

Need another word that means the same as “cringe”? Find 35 synonyms and 30 related words for “cringe” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Cringe” are: cower, crawl, creep, fawn, grovel, flinch, funk, quail, recoil, shrink, squinch, wince, draw back, pull back, start, shy, shy away, blench, blanch, dodge, duck, crouch, shudder, shake, tremble, quiver, quake, kowtow, bow and scrape, toady, truckle, squirm, blush, flush, go red**

## **Cringe as a Verb**

### **Definitions of "Cringe" as a verb**

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

- *Experience an inward shiver of embarrassment or disgust.*
- *Show submission or fear.*
- *Bend one's head and body in fear or apprehension or in a servile manner.*
- *Draw back, as with fear or pain.*



## Synonyms of "Cringe" as a verb (35 Words)

<b>blanch</b>	Make white or pale by extracting colour. <i>The cold light <b>blanched</b> her face.</i>
<b>blench</b>	Make a sudden flinching movement out of fear or pain. <i>A shudder shook the boy's frame and his face <b>blenched</b>.</i>
<b><u>blush</u></b>	Show shyness, embarrassment, or shame by becoming red in the face. <i>Her cheeks <b>blushed</b> in the cold winter air.</i>
<b>bow and scrape</b>	Bend the head or the upper part of the body in a gesture of respect or greeting.
<b><u>cower</u></b>	Crouch or curl up. <i>Children <b>cowered</b> in terror as the shoot out erupted.</i>
<b><u>crawl</u></b>	Swim by doing the crawl. <i>Glazes can <b>crawl</b> away from a crack in the piece.</i>
<b><u>creep</u></b>	(of a thing) move very slowly and inexorably. <i>The fog was <b>creeping</b> up from the marsh.</i>
<b>crouch</b>	Sit on one's heels. <i>We <b>crouched</b> down in the trench.</i>
<b><u>dodge</u></b>	Move quickly to one side or out of the way. <i>Adam <b>dodged</b> between the cars.</i>
<b>draw back</b>	Take in, also metaphorically.
<b>duck</b>	To move (the head or body) quickly downwards or away. <i>Before he could <b>duck</b> another stone struck him.</i>
<b>fawn</b>	Have fawns. <i>Deer <b>fawn</b>.</i>
<b><u>flinch</u></b>	Make a quick, nervous movement as an instinctive reaction to fear, pain, or surprise. <i>He had faced death without <b>flinching</b>.</i>
<b><u>flush</u></b>	Remove or dispose of an object or substance by flushing. <i>The sky <b>flushed</b> with rosy splendor.</i>
<b>funk</b>	Draw back, as with fear or pain. <i>I could have seen him this morning but I <b>funked</b> it.</i>
<b>go red</b>	Stretch out over a distance, space, time, or scope; run or extend between two points or beyond a certain point.
<b>grovel</b>	Act in an obsequious way in order to obtain someone's forgiveness or favour. <i>They criticized leaders who <b>grovelled</b> to foreign patrons.</i>

<b>kowtow</b>	Kneel and touch the ground with the forehead in worship or submission as part of Chinese custom. <i>He is always <b>kowtowing</b> to his boss.</i>
<b>pull back</b>	Move into a certain direction.
<b>quail</b>	Draw back, as with fear or pain.
<b>quake</b>	(especially of the earth) shake or tremble. <i>The rumbling vibrations set the whole valley quaking.</i>
<b>quiver</b>	Cause (something) to make a slight rapid motion. <i>The bird runs along in a zigzag path <b>quivering</b> its wings.</i>
<b>recoil</b>	Spring back, as from a forceful thrust. <i>He <b>recoiled</b> in horror.</i>
<b>shake</b>	Shake a body part to communicate a greeting feeling or cognitive state. <i>The escalation in costs is certain to <b>shake</b> the confidence of private investors.</i>
<b>shrink</b>	Be averse to or unwilling to do (something difficult or unappealing). <i>The metal is unsuitable for <b>shrinking</b> on to wooden staves.</i>
<b>shudder</b>	(of a person) tremble convulsively, typically as a result of fear or revulsion. <i>She still <b>shuddered</b> at the thought of him.</i>
<b>shy</b>	(especially of a horse) start suddenly aside in fright at an object, noise, or movement. <i>Don't <b>shy</b> away from saying what you think.</i>
<b>shy away</b>	Throw quickly.
<b>squinch</b>	Draw back, as with fear or pain.
<b>squirm</b>	Wriggle or twist the body from side to side, especially as a result of nervousness or discomfort. <i>He looked uncomfortable and <b>squirmed</b> in his chair.</i>
<b>start</b>	Play in the starting lineup. <i>The teacher can <b>start</b> by capitalizing on children's curiosity.</i>
<b>toady</b>	Try to gain favor by cringing or flattering. <i>She imagined him <b>toadying</b> to his rich clients.</i>
<b>tremble</b>	Be in a state of extreme apprehension. <i>I <b>tremble</b> to think that we could ever return to conditions like these.</i>
<b>truckle</b>	Yield to out of weakness.
<b>wince</b>	Make a face indicating disgust or dislike. <i>He <b>wincing</b> at the disgust in her voice.</i>

