

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)

<b>by a hair's breadth</b>	So as to pass a given point.
<b>by a nose</b>	So as to pass a given point.
<b>by a very small margin</b>	So as to pass a given point.
<b>by the narrowest of margins</b>	So as to pass a given point.
<b>by the skin of one's teeth</b>	In reserve; not for immediate use.
<b><u>hardly</u></b>	Only with great difficulty. <i>She could <b>hardly</b> sit up.</i>
<b><u>just</u></b>	Very recently; in the immediate past. <i>The batter <b>just</b> missed being hit.</i>
<b>narrowly</b>	Closely or carefully. <i><b>Narrowly</b> defined tasks.</i>
<b>only just</b>	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.*

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



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

