

Need another word that means the same as “early”? Find 40 synonyms and 30 related words for “early” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Early” are: former, other, untimely, premature, prompt, timely, quick, speedy, rapid, fast, expeditious, advance, forward, prior, old style, past, bygone, historic, antique, antiquarian, classical, traditional, folk, old-world, ancestral, time-honoured, ancient, veteran, vintage, quaint, betimes, early on, ahead of time, too soon, early in the day, in the early morning, before the usual time, before the appointed time, in advance, in readiness**

## Early as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Early" as an adjective

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

- *Belonging to the distant past.*
- *At or near the beginning of a period of time or course of events or before the usual or expected time.*
- *Occurring at the beginning of a sequence.*
- *Very young.*
- *(of a plant or crop) flowering or ripening before other varieties.*
- *Being or occurring at an early stage of development.*
- *Of an early stage in the development of a language or literature.*

- *Belonging or happening near the beginning of a particular period.*
- *Denoting or belonging to the beginning of a historical period or cultural movement.*
- *Expected in the near future.*
- *Happening or done before the usual or expected time.*
- *Done or occurring near the beginning of the day.*



## Synonyms of "Early" as an adjective (30 Words)

- advance** Being ahead of time or need.  
*At that time the most **advanced** outpost was still east of the Rockies.*
- ancestral** Of, belonging to, or inherited from an ancestor or ancestors.  
*The family's **ancestral** home.*
- ancient** Belonging to times long past especially of the historical period before the fall of the Western Roman Empire.  
***Ancient** history.*

<b>antiquarian</b>	Relating to or dealing in antiques or rare books. <i><b>Antiquarian</b> booksellers.</i>
<b>antique</b>	Belonging to or lasting from times long ago. <i>A suit of rather <b>antique</b> appearance.</i>
<b>bygone</b>	Belonging to an earlier time. <i><b>Bygone</b> days.</i>
<b>classical</b>	Well-known and long-established in form or style. <i>The <b>classical</b> house at Buscot Park.</i>
<b>expeditious</b>	Done with speed and efficiency. <i>An <b>expeditious</b> investigation.</i>
<b>fast</b>	(of a photographic lens or emulsion) causing a shortening of exposure time. <i>A <b>fast</b> car.</i>
<b>folk</b>	Relating to folk music. <i><b>Folk</b> wisdom.</i>
<b><u>former</u></b>	(used especially of persons) of the immediate past. <i>The seafarers of <b>former</b> times.</i>
<b><u>forward</u></b>	Of the transmission gear causing forward movement in a motor vehicle. <i>The pilot's <b>forward</b> view.</i>
<b>historic</b>	Belonging to the past; of what is important or famous in the past. <i>A <b>historical</b> character.</i>
<b>old style</b>	Belonging to some prior time.
<b>old-world</b>	Characteristic of former times especially in Europe.
<b>other</b>	Not the same one or ones already mentioned or implied. <i>His <b>other</b> books are still in storage.</i>
<b>past</b>	Belonging to a former time. <i>Time <b>past</b>.</i>
<b><u>premature</u></b>	Born after a gestation period of less than the normal time. <i>It would be <b>premature</b> to draw any firm conclusions at this stage.</i>
<b><u>prior</u></b>	Existing or coming before in time, order, or importance. <i>He has a <b>prior</b> engagement this evening.</i>
<b>prompt</b>	According to schedule or without delay; on time. <i>The train is <b>prompt</b>.</i>
<b>quaint</b>	Attractively old-fashioned (but not necessarily authentic). <i>The head terminating in the <b>quaint</b> duck bill which gives the animal its vernacular name.</i>

