of the body.
*Potatoes **bruise** easily so treat them with care.*
- concussion** Temporary unconsciousness or confusion caused by a blow on the head.
*He was carried off the pitch with **concussion**.*
- continue** Continue a certain state condition or activity.
*He was unable to **continue** with his job.*
- contusion** An injury that doesn't break the skin but results in some discoloration.
*A dark **contusion** on his cheek was beginning to swell.*

endless	Having no known beginning and presumably no end. <i>Endless waves.</i>
fireproof	Make something fireproof. <i>A fireproof dish.</i>
grinding	Material resulting from the process of grinding. <i>Crush it and add it to the honey with a grinding of pepper and salt.</i>
handicap	A race or contest in which a handicap is imposed. <i>Lack of funding has handicapped the development of research.</i>
hemophilia	Congenital tendency to uncontrolled bleeding; usually affects males and is transmitted from mother to son.
hemorrhage	Lose blood from one's body.
hurt	Hurt the feelings of. <i>She didn't want to hurt his feelings.</i>
incombustible	Not capable of igniting and burning. <i>An incombustible floor construction.</i>
injury	An instance of being injured. <i>She suffered an injury to her back.</i>
lacerate	Criticize forcefully or severely. <i>Her true venom seems reserved for the media itself as she lacerates our obsession with celebrity.</i>
loss	Military personnel lost by death or capture. <i>Loss making industries.</i>
maintainable	Capable of being maintained.
pain	Cause mental or physical pain to. <i>As the intensity increased the sensation changed from tickle to pain.</i>
permanent	Not capable of being reversed or returned to the original condition. <i>Damage was not thought to be permanent.</i>
resistant	Denoting starch that is not easily broken down by enzymes within the body and is therefore minimally absorbed during digestion. <i>A water resistant adhesive.</i>
scar	Mark with a scar or scars. <i>High limestone scars bordered the road.</i>
scrape	A place where soil has been scraped away especially a shallow hollow formed in the ground by a bird during a courtship display or for nesting. <i>We scraped the dishes clean.</i>
scratch	An act or spell of scratching oneself to relieve itching. <i>Scratch that remark.</i>

ulcer	A moral blemish or corrupting influence. <i>He s a conman with an incurable ulcer called gambling.</i>
welt	Put a welt on. <i>His lip was beginning to thicken and welt from the blow.</i>
wound	The act of inflicting a wound. <i>The right reader of a good poem can tell the moment it strikes him that he has taken an immortal wound that he will never get over it.</i>