

Need another word that means the same as “defective”? Find 18 synonyms and 30 related words for “defective” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Defective” are: faulty, bad, flawed, imperfect, shoddy, inoperative, not working, malfunctioning, out of order, unsound, lacking, wanting, deficient, inadequate, insufficient, short, low, scant**

## Defective as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Defective" as an adjective

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

- *Having mental disabilities.*
- *Not working properly.*
- *Markedly subnormal in structure or function or intelligence or behavior.*
- *Lacking or deficient.*
- *(of a word) not having all the inflections normal for the part of speech.*
- *Imperfect or faulty.*
- *Having a defect.*



## Synonyms of "Defective" as an adjective (18 Words)

### **bad**

Feeling physical discomfort or pain tough is occasionally used colloquially for bad.

A **bad** storm.

### **deficient**

Not having enough of a specified quality or ingredient.

A **deficient** education.

### **faulty**

(of reasoning and other mental processes) mistaken or misleading because of flaws.

He submitted a **faulty** report.

### **flawed**

(of a person) having a weakness in character.

A **flawed** diamond.

### **imperfect**

(of a cadence) ending on the dominant chord.

**Imperfect** mortals.

### **inadequate**

Lacking the requisite qualities or resources to meet a task.

An **inadequate** income.

### **inoperative**

Not working or taking effect.

An **inoperative** law.

<b><u>insufficient</u></b>	Of a quantity not able to fulfill a need or requirement. <i><b>Insufficient</b> funds.</i>
<b>lacking</b>	Inadequate in amount or degree. <i>The students are not <b>lacking</b> in intellectual ability.</i>
<b><u>low</u></b>	Used of sounds and voices low in pitch or frequency. <i><b>Low</b> back pain.</i>
<b>malfunctioning</b>	Not performing or able to perform its regular function. <i>A <b>malfunctioning</b> valve.</i>
<b>not working</b>	Adopted as a temporary basis for further work.
<b>out of order</b>	Not allowed to continue to bat or run.
<b>scant</b>	Barely amounting to a specified number or quantity. <i>She weighed a <b>scant</b> two pounds.</i>
<b><u>shoddy</u></b>	Cheap and shoddy Judith Crist. <i>We re not paying good money for <b>shoddy</b> goods.</i>
<b>short</b>	Tending to crumble or break into flakes due to a large amount of shortening. <i>Regularly gives <b>short</b> weight.</i>
<b><u>unsound</u></b>	Physically unsound or diseased. <i>This line of argument is <b>unsound</b>.</i>
<b>wanting</b>	Lacking in a required or necessary quality. <i>Mandibles are <b>wanting</b> in many of these insects.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Defective" as an adjective

- *Complaints over defective goods.*
- *I returned the appliance because it was defective.*
- *A defective appliance.*
- *Defective speech.*
- *Dystrophin is commonly defective in muscle tissue.*





## Associations of "Defective" (30 Words)

<b>defect</b>	A failing or deficiency. <i>This device permits detection of <b>defects</b> in the lungs.</i>
<b>deficiency</b>	The amount by which something, especially revenue, falls short; a deficit. <i>Water is the critical <b>deficiency</b> in desert regions.</i>
<b>demerit</b>	A fault or disadvantage. <i>The merits and <b>demerits</b> of these proposals.</i>
<b>disadvantage</b>	Put at a disadvantage hinder harm. <i>This rule clearly <b>disadvantages</b> me.</i>
<b><u>drawback</u></b>	A feature that renders something less acceptable; a disadvantage or problem. <i>He pointed out all the <b>drawbacks</b> to my plan.</i>

<b><u>error</u></b>	A mistake in matter of law appearing in the proceedings of a court of record. <i>She was quick to point out my <b>errors</b>.</i>
<b>failing</b>	Below acceptable in performance. <i>Pride is a terrible <b>failing</b>.</i>
<b>fallibility</b>	The likelihood of making errors. <i>Studies on the <b>fallibility</b> of memory and perception.</i>
<b>fallible</b>	Capable of making mistakes or being wrong. <i>Everyone is <b>fallible</b> to some degree.</i>
<b><u>fault</u></b>	Of a rock formation be broken by a fault or faults. <i>It was John s <b>fault</b>.</i>
<b><u>faulty</u></b>	Having or displaying weaknesses. <i><b>Faulty</b> logic.</i>
<b>flaw</b>	Add a flaw or blemish to make imperfect or defective. <i>The computer game was <b>flawed</b> by poor programming.</i>
<b><u>flawed</u></b>	Having a blemish or flaw. <i>A <b>flawed</b> diamond.</i>
<b>gaffe</b>	An unintentional act or remark causing embarrassment to its originator; a blunder. <i>His comments are a major diplomatic <b>gaffe</b>.</i>
<b><u>imperfect</u></b>	The imperfect tense. <i><b>Imperfect</b> mortals.</i>
<b>inaccurate</b>	Not accurate. <i>False or <b>inaccurate</b> descriptions of goods.</i>
<b><u>inadequacy</u></b>	Inability to deal with a situation or with life. <i>The <b>inadequacy</b> of unemployment benefits.</i>
<b>incompetence</b>	Inability of a part or organ to function properly. <i>Allegations of professional <b>incompetence</b>.</i>
<b>ineptitude</b>	Lack of skill or ability. <i>The officials displayed remarkable <b>ineptitude</b>.</i>
<b>inexact</b>	Not exact. <i>An <b>inexact</b> description.</i>
<b>insufficiency</b>	A lack of competence. <i>Renal <b>insufficiency</b>.</i>
<b>lacking</b>	Inadequate in amount or degree. <i>There was something <b>lacking</b> in our marriage.</i>

- lapse** Pass into a specified state or condition.  
*The girls **lapsed** into French.*
- mistake** To make a mistake or be incorrect.  
*He made a bad **mistake**.*
- misunderstanding** A failure to understand something correctly.  
*He left the army after a slight **misunderstanding** with his commanding officer.*
- mutant** A mutant form.  
*Frequently only a small percentage of the offspring of **mutants** resemble their parents.*
- oversight** The action of overseeing something.  
*Effective **oversight** of the financial reporting process.*
- shortcoming** A fault or failure to meet a certain standard, typically in a person's character, a plan, or a system.  
*He is so forthright about his **shortcomings** it's hard to chastise him.*
- solecism** A grammatical mistake in speech or writing.
- unreliable** Lacking a sense of responsibility.  
*In the early 1950s computers were large and expensive and **unreliable**.*

