

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

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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.

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