## Usage Examples of "Cringe" as a verb

- *I cringed at the fellow's stupidity.*
- *He cringed away from the blow.*

## Associations of "Cringe" (30 Words)

<b><u>admit</u></b>	Declare to be true or admit the existence or reality or truth of. <i>The paramilitaries <b>admitted</b> to the illegal possession of arms.</i>
<b>apology</b>	A very poor or inadequate example of. <i>He wrote a letter of <b>apology</b> to the hostess.</i>
<b>boggle</b>	(of a person) hesitate to do or accept. <i>The inflated salary of a star <b>boggles</b> the mind.</i>
<b>compensation</b>	The action or process of awarding compensation. <i>A <b>compensation</b> claim.</i>
<b><u>cower</u></b>	Show submission or fear. <i>Children <b>cowered</b> in terror as the shoot out erupted.</i>
<b><u>crawl</u></b>	Feel as if crawling with insects. <i>The tiny spider was <b>crawling</b> up Nicky's arm.</i>
<b><u>creep</u></b>	(of a plant) grow along the ground or other surface by means of extending stems or branches. <i>Stones and earth slowly slip down the slopes by soil <b>creep</b>.</i>
<b>crouch</b>	A crouching stance or posture. <i>We <b>crouched</b> down in the trench.</i>
<b>duck</b>	The meat of a duck as food. <i>Before he could <b>duck</b> another stone struck him.</i>
<b><u>excuse</u></b>	Defend explain clear away or make excuses for by reasoning. <i>Please <b>excuse</b> me from this class.</i>
<b><u>flinch</u></b>	An act of flinching. <i>Don't call me that he said with a <b>flinch</b>.</i>
<b><u>gather</u></b>	The act of gathering something. <i>The destroyer <b>gathered</b> speed.</i>
<b>grovel</b>	Lie or crawl abjectly on the ground with one's face downwards. <i>They criticized leaders who <b>grovelled</b> to foreign patrons.</i>
<b>groveling</b>	Totally submissive.
<b>heartfelt</b>	(of a feeling or its expression) deeply and strongly felt; sincere. <i><b>Heartfelt</b> condolences.</i>



<b>huddle</b>	A number of people gathered together to speak about private or secret matters. <i>The colonel <b>huddled</b> with A J at the dining room table.</i>
<b>kneel</b>	Supporting yourself on your knees. <i>In church you have to <b>kneel</b> during parts of the service.</i>
<b>posture</b>	Assume a posture as for artistic purposes. <i>I got out of the car in an alert <b>posture</b>.</i>
<b>purloin</b>	Steal (something). <i>He must have managed to <b>purloin</b> a copy of the key.</i>
<b>rebound</b>	The act of securing possession of the rebounding basketball after a missed shot. <i>He blasted the <b>rebound</b> into the net.</i>
<b>recoil</b>	The action of recoiling. <i>His body jerked with the <b>recoil</b> of the rifle.</i>
<b>shrink</b>	(of clothes or material) become smaller as a result of being immersed in water. <i>You should see a <b>shrink</b>.</i>
<b>silently</b>	Without making any sound. <i>He <b>silently</b> cursed himself for his actions.</i>
<b>sincere</b>	(of a person) saying what they genuinely feel or believe; not dishonest or hypocritical. <i>Felt <b>sincere</b> regret that they were leaving.</i>
<b>sit</b>	Be or remain in a particular position or state. <i>Kelly had been cat <b>sitting</b> for me.</i>
<b>sneak</b>	Someone who prowls or sneaks about usually with unlawful intentions. <i>A <b>sneak</b> preview.</i>
<b>squat</b>	In gymnastics an exercise involving a squatting movement or action. <i>A <b>squatty</b> red smokestack.</i>
<b>stealthily</b>	In a cautious and surreptitious manner, so as not to be seen or heard. <i>We need to move <b>stealthily</b> and look inconspicuous.</i>
<b>stoop</b>	Carry oneself, often habitually, with head, shoulders, and upper back bent forward. <i>The man <b>stoops</b> his head.</i>
<b>wince</b>	Make a face indicating disgust or dislike. <i>He <b>winc</b>ed at the disgust in her voice.</i>