

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

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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)

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

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

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

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

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



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)

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

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

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

