

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.*

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

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

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