

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.*

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

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

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

