

Need another word that means the same as “destructive”? Find 9 synonyms and 30 related words for “destructive” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Destructive” are: devastating, ruinous, disastrous, catastrophic, calamitous, cataclysmic, negative, hostile, antagonistic**

## Destructive as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Destructive" as an adjective

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

- *Causing destruction or much damage.*
- *Negative and unhelpful.*
- *Causing great and irreparable damage.*



## Synonyms of "Destructive" as an adjective (9 Words)

- antagonistic** Indicating opposition or resistance.  
*Slaves **antagonistic** to their masters.*
- calamitous** (of events) having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin.  
*Such **calamitous** events as fires hurricanes and floods.*
- cataclysmic** (of a natural event) large-scale and violent.  
*A novel about a **cataclysmic** world war.*
- catastrophic** Involving or causing sudden great damage or suffering.  
*The body undergoes **catastrophic** collapse towards the state of a black hole.*
- devastating** Physically or spiritually devastating often used in combination.  
*She had a **devastating** wit.*
- disastrous** Causing great damage.  
*A **disastrous** fire swept through the museum.*

**hostile**

Unsolicited and resisted by the management of the target company ( used of attempts to buy or take control of a business.

A **hostile** nation.

**negative**

Having a negative charge.

A **negative** reaction to an advertising campaign.

**ruinous**

Disastrous or destructive.

A **ruinous** effect on the environment.



**Usage Examples of "Destructive" as an adjective**

- A policy that is destructive to the economy.
- Destructive criticism.
- The destructive power of weapons.





## Associations of "Destructive" (30 Words)

### abrasive

A substance that abrades or wears down.  
*The refrigerator is easily damaged by **abrasives**.*

### brittle

A brittle sweet made from nuts and set melted sugar.  
*Glass is **brittle**.*

### **calamitous**

Involving calamity; catastrophic or disastrous.  
*A **calamitous** defeat.*

### catastrophic

Relating to geological catastrophism.  
*The body undergoes **catastrophic** collapse towards the state of a black hole.*

<b>caustic</b>	A caustic substance. <i><b>Caustic</b> jokes about political assassination talk show hosts and medical ethics.</i>
<b>conflagration</b>	An extensive fire which destroys a great deal of land or property. <i>Tinder dry conditions sparked fears of a <b>conflagration</b> in many drought devastated communities.</i>
<b>corrode</b>	Destroy or damage (metal, stone, or other materials) slowly by chemical action. <i>Acid rain poisons fish and <b>corrodes</b> buildings.</i>
<b>corrosive</b>	A corrosive substance. <i><b>Corrosive</b> criticism.</i>
<b>crushing</b>	Physically or spiritually devastating; often used in combination. <i>Bone <b>crushing</b>.</i>
<b>damage</b>	Suffer or be susceptible to damage. <i>She was awarded 284 000 in <b>damages</b>.</i>
<b>deadly</b>	In a way resembling or suggesting death; as if dead. <i>A <b>deadly</b> weapon.</i>
<b>deconstruct</b>	Interpret a text or an artwork by the method of deconstructing. <i>She likes to <b>deconstruct</b> the texts to uncover what they are not saying.</i>
<b>destroy</b>	Destroy completely damage irreparably. <i>He has been determined to <b>destroy</b> her.</i>
<b>destruction</b>	A final state. <i>The avalanche left a trail of <b>destruction</b>.</i>
<b>devastate</b>	Destroy or ruin. <i>She was <b>devastated</b> by the loss of Damian.</i>
<b>devastating</b>	Physically or spiritually devastating often used in combination. <i>She had a <b>devastating</b> wit.</i>
<b>earthquake</b>	A disturbance that is extremely disruptive. <i>Selling the company caused an <b>earthquake</b> among the employees.</i>
<b>erosive</b>	Wearing away by friction. <i>The <b>erosive</b> effects of waves on the shoreline.</i>
<b>fatal</b>	(of events) having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin. <i>A <b>fatal</b> series of events.</i>
<b>harmful</b>	Causing or likely to cause harm. <i>Too much sun is <b>harmful</b> to the skin.</i>
<b>iconoclasm</b>	The orientation of an iconoclast.

<b>iconoclastic</b>	Destructive of images used in religious worship; said of religions, such as Islam, in which the representation of living things is prohibited. <i>An <b>iconoclastic</b> filmmaker who has pushed the boundaries with every film he s made.</i>
<b>lethal</b>	(in a sporting context) very accurate or skilful. <i>A <b>lethal</b> injection.</i>
<b>ruinous</b>	In ruins; dilapidated. <i>The cost of their ransom might be <b>ruinous</b>.</i>
<b>stifling</b>	(of heat, air, or a room) very hot and causing difficulties in breathing; suffocating. <i>The <b>stifling</b> atmosphere.</i>
<b>suppression</b>	The cancelling of the effect of one mutation by a second mutation. <i>A <b>suppression</b> of the newspaper.</i>
<b>tragic</b>	A boring or socially inept person, typically having an obsessive and solitary interest. <i>The shooting was a <b>tragic</b> accident.</i>
<b>unfortunate</b>	Having or marked by bad fortune; unlucky. <i>Those <b>unfortunates</b> whose lives are marred by poverty.</i>
<b>vitriolic</b>	Harsh or corrosive in tone. <i><b>Vitriolic</b> outbursts.</i>
<b>withering</b>	Any weakening or degeneration (especially through lack of use). <i>The guns opened a <b>withering</b> fire.</i>



