

Need another word that means the same as “barely”? Find 11 synonyms and 30 related words for “barely” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Barely” are: hardly, scarce, scarcely, just, only just, narrowly, by the skin of one's teeth, by a hair's breadth, by a very small margin, by the narrowest of margins, by a nose

Barely as an Adverb

Definitions of "Barely" as an adverb

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “barely” as an adverb can have the following definitions:

- *Only a very short time before.*
- *In a simple and sparse way.*
- *Almost not.*
- *Openly; explicitly.*
- *By a little.*
- *In a sparse or scanty way.*
- *Only just; almost not.*



Synonyms of "Barely" as an adverb (11 Words)

by a hair's breadth	So as to pass a given point.
by a nose	So as to pass a given point.
by a very small margin	So as to pass a given point.
by the narrowest of margins	So as to pass a given point.
by the skin of one's teeth	In reserve; not for immediate use.
<u>hardly</u>	Only with great difficulty. <i>She could hardly sit up.</i>
<u>just</u>	Very recently; in the immediate past. <i>The batter just missed being hit.</i>
narrowly	Closely or carefully. <i>Narrowly defined tasks.</i>
only just	And nothing more.

scarce

Scarcely.
*A babe **scarce** two years old.*

scarcely

Almost not.
*Her voice is so low I can **scarcely** hear what she is saying.*



Usage Examples of "Barely" as an adverb

- *We were so far back in the theater, we could barely read the subtitles.*
- *It was barely 5 a.m.*
- *She nodded, barely able to speak.*
- *She barely seemed to notice him.*
- *Their barely furnished house.*
- *The network has barely 5 percent of viewers.*
- *A barely perceptible pause.*
- *They had barely sat down before forty policemen swarmed in.*



Associations of "Barely" (30 Words)

- anymore** At the present or from now on; usually used with a negative.
*Alice doesn't live here **anymore**.*
- coincidentally** At the same time.
*The three are **coincidentally** reunited when captured by the enemy.*
- deficient** Insufficient or inadequate.
*A **deficient** education.*
- frequently** Many times at short intervals.
*They go abroad **frequently**.*
- happenstance** An event that might have been arranged although it was really accidental.
*It was just **happenstance** that I happened to be there.*
- hardly** Almost not.
*The little house in which he lived was **hardly** bigger than a hut.*

infrequently	Not often; rarely. <i>He cooks but only infrequently.</i>
<u>insufficient</u>	Not enough; inadequate. <i>Insufficient funds.</i>
<u>just</u>	Of an opinion or appraisal well founded justifiable. <i>They were just interested in making money.</i>
meagerly	To a meager degree or in a meager manner. <i>These voices are meagerly represented at the conference.</i>
occasional	Employed for a particular occasion or on an irregular basis. <i>An occasional worker.</i>
<u>occasionally</u>	At infrequent or irregular intervals; now and then. <i>Open areas are only occasionally interrupted by clumps of trees.</i>
often	In many instances. <i>We often met over a cup of coffee.</i>
<u>rare</u>	Unusually good or remarkable. <i>It s rare to see a house so little altered.</i>
<u>rarely</u>	To an unusual degree; exceptionally. <i>You can write rarely now after all your schooling.</i>
rareness	Noteworthy scarcity.
<u>rarity</u>	A rare thing, especially one having particular value. <i>The rarity of the condition.</i>
scant	Provide grudgingly or in insufficient amounts. <i>Companies with scant regard for the safety of future generations.</i>
scanty	Small or insufficient in quantity or amount. <i>The women looked cold in their scanty bodices.</i>
<u>scarce</u>	Scarcely. <i>Would have scarce arrived before she would have found some excuse to leave.</i>
scarcely	Used to suggest that something is unlikely to be or certainly not the case. <i>They scarcely ever used the emergency generator.</i>
<u>seldom</u>	Not often; rarely. <i>Islay is seldom visited by tourists.</i>
<u>sometimes</u>	On certain occasions or in certain cases but not always. <i>Sometimes I want to do things on my own.</i>
<u>sparse</u>	Not dense. <i>Information on earnings is sparse.</i>

sparsely	In a thinly dispersed manner; in small numbers. <i>A sparsely furnished apartment.</i>
sporadically	Occasionally or at irregular intervals. <i>He worked sporadically at part time jobs.</i>
tightly	Securely fixed or fastened. <i>A tightly sealed container.</i>
typically	In a way that is characteristic of a particular person or thing. <i>Typically she showed no alarm.</i>
uncommonly	Exceptionally. <i>He is an uncommonly good talker.</i>
unusual	Not habitually or commonly occurring or done. <i>A scene of unusual beauty.</i>

