Need another word that means the same as “austere”? Find 67 synonyms and 30 related words for “austere” in this overview.

Table Of Contents:

- Austere as an Adjective
- Definitions of "Austere" as an adjective
- Synonyms of "Austere" as an adjective (67 Words)
- Usage Examples of "Austere" as an adjective
- Associations of "Austere" (30 Words)

The synonyms of “Austere” are: stern, severe, stark, ascetic, ascetical, spartan, strict, harsh, unfeeling, stony, steely, flinty, dour, grim, cold, frosty, frigid, icy, chilly, unemotional, unfriendly, formal, stiff, stuffy, reserved, remote, distant, aloof, forbidding, grave, solemn, serious, unsmiling, unsympathetic, unforgiving, uncharitable, self-denying, self-abnegating, moderate, temperate, sober, simple, frugal, restrained, self-disciplined, puritanical, self-sacrificing, hair-shirt, abstemious, abstinent, celibate, chaste, continent, plain, basic, functional, modest, unadorned, undecorated, unornamented, unembellished, unostentatious, unfurnished, uncluttered, unfussy, subdued, muted

Austere as an Adjective

Definitions of "Austere" as an adjective

According to the Oxford Dictionary of English, “austere” as an adjective can have the following definitions:

- *Severely simple.*
- *Having a plain and unadorned appearance.*
- *Of a stern or strict bearing or demeanor; forbidding in aspect.*
- *(of living conditions or a way of life) having no comforts or luxuries.*
- *Practicing great self-denial.*
- *Practicing great self-denial- William James.*
- *Severe or strict in manner or attitude.*

Synonyms of "Austere" as an adjective (67 Words)

abstemious	Marked by temperance in indulgence. ***Abstemious*** *with the use of adverbs.*
abstinent	Self-restraining; not indulging an appetite especially for food or drink. *The patients are best advised to be totally* ***abstinent*** *from alcohol.*
aloof	Conspicuously uninvolved. *An* ***aloof*** *and somewhat austere figure.*
ascetic	Pertaining to or characteristic of an ascetic or the practice of rigorous self discipline. *Be systematically* ***ascetic*** *do something for no other reason than that you would rather not do it.*
ascetical	Practicing great self-denial- William James.
basic	(of rock, especially lava) relatively poor in silica. *The food was good if a bit* ***basic****.*

celibate	Abstaining from sexual intercourse. *A **celibate** lifestyle.*
chaste	Morally pure (especially not having experienced sexual intercourse. *What is required of celibate Catholic clergy is to remain **chaste**.*
chilly	Uncomfortably or unpleasantly cold. *He got a **chilly** reception from Republican activists.*
cold	Of a person feeling uncomfortably cold. ***Cold** fury gripped him.*
continent	Having control over urination and defecation.
distant	(after a measurement) at a specified distance. *A **distant** likeness.*
dour	Showing a brooding ill humor- Bruce Bli. *The proverbially **dour** New England Puritan.*
flinty	(of a person or their expression) very hard and unyielding. ***Flinty** soil.*
forbidding	Threatening or foreshadowing evil or tragic developments. *A **forbidding** scowl.*
formal	Being in accord with established forms and conventions and requirements as e g of formal dress. *I don t know enough about art to appreciate the purely **formal** qualities.*
frigid	Devoid of warmth and cordiality; expressive of unfriendliness or disdain. *My ex told everyone I was **frigid**.*
frosty	Covered with frost. *Got a **frosty** reception.*
frugal	Sparing or economical as regards money or food. *A **frugal** meal.*
functional	Designed for or adapted to a function or use. ***Functional** deafness.*
grave	Of great gravity or crucial import; requiring serious thought. *Faced a **grave** decision in a time of crisis.*
grim	Shockingly repellent; inspiring horror. *A **grim** joke.*
hair-shirt	Self-sacrificing or austere.
harsh	Of textures that are rough to the touch or substances consisting of relatively large particles. *Had **harsh** words.*

icy	Devoid of warmth and cordiality; expressive of unfriendliness or disdain. ***Icy** hands.*
moderate	Not extreme. ***Moderate** success.*
modest	Humble in spirit or manner; suggesting retiring mildness or even cowed submissiveness. *The **modest** women wear long sleeved dresses and all but cover their faces.*
muted	In a softened tone. *The **muted** hum of the distant traffic.*
plain	Easy to perceive or understand; clear. *A **plain** honest man with no nonsense about him.*
puritanical	Having or displaying a very strict or censorious moral attitude towards self-indulgence or sex. *His **puritanical** parents saw any kind of pleasure as the road to damnation.*
remote	(of a chance or possibility) unlikely to occur. *The **remote** past or future.*
reserved	Marked by self-restraint and reticence. *A **reserved** seat.*
restrained	(of colour, decoration, etc.) not excessively showy or ornate; understated. *The drawings with their **restrained** colours give a feeling of peace and contemplation.*
self-abnegating	Used especially of behavior.
self-denying	Used especially of behavior.
self-disciplined	Used of nonindulgent persons.
self-sacrificing	Willing to deprive yourself.
serious	Solemn or thoughtful in character or manner. *A **serious** wound.*
severe	Severely simple. *A **severe** attack of asthma.*
simple	(botany) of leaf shapes; of leaves having no divisions or subdivisions. *A **simple** substance.*
sober	Dignified and somber in manner or character and committed to keeping promises. *As **sober** as a judge.*

