

Need another word that means the same as “defensive”? Find 11 synonyms and 30 related words for “defensive” in this overview.

Table Of Contents:

- [Defensive as a Noun](#)
- [Definitions of "Defensive" as a noun](#)
- [Synonyms of "Defensive" as a noun \(1 Word\)](#)
- [Defensive as an Adjective](#)
- [Definitions of "Defensive" as an adjective](#)
- [Synonyms of "Defensive" as an adjective \(10 Words\)](#)
- [Usage Examples of "Defensive" as an adjective](#)
- [Associations of "Defensive" \(30 Words\)](#)

**The synonyms of “Defensive” are: justificative, justificatory, defending, protecting, protective, oversensitive, thin-skinned, prickly, paranoid, neurotic, defensive attitude**

## **Defensive as a Noun**

### **Definitions of "Defensive" as a noun**

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

- *An attitude of defensiveness (especially in the phrase `on the defensive).*



## Synonyms of "Defensive" as a noun (1 Word)

**defensive attitude** An attitude of defensiveness (especially in the phrase `on the defensive).



## Defensive as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Defensive" as an adjective

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

- *Used or intended to defend or protect.*
- *Very anxious to challenge or avoid criticism.*
- *Intended or appropriate for defending against or deterring aggression or attack.*
- *(in sport) relating to or intended as defence.*
- *Attempting to justify or defend in speech or writing.*





## Synonyms of "Defensive" as an adjective (10 Words)

<b>defending</b>	(in sport) protecting one's goal or wicket rather than attempting to score against one's opponents. <i>The <b>defending</b> champion.</i>
<b>justificative</b>	Providing justification.
<b>justificatory</b>	Serving as proof or justification. <i><b>Justificatory</b> arguments.</i>
<b>neurotic</b>	(in non-technical use) abnormally sensitive, obsessive, or anxious. <i>He seemed a <b>neurotic</b> self obsessed character.</i>
<b>oversensitive</b>	(especially of a person or an instrument) excessively sensitive. <i>Bentley was <b>oversensitive</b> to criticism.</i>
<b>paranoid</b>	Suffering from paranoia. <i>You think I m <b>paranoid</b> but I tell you there is something going on.</i>
<b>prickly</b>	Very irritable. <i>She came across as <b>prickly</b> and generally difficult.</i>

**protecting** Shielding (or designed to shield) against harm or discomfort.  
*The **protecting** blanket of snow.*

**protective** Showing care.  
*A **protective** covering.*

**thin-skinned** Quick to take offense.



## Usage Examples of "Defensive" as an adjective

- *A poor defensive record.*
- *A defensive stance.*
- *He was very defensive about that side of his life.*
- *Defensive barriers.*
- *A defensive player.*
- *Defensive weapons.*





## Associations of "Defensive" (30 Words)

<b><u>armament</u></b>	Weaponry used by military or naval force. <i>Instruments of <b>disarmament</b> rather than of <b>armament</b>.</i>
<b>arms</b>	Weapons; armaments. <i><b>Arms</b> and ammunition.</i>
<b>battlefield</b>	A region where a battle is being (or has been) fought. <i>The <b>battlefields</b> of the Great War.</i>
<b>blockade</b>	Impose a blockade on. <i>The authorities <b>blockaded</b> roads in and out of the capital.</i>
<b>circumvention</b>	The action of overcoming a problem or difficulty, typically in a clever and surreptitious way. <i><b>Circumvention</b> of the rules undermines any fairness.</i>
<b>fortification</b>	The action of fortifying or process of being fortified. <i>A medieval <b>fortification</b>.</i>

<b>gun</b>	Shoot with a gun. <i>A grease <b>gun</b>.</i>
<b>intercept</b>	An act or instance of intercepting something. <i>I <b>intercepted</b> Edward on his way to work.</i>
<b>machiavellian</b>	A follower of Machiavelli's principles.
<b>maneuver</b>	A deliberate coordinated movement requiring dexterity and skill. <i>He <b>maneuvered</b> to get the chairmanship.</i>
<b>military</b>	The military forces of a nation. <i>The build up of <b>military</b> activity.</i>
<b>moat</b>	Surround a place with a moat.
<b>munition</b>	Military weapons ammunition equipment and stores. <i><b>Munition</b> factories.</i>
<b>naval</b>	Connected with or belonging to or used in a navy. <i>A <b>naval</b> base.</i>
<b>obstructionist</b>	Someone who systematically obstructs some action that others want to take.
<b>ordnance</b>	Large but transportable armament. <i>The <b>ordnance</b> corps.</i>
<b>ploy</b>	A maneuver in a game or conversation. <i>The eternal cross stitch I was set to do before I could indulge my own <b>loys</b>.</i>
<b>prevent</b>	(of God) go before (someone) with spiritual guidance and help. <i>Locks won't <b>prevent</b> a determined burglar from getting in.</i>
<b>protective</b>	(usually followed by 'of') solicitously caring or mindful. <i>Animals with <b>protective</b> coloring.</i>
<b>siege</b>	A group of herons. <i>Two cult members have died so far in the four day <b>siege</b>.</i>
<b>stratagem</b>	A maneuver in a game or conversation. <i>A series of devious <b>stratagems</b>.</i>
<b>strategically</b>	In a way that relates to the achievement of long-term or overall aims and interests. <i>We have to think <b>strategically</b> about how best to utilize our facilities.</i>
<b>tackle</b>	Make determined efforts to deal with (a problem or difficult task). <i>The first scoring chance came when Orrell <b>tackled</b> Webb.</i>
<b>tactic</b>	The art of disposing armed forces in order of battle and of organizing operations, especially during contact with an enemy. <i>The minority attempted to control the Council by a delaying <b>tactic</b>.</i>



<b>tactics</b>	A plan for attaining a particular goal.
<b>turret</b>	A small tower on top of a larger tower or at the corner of a building or wall, typically of a castle. <i>A castle with fairy tale <b>turrets</b>.</i>
<b>unbeatable</b>	Extremely good; outstanding. <i>The team is <b>unbeatable</b>.</i>
<b>wall</b>	Anything that suggests a wall in structure or function or effect. <i>He curled a free kick around the <b>wall</b> for a late equalizer.</i>
<b>warfare</b>	The waging of armed conflict against an enemy. <i>Diplomatic <b>warfare</b>.</i>
<b>wiretap</b>	An act of using a listening device to conduct surveillance, typically over a phone line. <i>After putting a <b>wiretap</b> on the phone of the pizzeria agents searched shipments bound for the warehouse.</i>

