

Need another word that means the same as “defile”? Find 19 synonyms and 30 related words for “defile” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Defile” are: maculate, stain, sully, tarnish, cloud, corrupt, taint, befoul, foul, spoil, mar, impair, debase, degrade, desecrate, profane, violate, treat sacrilegiously, gorge**

## Defile as a Noun

### Definitions of "Defile" as a noun

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

- *A narrow pass (especially one between mountains).*



### **Synonyms of "Defile" as a noun (1 Word)**

**gorge** The crop of a hawk.





## Defile as a Verb

### Definitions of "Defile" as a verb

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), "defile" as a verb can have the following definitions:

- *Spot, stain, or pollute.*
- *Place under suspicion or cast doubt upon.*
- *Desecrate or profane (something sacred).*
- *Damage the purity or appearance of; mar or spoil.*



- *Make dirty or spotty, as by exposure to air; also used metaphorically.*
- *Rape or sexually assault (a woman).*



## Synonyms of "Defile" as a verb (18 Words)

### **befoul**

Spot, stain, or pollute.

*The dangers of letting industry **befoul** the environment.*

### **cloud**

Make overcast or cloudy.

*The stroke **clouded** memories of her youth.*

### **corrupt**

Corrupt morally or by intemperance or sensuality.

*There is a continuing fear of firms **corrupting** politicians in the search for contracts.*

### **debase**

Corrupt debase or make impure by adding a foreign or inferior substance often by replacing valuable ingredients with inferior ones.

*War **debases** people.*

### **degrade**

Reduce (someone) to a lower rank, especially as a punishment.

*He was **degraded** from his high estate.*

### **desecrate**

Treat (a sacred place or thing) with violent disrespect.

*Many lanes are **desecrated** with yellow lines.*

<b>foul</b>	Hit a foul ball. <i>Make sure that your pet never <b>fouls</b> paths.</i>
<b><u>impair</u></b>	Make worse or less effective. <i>A noisy job could permanently <b>impair</b> their hearing.</i>
<b>maculate</b>	Make dirty or spotty, as by exposure to air; also used metaphorically. <i>A dirty white T shirt <b>maculated</b> with barbecue sauce.</i>
<b>mar</b>	Destroy or injure severely. <i>Nothing <b>marred</b> her beauty.</i>
<b><u>profane</u></b>	Violate the sacred character of a place or language. <i><b>Profane</b> the name of God.</i>
<b>spoil</b>	Diminish or destroy the value or quality of. <i>The meat must be eaten before it <b>spoils</b>.</i>
<b>stain</b>	Produce or leave stains. <i>Wood can always be <b>stained</b> to a darker shade.</i>
<b>sully</b>	Damage the purity or integrity of. <i><b>Sully</b> someone's reputation.</i>
<b>taint</b>	Place under suspicion or cast doubt upon. <i>His administration was <b>tainted</b> by scandal.</i>
<b><u>tarnish</u></b>	Make or become less valuable or respected. <i>The silver was <b>tarnished</b> by the long exposure to the air.</i>
<b>treat sacrilegiously</b>	Provide treatment for.
<b>violate</b>	Violate the sacred character of a place or language. <i>Don't <b>violate</b> my garden.</i>





## Usage Examples of "Defile" as a verb

- *The townspeople defiled the river by emptying raw sewage into it.*
- *The tomb had been defiled and looted.*
- *The land was defiled by a previous owner.*
- *He took her behind the building and defiled her.*





## Associations of "Defile" (30 Words)

<b>adulteration</b>	The action of making something poorer in quality by the addition of another substance. <i>These <b>adulterations</b> may harm the therapeutic use of the oils.</i>
<b>besmirch</b>	Make (something) dirty or discoloured. <i>He had <b>besmirched</b> the good name of his family.</i>
<b>blot</b>	Dry ink with blotting paper. <i>Mary dug her brush into black paint and <b>blotted</b> out her picture.</i>
<a href="#"><u>cascade</u></a>	Rush down in big quantities like a cascade. <i>Separation of isotopes by a <b>cascade</b> of processes.</i>
<a href="#"><u>chasm</u></a>	A deep fissure in the earth's surface. <i>He was engulfed in a <b>chasm</b> of despair.</i>
<b>contaminate</b>	Make radioactive by adding radioactive material. <i>Don't drink the water it's <b>contaminated</b>.</i>

<b>contaminated</b>	Rendered unwholesome by contaminants and pollution. <i>Had to boil the <b>contaminated</b> water.</i>
<b><u>contamination</u></b>	The state of being contaminated. <i>The risk of <b>contamination</b> by dangerous bacteria.</i>
<b>daub</b>	Material used to daub walls. <i><b>Daub</b> paint onto the wall.</i>
<b>debasement</b>	The action or process of reducing the quality or value of something. <i>The outcome is rot and <b>debasement</b> of the system.</i>
<b><u>defame</u></b>	Damage the good reputation of (someone); slander or libel. <i>The journalists have <b>defamed</b> me.</i>
<b>defiled</b>	Morally blemished; stained or impure.
<b>denigrate</b>	Charge falsely or with malicious intent; attack the good name and reputation of someone. <i>Doom and gloom merchants who <b>denigrate</b> their own country.</i>
<b>environmental</b>	Aiming or designed to promote the protection of the natural world. <i>Acid rain may have caused major <b>environmental</b> damage.</i>
<b>glut</b>	Supply with an excess of. <i>The roads are <b>glutted</b> with cars.</i>
<b>gorge</b>	A deep ravine (usually with a river running through it). <i>They <b>gorged</b> themselves on Cornish cream teas.</i>
<b><u>infect</u></b>	Affect with a virus. <i>The panic in his voice <b>infected</b> her.</i>
<b>maculate</b>	Morally blemished; stained or impure. <i>A dirty white T shirt <b>maculated</b> with barbecue sauce.</i>
<b>overeat</b>	Overeat or eat immodestly make a pig of oneself. <i>If your friends <b>overeate</b> you re more likely to <b>overeate</b> too.</i>
<b>pollute</b>	Contaminate (water, the air, etc.) with harmful or poisonous substances. <i>The explosion <b>polluted</b> the town with dioxin.</i>
<b>pollution</b>	The presence in or introduction into the environment of a substance which has harmful or poisonous effects. <i>The level of <b>pollution</b> in the air is rising.</i>
<b>sicken</b>	Upset and make nauseated. <i>The pornographic pictures <b>sickened</b> us.</i>
<b><u>slur</u></b>	Speak disparagingly of e g make a racial slur. <i>He was <b>slurring</b> his words like a drunk.</i>
<b>smirch</b>	Make (something) dirty; soil. <i>I am not accustomed to having my honour <b>smirched</b>.</i>



- smudge** Make a smudge on soil by smudging.  
*The photograph had been **smudged** by the photocopier and was by no means as clear as the original.*
- stain** Be marked or be liable to be marked with a stain.  
*Wood can always be **stained** to a darker shade.*
- sully** French statesman (1560-1641).  
*She wondered if she dared **sully** the gleaming sink.*
- taint** The state of being contaminated.  
*The rennet should be soaked in water containing sufficient salt to keep it from **tainting**.*
- tarnish** Make or become less valuable or respected.  
*He was removing **tarnish** from the candlesticks.*

