

Need another word that means the same as “cardinal”? Find 21 synonyms and 30 related words for “cardinal” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Cardinal” are: central, fundamental, key, primal, basic, main, chief, primary, prime, principal, premier, first, leading, capital, paramount, cardinal grosbeak, cardinalis cardinalis, redbird, richmondena cardinalis, cardinal number, carmine**

## Cardinal as a Noun

### Definitions of "Cardinal" as a noun

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

- *One of a group of more than 100 prominent bishops in the Sacred College who advise the Pope and elect new Popes.*
- *Crested thick-billed North American finch having bright red plumage in the male.*
- *(Roman Catholic Church) one of a group of more than 100 prominent bishops in the Sacred College who advise the Pope and elect new Popes.*
- *A variable color averaging a vivid red.*
- *A New World songbird of the bunting family, having a stout bill and typically a conspicuous crest. The male is partly or mostly red in colour.*
- *A deep scarlet colour like that of a cardinal's cassock.*
- *A leading dignitary of the Roman Catholic Church. Cardinals are nominated by the*

*Pope, and form the Sacred College which elects succeeding popes (now invariably from among their own number.*

- *The number of elements in a mathematical set; denotes a quantity but not the order.*



## Synonyms of "Cardinal" as a noun (6 Words)

**cardinal grosbeak**

One of a group of more than 100 prominent bishops in the Sacred College who advise the Pope and elect new Popes.

**cardinal number**

One of a group of more than 100 prominent bishops in the Sacred College who advise the Pope and elect new Popes.

**cardinalis cardinalis**

Crested thick-billed North American finch having bright red plumage in the male.

**carmine**

A vivid crimson colour.

**Carmine** roses.

**redbird**

The male is bright red with black wings and tail.

**richmondna cardinalis**

Crested thick-billed North American finch having bright red plumage in the male.



## Usage Examples of "Cardinal" as a noun

- *His appointment as cardinal.*
- *The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster.*



## Cardinal as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Cardinal" as an adjective

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), "cardinal" as an adjective can have the following definitions:

- *Serving as an essential component.*
- *Being or denoting a numerical quantity but not order.*
- *Of the greatest importance; fundamental.*



## Synonyms of "Cardinal" as an adjective (15 Words)

<b>basic</b>	Offering or constituting the minimum required without elaboration or luxury. <i>A <b>basic</b> fact.</i>
<b>capital</b>	Uppercase. <i>He s a really <b>capital</b> fellow.</i>
<b>central</b>	Of the greatest importance; principal or essential. <i>The station has a <b>central</b> courtyard.</i>
<b>chief</b>	Most important element. <i><b>Chief</b> among her concerns is working alone at night.</i>

<b>first</b>	Ranking above all others. <i>Her <b>first</b> baby.</i>
<b>fundamental</b>	Far-reaching and thoroughgoing in effect especially on the nature of something. <i>The <b>fundamental</b> revolution in human values that has occurred.</i>
<b>key</b>	Serving as an essential component. <i>She became a <b>key</b> figure in the suffragette movement.</i>
<b>leading</b>	Having the leading position or higher score in a contest. <i>We rode in the <b>leading</b> car.</i>
<b><u>main</u></b>	Capable of standing syntactically alone as a complete sentence. <i>The <b>main</b> doors were of solid glass.</i>
<b><u>paramount</u></b>	More important than anything else; supreme. <i>The interests of the child are of <b>paramount</b> importance.</i>
<b>premier</b>	Preceding all others in time. <i>An architect of <b>premier</b> rank.</i>
<b><u>primal</u></b>	Relating to or denoting the needs, fears, or behaviour that are postulated (especially in Freudian theory) to form the origins of emotional life. <i><b>Primal</b> hunting societies.</i>
<b><u>primary</u></b>	Of primary importance. <i>A <b>primary</b> instinct.</i>
<b>prime</b>	(of a number) divisible only by itself and unity (e.g. 2, 3, 5, 7, 11). <i>The novel is a <b>prime</b> example of the genre.</i>
<b>principal</b>	Most important element. <i>The <b>principal</b> example.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Cardinal" as an adjective

- *Two cardinal points must be borne in mind.*
- *Cardinal numbers.*
- *A cardinal rule.*





## Associations of "Cardinal" (30 Words)

<b>abbess</b>	A woman who is the head of an abbey of nuns.
<b>abbot</b>	A man who is the head of an abbey of monks.
<b>archbishop</b>	A bishop of highest rank. <i>The <b>Archbishop</b> of York.</i>
<b>benedict</b>	A newly married man (especially one who has long been a bachelor).
<b>bishop</b>	A chess piece typically with its top shaped like a mitre that can move in any direction along a diagonal on which it stands Each player starts the game with two bishops one moving on white squares and the other on black.
<b>clergy</b>	In Christianity clergymen collectively as distinguished from the laity. <i>All marriages were to be solemnized by the <b>clergy</b>.</i>
<b>clergyman</b>	A male priest, minister, or religious leader, especially a Christian one.
<b>coadjutor</b>	A bishop appointed to assist and often to succeed a diocesan bishop.

<b>creed</b>	A system of religious belief; a faith. <i>People of many <b>creeds</b> and cultures.</i>
<b>curate</b>	A minister with pastoral responsibility.
<b>diocesan</b>	Of or concerning a diocese.
<b>diocese</b>	The territorial jurisdiction of a bishop.
<b>ecclesiastic</b>	Of or associated with a church (especially a Christian Church). <i><b>Ecclesiastic</b> history.</i>
<b>hierarchy</b>	A person who holds a high position in a hierarchy.
<b>holy</b>	A sacred place of pilgrimage. <i>Saints and <b>holy</b> men.</i>
<b>ordain</b>	(of God or fate) decide (something) in advance. <i>He was <b>ordained</b> a minister before entering Parliament.</i>
<b>ordination</b>	A ceremony in which someone is ordained. <i>The rabbi s family was present for his <b>ordination</b>.</i>
<b>parish</b>	The smallest unit of local government, constituted only in rural areas. <i>A <b>parish</b> councillor.</i>
<b>pontiff</b>	The head of the Roman Catholic Church. <i>The Pope s first visit to Poland as <b>pontiff</b>.</i>
<b>pope</b>	English poet and satirist (1688-1744).
<b>prelate</b>	A bishop or other high ecclesiastical dignitary.
<b>priest</b>	Ordain to the priesthood. <i>The plays were performed within the sacred area of Dionysus in the presence of his <b>priest</b>.</i>
<b>protestant</b>	The Protestant churches and denominations collectively.
<b>religious</b>	A member of a religious order who is bound by vows of poverty and chastity and obedience. <i><b>Religious</b> in observing the rules of health.</i>
<b>reverend</b>	Used as a title or form of address to members of the clergy. <i>A retired <b>reverend</b>.</i>
<b>sacred</b>	Regarded as too valuable to be interfered with; sacrosanct. <i>The <b>sacred</b> name of Jesus.</i>
<b>saint</b>	Used in titles of religious saints. <i>She s a <b>saint</b> to go on living with that man.</i>
<b>synod</b>	A Presbyterian ecclesiastical court above the presbyteries and subject to the General Assembly. <i>The deanery <b>synod</b>.</i>

**ultramontane** Situated on the other side of the Alps from the point of view of the speaker.  
*Ultramontane Catholicism.*

**vicar** A clergyman in charge of a chapel.

