

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.*

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

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

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

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

unaccountable	(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 unaccountable.</i>
uncanny	Surpassing the ordinary or normal. <i>His uncanny sense of direction.</i>
<u>unfathomable</u>	Incapable of being fully understood. <i>Mountains of unfathomable scale.</i>
<u>unsolved</u>	Not solved. <i>An unsolved mystery.</i>
<u>weird</u>	Induce a sense of disbelief or alienation in someone. <i>The three weird sisters.</i>