

Need another word that means the same as “coy”? Find 8 synonyms and 30 related words for “coy” in this overview.

Table Of Contents:

- [Coy as an Adjective](#)
- [Definitions of "Coy" as an adjective](#)
- [Synonyms of "Coy" as an adjective \(8 Words\)](#)
- [Usage Examples of "Coy" as an adjective](#)
- [Associations of "Coy" \(30 Words\)](#)

**The synonyms of “Coy” are: demure, overmodest, arch, simpering, coquettish, flirtatious, kittenish, skittish**

## Coy as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Coy" as an adjective

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

- *Modestly or warily rejecting approaches or overtures.*
- *Affectedly modest or shy especially in a playful or provocative way.*
- *Showing marked and often playful or irritating evasiveness or reluctance to make a definite or committing statement.*
- *Making a pretence of shyness or modesty that is intended to be alluring (typically used of a woman).*
- *Reluctant to give details about something regarded as sensitive.*



## Synonyms of "Coy" as an adjective (8 Words)

- arch** Characteristic of those who treat others with condescension.
- coquettish** Like a coquette.  
A **coquettish** grin.
- demure** Affectedly modest or shy especially in a playful or provocative way.  
A **demure** young lady.
- flirtatious** Behaving in such a way as to suggest a playful sexual attraction to someone.  
She was beautiful and very **flirtatious**.
- kittenish** Playful like a lively kitten.  
Her voice had that **kittenish** quality.
- overmodest** Affectedly modest or shy especially in a playful or provocative way.

**simpering** Affectedly coy or ingratiating.  
*She is clearly not a **simpering** female who can be pushed around.*

**skittish** Unpredictably excitable (especially of horses).  
*My **skittish** and immature mother.*

## Usage Examples of "Coy" as an adjective

- *He is coy about his age.*
- *A politician coy about his intentions.*
- *She treated him to a coy smile of invitation.*
- *Like a wild young colt, very inquisitive but very coy and not to be easily cajoled.*

## Associations of "Coy" (30 Words)

**bashful** Disposed to avoid notice blate is a Scottish term for bashful.  
*They considered themselves a tough outfit and weren't **bashful** about letting anybody know it.*

**cagey** Characterized by great caution and wariness.  
*A **cagey** lawyer.*

**demure** Reserved, modest, and shy (typically used of a woman).  
*A **demure** young lady.*

**diffident** Lacking self-confidence.  
*Stood in the doorway **diffident** and abashed.*

**eschew** Deliberately avoid using; abstain from.  
*He appealed to the crowd to **eschew** violence.*

**fainthearted** Lacking conviction or boldness or courage.

**inarticulate** Without or deprived of the use of speech or words.  
*Mention of her mother filled her with **inarticulate** irritation.*

**introversion** An introverted disposition; concern with one's own thoughts and feelings.  
*We expected our sample to show elevated neuroticism and **introversion**.*

**introvert** (psychology) a person who tends to shrink from social contacts and to become preoccupied with their own thoughts.  
*He **introverted** his feelings.*

**introverted** Given to examining own sensory and perceptual experiences.

<b>limelight</b>	A lamp consisting of a flame directed at a cylinder of lime with a lens to concentrate the light; formerly used for stage lighting. <i>He enjoyed being in the <b>limelight</b>.</i>
<b>passive</b>	A passive form of a verb. <i>The ball was thrown is an abbreviated <b>passive</b>.</i>
<b>passivity</b>	Acceptance of what happens, without active response or resistance. <i>Nickel increases the overall <b>passivity</b> of the iron.</i>
<b>prissy</b>	Exaggeratedly proper. <i>A middle class family with two <b>prissy</b> children.</i>
<b>prudery</b>	Excessive or affected modesty.
<b>prudish</b>	Exaggeratedly proper. <i>The <b>prudish</b> moral climate of the late 19th century.</i>
<b>quiet</b>	Become quiet or quieter. <i>Molly spoke with <b>quiet</b> confidence.</i>
<b>reserved</b>	Marked by self-restraint and reticence. <i>He is a <b>reserved</b> almost taciturn man.</i>
<b>restrained</b>	Kept under control. <i><b>Restrained</b> in his response.</i>
<b>reticent</b>	Not revealing one's thoughts or feelings readily. <i>She was extremely <b>reticent</b> about her personal affairs.</i>
<b>retiring</b>	Reluctant to draw attention to yourself. <i>A gentle <b>retiring</b> person who avoided conflict.</i>
<b>shy</b>	Throw quickly. <i><b>Shy</b> of strangers.</i>
<b>silent</b>	Having a frequency below or above the range of human audibility. <i>The <b>silent</b> h at the beginning of honor.</i>
<b>taciturn</b>	(of a person) reserved or uncommunicative in speech; saying little. <i>After such gatherings she would be <b>taciturn</b> and morose.</i>
<b>timid</b>	People who are fearful and cautious. <i>Problems that call for bold not <b>timid</b> responses.</i>
<b>timorous</b>	Timid by nature or revealing timidity. <i>A <b>timorous</b> voice.</i>
<b>unassertive</b>	Inclined to timidity or lack of self-confidence. <i>She was gentle and <b>unassertive</b>.</i>
<b>uncommunicative</b>	Unwilling to talk or impart information. <i>He had always been quiet and <b>uncommunicative</b> having few friends.</i>

**unutterable**

Defying expression or description.  
*I felt an **unutterable** fool.*

**withdrawn**

Withdrawn from society seeking solitude.  
*When her husband died she became very **withdrawn**.*