

Need another word that means the same as “deflect”? Find 21 synonyms and 30 related words for “deflect” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Deflect” are: bend, turn away, distract, avert, avoid, debar, fend off, forefend, forfend, head off, obviate, stave off, ward off, block, parry, turn aside, divert, sidetrack, bounce, glance, ricochet

Deflect as a Verb

Definitions of "Deflect" as a verb

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

- *Turn aside and away from an initial or intended course.*
- *Cause (something) to change orientation.*
- *Cause (something) to change direction; turn aside from a straight course.*
- *Turn from a straight course, fixed direction, or line of interest.*
- *Cause (someone) to deviate from an intended purpose.*
- *(of an object) change direction after hitting something.*
- *Impede the movement of (an opponent or a ball).*
- *Prevent the occurrence of; prevent from happening.*
- *Draw someone's attention away from something.*

Synonyms of "Deflect" as a verb (21 Words)

[avert](#)

Prevent the occurrence of; prevent from happening.
*Talks failed to **avert** a rail strike.*

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|-------------------|---|
| avoid | Contrive not to meet (someone). <i>This route avoids downtown Boston.</i> |
| bend | Bend one's back forward from the waist on down. <i>Poppies bending in the wind.</i> |
| block | Run on a block system. <i>The government tried to block an agreement on farm subsidies.</i> |
| bounce | Hit something so that it bounces. <i>The ex boxer's job is to bounce people who want to enter this private club.</i> |
| debar | Prevent the occurrence of; prevent from happening. <i>They were debarred entry to the port.</i> |
| distract | Disturb in mind or make uneasy or cause to be worried or alarmed. <i>Horror and doubt distract His troubled thoughts.</i> |
| divert | Reallocate (money or resources) to a different purpose. <i>More of their advertising budget was diverted into promotions.</i> |
| fend off | Try to manage without help. |
| forefend | Prevent the occurrence of; prevent from happening. |
| forfend | Prevent the occurrence of; prevent from happening. <i>The fiend forfend said the grim Earl.</i> |
| glance | Throw a glance at take a brief look at. <i>She only glanced at the paper.</i> |
| head off | To go or travel towards. |
| obviate | Prevent the occurrence of; prevent from happening. <i>The presence of roller blinds obviated the need for curtains.</i> |
| parry | Answer (a question or accusation) evasively. <i>He parried questions from reporters outside the building.</i> |
| ricochet | Appear to move with a series of ricochets. <i>They fired off a couple of rounds ricocheting the bullets against a wall.</i> |
| sidetrack | Divert (a well or borehole) to reach a productive deposit or to avoid an obstruction. <i>The effort at reform has been sidetracked for years.</i> |
| stave off | Kill intentionally and with premeditation. |
| turn aside | To send or let go. |
| turn away | Shape by rotating on a lathe or cutting device or a wheel. |
| ward off | Watch over or shield from danger or harm; protect. |

Usage Examples of "Deflect" as a verb

- *The compass needle is deflected from magnetic north by metal in the aircraft.*
- *The bullet was deflected harmlessly into the ceiling.*
- *The ball deflected off Knight's body.*
- *He attempted to deflect attention away from his private life.*
- *She refused to be deflected from anything she had set her mind on.*
- *He deflected his competitors.*

Associations of "Deflect" (30 Words)

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| apophysis | Mentioning something by saying it will not be mentioned. |
| <u>avert</u> | Prevent or ward off (an undesirable occurrence). <i>She averted her eyes while we made stilted conversation.</i> |
| avoid | Not go to or through (a place). <i>Avoid excessive exposure to the sun.</i> |
| <u>bypass</u> | An alternative channel created during a bypass operation. <i>A manager might bypass formal channels of communication.</i> |
| carriage | A small vehicle with four wheels in which a baby or child is pushed around. <i>A horse drawn carriage.</i> |
| circumvent | Deceive; outwit. <i>He circumvented her with some of his stories.</i> |
| circumvention | The act of evading by going around. <i>Circumvention of the rules undermines any fairness.</i> |
| derail | Run off or leave the rails. <i>The train derailed because a cow was standing on the tracks.</i> |
| <u>deter</u> | Try to prevent; show opposition to. <i>Only a health problem would deter him from seeking re election.</i> |
| <u>detour</u> | Avoid by taking a detour. <i>He had made a detour to a cafe.</i> |
| <u>deviate</u> | A person whose behavior deviates from what is acceptable especially in sexual behavior. <i>Those who deviate from society's values.</i> |
| <u>digress</u> | Wander from a direct or straight course. <i>She always digresses when telling a story.</i> |

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| dodge | The dodging of a bell in change-ringing. <i>Marchers had to dodge missiles thrown by loyalists.</i> |
| elude | Escape, either physically or mentally. <i>The logic of this eluded most people.</i> |
| escape | Escape potentially unpleasant consequences get away with a forbidden action. <i>That was a narrow escape.</i> |
| eschew | Deliberately avoid using; abstain from. <i>He appealed to the crowd to eschew violence.</i> |
| evade | Use cunning or deceit to escape or avoid. <i>Sleep still evaded her.</i> |
| foreclose | Subject to foreclosing procedures; take away the right of mortgagors to redeem their mortgage. <i>The bank was threatening to foreclose on his mortgage.</i> |
| forestall | Buy up (goods) in order to profit by an enhanced price. <i>He would have spoken but David forestalled him.</i> |
| forfend | Protect (something) by precautionary measures. <i>The sacrifice of Mississippi was forfended against even the treason of Wilkinson.</i> |
| hinder | Hinder or prevent the progress or accomplishment of. <i>The hinder part of a carcass.</i> |
| obviate | Avoid or prevent (something undesirable). <i>The presence of roller blinds obviated the need for curtains.</i> |
| ostracize | (in ancient Greece) banish (an unpopular or overly powerful citizen) from a city for five or ten years by popular vote. <i>She was declared a witch and ostracized by the villagers.</i> |
| parry | An act of parrying something. <i>The swords clashed in a parry.</i> |
| preclude | Prevent from happening; make impossible. <i>Your role in the projects precludes your involvement in the competitive project.</i> |
| shun | Persistently avoid, ignore, or reject (someone or something) through antipathy or caution. <i>He shunned fashionable society.</i> |
| sidestep | A step taken sideways, typically to avoid someone or something. <i>A boxercise workout that incorporates an intricate combination of sidesteps with left and right hooks.</i> |

- undiagnosed** Eluding diagnosis.
*Some patients have diseases that go **undiagnosed** and therefore untreated.*
- veer A sudden change of direction.
*The motorbike **veered** to the right.*
- wagon A railway freight vehicle; a truck.
*A chip **wagon**.*