

Need another word that means the same as “belittle”? Find 17 synonyms and 30 related words for “belittle” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Belittle” are: denigrate, derogate, minimize, disparage, pick at, diminish, run down, deprecate, depreciate, downgrade, play down, trivialize, make light of, treat lightly, undervalue, underrate, underestimate

Belittle as a Verb

Definitions of "Belittle" as a verb

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “belittle” as a verb can have the following definitions:

- *Express a negative opinion of.*
- *Cause to seem less serious; play down.*
- *Lessen the authority, dignity, or reputation of.*
- *Dismiss (someone or something) as unimportant.*



Synonyms of "Belittle" as a verb (17 Words)

- denigrate** Criticize unfairly; disparage.
*Doom and gloom merchants who **denigrate** their own country.*
- deprecate** Express strong disapproval of; deplore.
*The teacher should not **deprecate** his student s efforts.*

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| depreciate | Disparage or belittle (something). <i>The latest cars will depreciate heavily in the first year.</i> |
| derogate | Deviate from (a set of rules or agreed form of behaviour). <i>This does not derogate from his duty to act honestly and faithfully.</i> |
| diminish | Cause to seem less impressive or valuable. <i>The new law is expected to diminish the government's chances.</i> |
| disparage | Express a negative opinion of. <i>She disparaged her student's efforts.</i> |
| downgrade | Reduce to a lower grade, rank, or level of importance. <i>Some jobs had gradually been downgraded from skilled to semi skilled.</i> |
| make light of | Appear to begin an activity. |
| minimize | Reduce (something, especially something undesirable) to the smallest possible amount or degree. <i>The aim is to minimize costs.</i> |
| pick at | Pay for something. |
| play down | Behave carelessly or indifferently. |
| run down | Run with the ball; in such sports as football. |
| treat lightly | Provide with choice or abundant food or drink. |
| trivialize | Make trivial or insignificant. <i>Don't trivialize the seriousness of the issue.</i> |
| underestimate | Assign too low a value to. <i>He had underestimated the new President.</i> |
| underrate | Underestimate the extent, value, or importance of (someone or something). <i>They vastly underrate their own players.</i> |
| undervalue | Lose in value. <i>The company's assets were undervalued in its balance sheet.</i> |

Usage Examples of "Belittle" as a verb

- *She belittled Amy's riding skills whenever she could.*
- *Don't belittle his influence.*
- *Don't belittle your colleagues.*

Associations of "Belittle" (30 Words)

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| abase | Behave in a way that belittles or degrades (someone). <i>I watched my colleagues abasing themselves before the board of trustees.</i> |
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| debase | Corrupt debase or make impure by adding a foreign or inferior substance often by replacing valuable ingredients with inferior ones. <i>The King was forced to debase the coinage.</i> |
| decomposition | (biology) the process of decay caused by bacterial or fungal action. <i>The decomposition of organic waste.</i> |
| decry | Publicly denounce. <i>They decry human rights abuses.</i> |
| defamation | The action of damaging the good reputation of someone; slander or libel. <i>She sued him for defamation.</i> |
| defame | Charge falsely or with malicious intent. <i>The journalists have defamed me.</i> |
| degradation | The condition or process of degrading or being degraded. <i>A trail of human misery and degradation.</i> |
| degrade | Break down or deteriorate chemically. <i>Vast areas of natural habitats have been degraded.</i> |
| demean | Reduce in worth or character, usually verbally. <i>Good potential MPs would not demean themselves by setting out to acquire popularity.</i> |
| demote | Move (someone) to a lower position or rank, usually as a punishment. <i>The head of the army was demoted to deputy defence secretary.</i> |
| denigrate | Criticize unfairly; disparage. <i>Doom and gloom merchants who denigrate their own country.</i> |
| deprecation | A prayer to avert or remove some evil or disaster. |
| deprecatory | Tending to diminish or disparage. <i>Deprecatory remarks about the book.</i> |
| derogate | Deviate from (a set of rules or agreed form of behaviour). <i>It is typical of him to derogate the powers of reason.</i> |
| derogatory | Expressive of low opinion. <i>Derogatory comments.</i> |
| disgrace | Cause (someone) to fall from favour or a position of power or honour. <i>He s a disgrace to the legal profession.</i> |
| disparage | Regard or represent as being of little worth. <i>She disparaged her student s efforts.</i> |
| downgrade | The property possessed by a slope or surface that descends. <i>Downgrades by debt rating agencies outnumber upgrades by five to one.</i> |
| humiliate | Cause to feel shame; hurt the pride of. <i>You ll humiliate me in front of the whole school.</i> |

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| <u>humiliation</u> | State of disgrace or loss of self-respect. <i>He fought back tears of humiliation.</i> |
| infamy | An evil or wicked act. <i>An act of infamy.</i> |
| mortify | Practice self-denial of one's body and appetites. <i>Mortify the flesh.</i> |
| opprobrium | A state of extreme dishonor- F.D.Roosevelt. <i>The name was a by word of scorn and opprobrium throughout the city.</i> |
| permafrost | A thick subsurface layer of soil that remains below freezing point throughout the year, occurring chiefly in polar regions. <i>Hilly terrain underlain by permafrost.</i> |
| <u>relegate</u> | Expel, as if by official decree. <i>She likes to relegate difficult questions to her colleagues.</i> |
| <u>shame</u> | Make someone feel ashamed. <i>She shamed him into making amends.</i> |
| <u>slander</u> | Make false and damaging statements about (someone). <i>He is suing the TV company for slander.</i> |
| smirch | A blemish made by dirt. <i>The window was smirched by heat and smoke.</i> |
| stultify | Cause (someone) to appear foolish or absurd. <i>Nobody is legally allowed to stultify himself.</i> |
| sully | United States painter (born in England) of portraits and historical scenes (1783-1872). <i>Sully someone's reputation.</i> |