

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)

- 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**.*

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

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

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

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

- 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**.*



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

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

