

Need another word that means the same as “catastrophic”? Find 19 synonyms and 30 related words for “catastrophic” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Catastrophic” are: ruinous, destructive, disastrous, calamitous, cataclysmic, tragic, fatal, dire, awful, terrible, dreadful, black, woeful, grievous, lamentable, miserable, unfortunate, devastating, violent**

## Catastrophic as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Catastrophic" as an adjective

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

- *Extremely harmful; bringing physical or financial ruin.*
- *Relating to geological catastrophism.*
- *Extremely unfortunate or unsuccessful.*
- *Involving a sudden and large-scale alteration in state.*
- *Involving or causing sudden great damage or suffering.*



## Synonyms of "Catastrophic" as an adjective (19 Words)

- awful** Inspiring awe or admiration or wonder.  
*You look **awful** you should go and lie down.*
- black** Relating to black people.  
*His shirt was **black** within an hour.*
- calamitous** Having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin.  
*Such **calamitous** events as fires hurricanes and floods.*
- cataclysmic** (of a natural event) large-scale and violent.  
***Cataclysmic** nuclear war.*
- destructive** Causing destruction or much damage.  
***Destructive** criticism.*
- devastating** Physically or spiritually devastating often used in combination.  
*She had a **devastating** wit.*
- dire** (of a warning or threat) presaging disaster.  
*He was in **dire** need of help.*
- disastrous** Having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin.  
*United made a **disastrous** start to the season.*

<b>dreadful</b>	Exceptionally bad or displeasing. <i>A <b>dreadful</b> storm.</i>
<b>fatal</b>	Controlled or decreed by fate; predetermined. <i>There were three <b>fatal</b> flaws in the strategy.</i>
<b>grievous</b>	Causing or marked by grief or anguish. <i>His death was a <b>grievous</b> blow.</i>
<b>lamentable</b>	(of an event, action, or attitude) unfortunate; regrettable. <i>The <b>lamentable</b> friends trailing their long black garments.</i>
<b>miserable</b>	Causing unhappiness or discomfort. <i>His <b>miserable</b> treatment of his family.</i>
<b>ruinous</b>	Disastrous or destructive. <i>A <b>ruinous</b> course of action.</i>
<b>terrible</b>	Extreme in degree or extent or amount or impact. <i><b>Terrible</b> handwriting.</i>
<b>tragic</b>	Relating to tragedy in a literary work. <i>The fact that they are so loved up reminds me just how spectacularly <b>tragic</b> my life is.</i>
<b>unfortunate</b>	Not favored by fortune; marked or accompanied by or resulting in ill fortune. <i>An <b>unfortunate</b> turn of events.</i>
<b>violent</b>	Marked by extreme intensity of emotions or convictions inclined to react violently fervid. <i>A <b>violent</b> attack.</i>
<b>woeful</b>	Very bad; deplorable. <i>The remark was enough to establish his <b>woeful</b> ignorance about the theatre.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Catastrophic" as an adjective

- *The body undergoes catastrophic collapse towards the state of a black hole.*
- *A catastrophic earthquake.*
- *Catastrophic mismanagement of the economy.*
- *Catastrophic illness.*
- *A catastrophic depression.*



## Associations of "Catastrophic" (30 Words)

**bankruptcy** A state of complete lack of some abstract property.  
*Spiritual **bankruptcy**.*

**calamitous** Having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin.  
*Such **calamitous** events as fires hurricanes and floods.*

<b><u>caustic</u></b>	A caustic substance. <i><b>Caustic</b> jokes about political assassination talk show hosts and medical ethics.</i>
<b><u>conflagration</u></b>	A very intense and uncontrolled fire. <i>Tinder dry conditions sparked fears of a <b>conflagration</b> in many drought devastated communities.</i>
<b>corrode</b>	Become destroyed by water, air, or a corrosive such as an acid. <i>The acid <b>corroded</b> the metal.</i>
<b>corrosive</b>	A corrosive substance. <i>The <b>corrosive</b> effects of salt water.</i>
<b>crushing</b>	Causing overwhelming disappointment or embarrassment. <i>The news came as a <b>crushing</b> blow.</i>
<b>damage</b>	Suffer or be susceptible to damage. <i>The car was badly <b>damaged</b> in the accident.</i>
<b>deadly</b>	Having a rapid course and violent effect. <i>His voice was cold and <b>deadly</b>.</i>
<b><u>deconstruct</u></b>	Analyse a text or linguistic or conceptual system by deconstruction. <i>I want to <b>deconstruct</b> this myth that poverty breeds crime.</i>
<b>desolate</b>	(of a place) uninhabited and giving an impression of bleak emptiness. <i>The droughts that <b>desolated</b> the dry plains.</i>
<b><u>destructive</u></b>	Causing destruction or much damage. <i><b>Destructive</b> criticism.</i>
<b>devastate</b>	Cause (someone) severe and overwhelming shock or grief. <i>He was <b>devastated</b> by his grief when his son died.</i>
<b><u>devastating</u></b>	Physically or spiritually devastating often used in combination. <i>A <b>devastating</b> hurricane.</i>
<b><u>disastrous</u></b>	Having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin. <i>A <b>disastrous</b> fire swept through the museum.</i>
<b>erosive</b>	Of a substance, especially a strong acid; capable of destroying or eating away by chemical action. <i>The <b>erosive</b> effects of waves on the shoreline.</i>
<b>failure</b>	An event that does not accomplish its intended purpose. <i>An economic policy that is doomed to <b>failure</b>.</i>
<b><u>fatal</u></b>	Controlled or decreed by fate; predetermined. <i>A <b>fatal</b> series of events.</i>
<b><u>harmful</u></b>	Causing or likely to cause harm. <i><b>Harmful</b> effects of smoking.</i>

<b>iconoclasm</b>	The action of attacking or assertively rejecting cherished beliefs and institutions or established values and practices.
<b>iconoclastic</b>	Criticizing or attacking cherished beliefs or institutions. <i>An <b>iconoclastic</b> filmmaker who has pushed the boundaries with every film he s made.</i>
<b>injurious</b>	Causing or likely to cause damage or harm. <i>Food which is <b>injurious</b> to health.</i>
<b>lethal</b>	Very harmful or destructive. <i><b>Lethal</b> weapon.</i>
<b>mournful</b>	Feeling, expressing, or inducing sadness, regret, or grief. <i>Stared with <b>mournful</b> eyes.</i>
<b>pathetic</b>	Relating to the emotions. <i>He s a <b>pathetic</b> excuse for a man.</i>
<b>ruinous</b>	Disastrous or destructive. <i>The cost of their ransom might be <b>ruinous</b>.</i>
<b>stifling</b>	Making one feel constrained or oppressed. <i>The <b>stifling</b> atmosphere.</i>
<b>tragic</b>	Suffering extreme distress or sorrow. <i>She wears <b>tragic</b> cardigans usually done up the wrong way.</i>
<b>unfortunate</b>	Not indicating a good chance of success; inauspicious. <i>Those <b>unfortunates</b> whose lives are marred by poverty.</i>
<b>vitriolic</b>	Filled with bitter criticism or malice. <i><b>Vitriolic</b> attacks on the politicians.</i>

