

Need another word that means the same as “cryptic”? Find 22 synonyms and 30 related words for “cryptic” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Cryptic” are: cryptical, deep, inscrutable, mysterious, mystifying, cabalistic, kabbalistic, qabalistic, sibylline, enigmatic, hard to understand, confusing, perplexing, puzzling, obscure, abstruse, arcane, oracular, delphic, ambiguous, elliptical, oblique**

## Cryptic as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Cryptic" as an adjective

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

- *Of an obscure nature- Rachel.*
- *Having a puzzling terseness.*
- *Of an obscure nature.*
- *(of coloration or markings) serving to camouflage an animal in its natural environment.*
- *(of a crossword) having difficult clues which indicate the solutions indirectly.*
- *Having a secret or hidden meaning.*
- *Having a meaning that is mysterious or obscure.*
- *Having a secret or hidden meaning- John Gunther.*

### Synonyms of "Cryptic" as an adjective (22 Words)

**abstruse**                      Difficult to penetrate; incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge.  
*An **abstruse** philosophical inquiry.*

<b>ambiguous</b>	Having more than one possible meaning. <i>The polling had a complex and equivocal or <b>ambiguous</b> message for potential female candidates.</i>
<b>arcane</b>	Requiring secret or mysterious knowledge. <i><b>Arcane</b> procedures for electing people.</i>
<b>cabalistic</b>	Having a secret or hidden meaning- John Gunther. <i><b>Cabalistic</b> symbols engraved in stone.</i>
<b>confusing</b>	Bewildering or perplexing. <i>A <b>confusing</b> jumble of road signs.</i>
<b>cryptical</b>	Of an obscure nature- Rachel.
<b>deep</b>	Relatively deep or strong affecting one deeply. <i>They were standing three <b>deep</b> at the bar.</i>
<b>delphic</b>	Of or relating to Delphi or to the oracles of Apollo at Delphi.
<b>elliptical</b>	Characterized by extreme economy of expression or omission of superfluous elements- H.O.Taylor. <i><b>Elliptical</b> colloquial exchanges.</i>
<b>enigmatic</b>	Resembling an oracle in obscurity of thought. <i>So <b>enigmatic</b> that priests might have to clarify it.</i>
<b>hard to understand</b>	Being distilled rather than fermented; having a high alcoholic content.
<b>inscrutable</b>	Impossible to understand or interpret. <i>The <b>inscrutable</b> workings of Providence.</i>
<b>kabbalistic</b>	Having a secret or hidden meaning.
<b>mysterious</b>	Of an obscure nature- Rachel. <i>She was <b>mysterious</b> about herself but said plenty about her husband.</i>
<b>mystifying</b>	Utterly bewildering or perplexing. <i>Rituals totally <b>mystifying</b> to visitors from other lands.</i>
<b>oblique</b>	(of an angle) acute or obtuse. <i>Acute and obtuse angles are <b>oblique</b> angles.</i>
<b>obscure</b>	Not clearly expressed or easily understood. <i>An <b>obscure</b> turn of phrase.</i>
<b>oracular</b>	Relating to an oracle. <i>The <b>oracular</b> sayings of Victorian poets.</i>
<b>perplexing</b>	Completely baffling; very puzzling. <i>A <b>perplexing</b> problem.</i>

<b>puzzling</b>	Lacking clarity of meaning; causing confusion or perplexity. <i>A <b>puzzling</b> statement.</i>
<b>qabalistic</b>	Having a secret or hidden meaning.
<b>sibylline</b>	Having a secret or hidden meaning- John Gunther. <i>Thoroughly <b>sibylline</b> in most of his pronouncements.</i>

## Usage Examples of "Cryptic" as an adjective

- *Cryptic plumage is thought to minimize predation.*
- *A cryptic note.*
- *The new insurance policy is written without cryptic or mysterious terms.*
- *He found his boss's utterances too cryptic.*
- *Cryptic writings.*

