

Need another word that means the same as “cruelty”? Find 17 synonyms and 30 related words for “cruelty” in this overview.

Table Of Contents:

- [Cruelty as a Noun](#)
- [Definitions of "Cruelty" as a noun](#)
- [Synonyms of "Cruelty" as a noun \(17 Words\)](#)
- [Usage Examples of "Cruelty" as a noun](#)
- [Associations of "Cruelty" \(30 Words\)](#)

**The synonyms of “Cruelty” are: mercilessness, pitilessness, ruthlessness, cruelty, harshness, brutality, savagery, savageness, inhumanity, barbarism, barbarousness, bloodthirstiness, murderousness, viciousness, ferocity, ferociousness, fierceness**

## Cruelty as a Noun

### Definitions of "Cruelty" as a noun

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

- *Cruel behaviour or attitudes.*
- *A cruel act; a deliberate infliction of pain and suffering.*
- *The quality of being cruel and causing tension or annoyance.*
- *Behaviour which causes physical or mental harm to another, especially a spouse, whether intentionally or not.*
- *Feelings of extreme heartlessness.*



## Synonyms of "Cruelty" as a noun (17 Words)

- barbarism** Absence of culture and civilization.  
*She called the execution an act of **barbarism**.*
- barbarousness** The quality of being shockingly cruel and inhumane.
- bloodthirstiness** A disposition to shed blood.
- brutality** A brutal barbarous savage act.  
***Brutality** against civilians.*
- cruelness** A cruel act; a deliberate infliction of pain and suffering.
- ferociousness** The trait of extreme cruelty.
- ferocity** The state or quality of being ferocious.  
*She hated him with a **ferocity** that astonished her.*

<b>fierceness</b>	The property of being wild or turbulent.
<b>harshness</b>	The quality of being cruel or severe. <i>Glycerin can be added to reduce the <b>harshness</b> of the soap on the skin.</i>
<b>inhumanity</b>	The quality of lacking compassion or consideration for others. <i>Man s <b>inhumanity</b> to man.</i>
<b>mercilessness</b>	Feelings of extreme heartlessness.
<b>murderousness</b>	A bloodthirsty hatred arousing murderous impulses.
<b>pitilessness</b>	Feelings of extreme heartlessness.
<b>ruthlessness</b>	Mercilessness characterized by a lack of pity. <i>The real world <b>ruthlessness</b> of business.</i>
<b>savageness</b>	The property of being untamed and ferocious. <i>The coastline is littered with testaments to the <b>savageness</b> of the waters.</i>
<a href="#"><u>savagery</u></a>	The property of being untamed and ferocious. <i>A crime of the utmost <b>savagery</b>.</i>
<b>viciousness</b>	The trait of extreme cruelty. <i>She was visibly shocked by the <b>viciousness</b> of the attack.</i>





## Usage Examples of "Cruelty" as a noun

- *We can't stand cruelty to animals.*
- *He has treated her with extreme cruelty.*
- *The cruelties of forced assimilation and genocide.*
- *She divorced my stepfather for persistent cruelty.*



## Associations of "Cruelty" (30 Words)

- autocracy** A political system governed by a single individual.  
*The Grand Duchy of Tuscany was an **autocracy**.*
- barbarism** A word or expression which is badly formed according to traditional philological rules, e.g. a word formed from elements of different languages, such as breathalyser (English and Greek) or television (Greek and Latin).  
*The collapse of civilization and the return to **barbarism**.*
- despot** A cruel and oppressive dictator.
- despotism** A form of government in which the ruler is an absolute dictator (not restricted by a constitution or laws or opposition etc).  
*The ideology of enlightened **despotism**.*
- dictatorship** Absolute authority in any sphere.  
*The effects of forty years of **dictatorship**.*
- dominate** Have a commanding position over; overlook.  
*The villa **dominates** the town.*

<b>evil</b>	Of a force or spirit embodying or associated with the forces of the devil. <i>His struggle against the forces of <b>evil</b>.</i>
<b>ferocity</b>	The property of being wild or turbulent. <i>She hated him with a <b>ferocity</b> that astonished her.</i>
<b>gory</b>	Covered with blood. <i>A <b>gory</b> dagger.</i>
<b>heretical</b>	Characterized by departure from accepted beliefs or standards. <i>I feel a bit <b>heretical</b> saying this but I think the film has too much action.</i>
<b>inhumanity</b>	The quality of lacking compassion or consideration for others. <i>Man s <b>inhumanity</b> to man.</i>
<b>insensate</b>	Devoid of feeling and consciousness and animation. <i><b>Insensate</b> jabbering.</i>
<b>monocracy</b>	A form of government in which the ruler is an absolute dictator (not restricted by a constitution or laws or opposition etc.
<b>monopolize</b>	Have or exploit a monopoly of. <i>They instituted press censorship and <b>monopolized</b> the means of communication.</i>
<b>oppression</b>	Mental pressure or distress. <i>After years of <b>oppression</b> they finally revolted.</i>
<b>persecution</b>	The act of persecuting (especially on the basis of race or religion). <i>His <b>persecution</b> at the hands of other students.</i>
<b>perversity</b>	The quality of being sexually perverted. <i>They responded with typical <b>perversity</b>.</i>
<b>proletarian</b>	A member of the proletariat. <i>They are true <b>proletarians</b>.</i>
<b>repression</b>	(psychiatry) the classical defense mechanism that protects you from impulses or ideas that would cause anxiety by preventing them from becoming conscious. <i>Students sparked off events that ended in brutal <b>repression</b>.</i>
<b>ruthlessness</b>	Feelings of extreme heartlessness. <i>The real world <b>ruthlessness</b> of business.</i>
<b>savagery</b>	The trait of extreme cruelty. <i>The progress of civilization over <b>savagery</b>.</i>
<b>selfishness</b>	The quality or state of being selfish; lack of consideration for other people. <i>An act of pure <b>selfishness</b>.</i>
<b>suppress</b>	Prevent or inhibit (a process or reaction). <i>The rising was savagely <b>suppressed</b>.</i>



- suppression** Stoppage or reduction of a discharge or secretion.  
*The **suppression** of heresy.*
- theocracy** The belief in government by divine guidance.  
*It is a society just emerging from **theocracy**.*
- tyrannize** Rule or treat (someone) despotically or cruelly.  
*She **tyrannized** her family.*
- tyranny** Cruel and oppressive government or rule.  
*Refugees fleeing **tyranny** and oppression.*
- tyrant** A tyrant flycatcher.  
*The **tyrant** was deposed by popular demonstrations.*
- violence** The unlawful exercise of physical force or intimidation by the exhibition of such force.  
*Screen **violence**.*