solemn	Characterized by a firm and humorless belief in the validity of your opinions. *He swore a **solemn** oath to keep faith.*
spartan	Of or relating to or characteristic of Sparta or its people. *The accommodation was fairly **spartan**.*
stark	Providing no shelter or sustenance. *The **stark** reality of life for millions of young people.*
steely	Resembling steel as in hardness. ***Steely** eyes.*
stern	Of a stern or strict bearing or demeanor forbidding in aspect. *A **stern** disciplinarian.*
stiff	(of a person or their manner) not relaxed or friendly; constrained. *A palace guardsman **stiff** as a poker.*
stony	Showing unfeeling resistance to tender feelings. *Rough **stony** paths.*
strict	Characterized by strictness severity or restraint. *Civil servants are bound by **strict** rules on secrecy.*
stuffy	(of a person) not receptive to new or unusual ideas; conventional and narrow-minded. *Hot and **stuffy** and the air was blue with smoke.*
subdued	Not brilliant or glaring. *A **subdued** whisper.*
temperate	Free from extremes; mild; or characteristic of such weather or climate. *The **temperate** zones.*
unadorned	Not decorated with something to increase its beauty or distinction. *The **unadorned** truth.*
uncharitable	Lacking love and generosity. *All pious words and **uncharitable** deeds.*
uncluttered	Having nothing extraneous. *An **uncluttered** room.*
undecorated	Not adorned or decorated. *The walls were completely **undecorated**.*
unembellished	Not embellished or decorated. *The **unembellished** truth.*
unemotional	Cool and formal in manner. *A flat **unemotional** voice.*

unfeeling	Devoid of feeling for others. *An **unfeeling** wretch.*
unforgiving	Not willing to forgive or excuse people's faults or wrongdoings. *A surly **unforgiving** old woman.*
unfriendly	Not easy to understand or use. *An **unfriendly** action to take.*
unfurnished	Not supplied. *An **unfurnished** apartment.*
unfussy	Not fussy. *A simple **unfussy** design.*
unornamented	Not having any decoration. *Functional architecture featuring stark **unornamented** concrete.*
unostentatious	Not ostentatious. ***Unostentatious** elegance.*
unsmiling	(of a person or their manner or expression) serious or unfriendly; not smiling. *His face was hard and **unsmiling**.*
unsympathetic	Not sympathetic or disposed toward. *People **unsympathetic** to the revolution.*

Usage Examples of "Austere" as an adjective

- *An austere expression.*
- *The cathedral is impressive in its austere simplicity.*
- *He was an austere man, with a rigidly puritanical outlook.*
- *A desert nomad's austere life.*
- *Conditions in the prison could hardly be more austere.*

Associations of "Austere" (30 Words)

abstemious	Sparing in consumption of especially food and drink. *The pleasures of the table never of much consequence to one naturally **abstemious**.*
abstinent	Self-restraining; not indulging an appetite especially for food or drink. *The patients are best advised to be totally **abstinent** from alcohol.*
ascetic	A person who follows an ascetic life. *Be systematically **ascetic** do something for no other reason than that you would rather not do it.*
asperity	Something hard to endure. *He pointed this out with some **asperity**.*

censorship	(in ancient Rome) the office or position of censor. *We have strict **censorship** laws.*
disciplinary	Concerning or enforcing discipline. *A soldier will face **disciplinary** action after going absent without leave.*
draconian	Of or relating to Draco or his harsh code of laws. *The Nazis destroyed the independence of the press by a series of **draconian** laws.*
exacting	Requiring precise accuracy. *Certain highly specialized xerophytes are extremely **exacting** in their requirements.*
extreme	The highest or most extreme degree of something. *The **extreme** of applying for poor relief.*
formalism	The use of forms of worship without regard to inner significance. *There is a **formalism** which expresses the idea of superposition.*
harsh	Sharply disagreeable; rigorous. *The **harsh** realities of the world news.*
inflexible	Not able to be changed or adapted to particular circumstances. *Heavy **inflexible** armour.*
martinet	Someone who demands exact conformity to rules and forms. *A **martinet** of a staff officer.*
moralist	A philosopher who specializes in morals and moral problems.
painstakingly	In a fastidious and painstaking manner. *The property has been **painstakingly** restored by its current owners.*
pedant	A person who pays more attention to formal rules and book learning than they merit. *The royal palace some **pedant**s would say the ex royal palace.*
rigor	The quality of being valid and rigorous. *The **rigor**s of boot camp.*
rigorous	(of a rule, system, etc.) strictly applied or adhered to. ***Rigorous** application of the law.*
rigour	Severity or strictness. *His analysis is lacking in **rigour**.*
severe	Severely simple. *The house suffered **severe** damage.*
severity	Excessive sternness. *Hay fever symptoms vary in **severity**.*

spartan	Of or relating to or characteristic of Sparta or its people. *The accommodation was fairly **spartan**.*
stern	Of a stern or strict bearing or demeanor forbidding in aspect. *A **stern** face.*
stoutly	With courage and determination. *He **stoutly** maintained his innocence.*
strict	Characterized by strictness severity or restraint. *My father was very **strict**.*
stringency	A state occasioned by scarcity of money and a shortage of credit.
stringent	Demanding strict attention to rules and procedures. ***Stringent** safety measures.*
stringently	In a stringent manner. *The laws are **stringently** enforced.*
unkind	Inconsiderate and harsh to others. *You were terribly **unkind** to her.*
unrelenting	Not giving way to kindness or compassion. *The heat was **unrelenting**.*