## Associations of "Cryptic" (30 Words)

<b>abysmal</b>	Resembling an abyss in depth; so deep as to be unmeasurable. <i><b>Abysmal</b> stupidity.</i>
<b>ambiguous</b>	Open to more than one interpretation; not having one obvious meaning. <i><b>Ambiguous</b> phrases.</i>
<b>arcane</b>	Understood by few; mysterious or secret. <i><b>Arcane</b> procedures for electing people.</i>
<b>crossword</b>	A puzzle consisting of a grid of squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues. <i>She settled down to do the <b>crossword</b>.</i>
<b>decipher</b>	Convert (a text written in code, or a coded signal) into normal language. <i>Authorized government agencies can <b>decipher</b> encrypted telecommunications.</i>
<b>disappearance</b>	Gradually ceasing to be visible. <i>The <b>disappearance</b> of grammar schools.</i>
<b>eerie</b>	Inspiring a feeling of fear; strange and frightening. <i>An <b>eerie</b> feeling of <i>deja vu</i>.</i>
<b>enigma</b>	A person or thing that is mysterious or difficult to understand. <i>Madeleine was still an <b>enigma</b> to him.</i>
<b>enigmatic</b>	Not clear to the understanding. <i>So <b>enigmatic</b> that priests might have to clarify it.</i>

<b>esoterica</b>	Esoteric or highly specialized subjects or publications. <i>A professor of such <b>esoterica</b> as angelology and comparative shamanism.</i>
<b>incomprehensible</b>	Incapable of being explained or accounted for. <i>A language which is <b>incomprehensible</b> to anyone outside the office.</i>
<b><u>inexplicable</u></b>	Incapable of being explained or accounted for. <i>Left the house at three in the morning for <b>inexplicable</b> reasons.</i>
<b>inscrutable</b>	Impossible to understand or interpret. <i>The <b>inscrutable</b> workings of Providence.</i>
<b>insoluble</b>	Impossible to solve. <i>An <b>insoluble</b> problem.</i>
<b>mysterious</b>	Of an obscure nature. <i>A <b>mysterious</b> benefactor provided the money.</i>
<b><u>occult</u></b>	Cause an eclipse of (a celestial body) by intervention. <i>The lids were <b>occulting</b> her eyes.</i>
<b><u>odd</u></b>	Of the remaining member of a pair. <i>It s <b>odd</b> that she didn t recognize me.</i>
<b>oracular</b>	(of an utterance, advice, etc.) hard to interpret; enigmatic. <i>An ambiguous <b>oracular</b> remark.</i>
<b>preternatural</b>	Beyond what is normal or natural. <i>Beyond his <b>preternatural</b> affability there is some acid and some steel.</i>
<b><u>puzzle</u></b>	A jigsaw puzzle. <i>Realization dawned as the pieces of the <b>puzzle</b> fell into place.</i>
<b><u>puzzling</u></b>	Causing one to be puzzled; perplexing. <i>A <b>puzzling</b> statement.</i>
<b>recondite</b>	Difficult to penetrate; incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge. <i>The book is full of <b>recondite</b> information.</i>
<b>secret</b>	Of information given in confidence or in secret. <i>A <b>secret</b> drinker.</i>
<b>sibylline</b>	Having a secret or hidden meaning. <i>One glimpses them uttering <b>sibylline</b> predictions of weal and woe.</i>
<b>strange</b>	Unaccustomed to or unfamiliar with. <i>She was lost in a <b>strange</b> country.</i>

<b>unaccountable</b>	(of a person, organization, or institution) not required or expected to justify actions or decisions; not responsible for results or consequences. <i>There are enormous risks in leaving such agencies uncontrolled and <b>unaccountable</b>.</i>
<b>uncanny</b>	Surpassing the ordinary or normal. <i>His <b>uncanny</b> sense of direction.</i>
<b><u>unfathomable</u></b>	Incapable of being fully understood. <i>Mountains of <b>unfathomable</b> scale.</i>
<b><u>unsolved</u></b>	Not solved. <i>An <b>unsolved</b> mystery.</i>
<b><u>weird</u></b>	Induce a sense of disbelief or alienation in someone. <i>The three <b>weird</b> sisters.</i>