

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.*

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

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

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