<b>quick</b>	Moving quickly and lightly. <i>A <b>quick</b> temper.</i>
<b>rapid</b>	Happening in a short time or at a great rate. <i>The country's <b>rapid</b> economic decline.</i>
<b>speedy</b>	Moving quickly. <i>A <b>speedy</b> recovery.</i>
<b>time-honoured</b>	Acceptable for a long time.
<b>timely</b>	Done or occurring sufficiently early; prompt. <i>With <b>timely</b> treatment the patient has a good chance of recovery.</i>
<b>traditional</b>	Consisting of or derived from tradition. <i><b>Traditional</b> morality.</i>
<b>untimely</b>	(of a death or end) happening too soon or sooner than normal. <i>Dave's <b>untimely</b> return.</i>
<b>veteran</b>	Rendered competent through trial and experience. <i>A <b>veteran</b> officer.</i>
<b>vintage</b>	Denoting something from the past of high quality, especially something representing the best of its kind. <i>A <b>vintage</b> Sherlock Holmes adventure.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Early" as an adjective

- *Early morning.*
- *An early goal secured victory.*
- *Early varieties of peas and tomatoes mature before most standard varieties.*
- *Early potatoes.*
- *An early computer.*
- *Took early retirement.*
- *We ate an early lunch.*
- *Early man.*
- *She's in her early fifties.*
- *The earlier chapters of the book.*
- *Early diagnosis.*
- *An early warning.*
- *At an early age.*
- *An early death.*



- *The early inhabitants of Europe.*
- *Early impressionism.*
- *In an early stage.*
- *Early forms of life.*
- *Look for an early end to the negotiations.*
- *We agreed to meet at 6 am to get an early start.*
- *An early spring.*



## **Early as an Adverb**

### **Definitions of "Early" as an adverb**

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), "early" as an adverb can have the following definitions:

- *Before the present time or before the time one is referring to.*

- *During an early stage.*
- *In good time.*
- *Before the usual time or the time expected.*
- *Near the beginning of the day.*
- *Near the beginning of a particular time or period.*
- *Before the usual or expected time.*



## Synonyms of "Early" as an adverb (10 Words)

<b>ahead of time</b>	Ahead of time in anticipation.
<b>before the appointed time</b>	Earlier in time; previously.
<b>before the usual time</b>	Earlier in time; previously.
<b>betimes</b>	Before the usual or expected time; early. <i>Next morning I was up <b>betimes</b>.</i>
<b>early in the day</b>	In good time.
<b>early on</b>	Before the usual time or the time expected.



<b>in advance</b>	To or toward the inside of.
<b>in readiness</b>	To or toward the inside of.
<b>in the early morning</b>	To or toward the inside of.
<b>too soon</b>	To a degree exceeding normal or proper limits.



### **Usage Examples of "Early" as an adverb**

- *I was planning to finish work early today.*
- *You met my husband earlier.*
- *Early on in her career.*
- *She graduated early.*
- *We lost a couple of games early in the season.*
- *I wrote this piece early one morning.*





## Associations of "Early" (30 Words)

<b><u>ahead</u></b>	Leading or ahead in a competition. <i>The train moved <b>ahead</b> slowly.</i>
<b><u>ancient</u></b>	A person who lived in ancient times. <i>An <b>ancient</b> pair of jeans.</i>
<b>antecedence</b>	Preceding in time.
<b>antiquate</b>	Make obsolete or old-fashioned.
<b><u>beforehand</u></b>	Before an action or event; in advance. <i>Was <b>beforehand</b> with her report.</i>
<b>beginning</b>	The first part or section of something. <i>The <b>beginning</b> canto of the poem.</i>
<b>betimes</b>	In good time. <i>Next morning I was up <b>betimes</b>.</i>
<b>colonist</b>	A settler in or inhabitant of a colony.
<b>embryonic</b>	Relating to an embryo. <i>The plan is still in its <b>embryonic</b> stages.</i>

<b>emerging</b>	Becoming apparent or prominent. <i>Established and <b>emerging</b> artists.</i>
<b>first</b>	The first or highest in an ordering or series. <i>The <b>first</b> violin section.</i>
<b>germinal</b>	Containing seeds of later development. <i>De Beauvoir s <b>germinal</b> book <i>The Second Sex</i>.</i>
<b>history</b>	All that is remembered of the past as preserved in writing; a body of knowledge. <i>The <b>history</b> of the Empire.</i>
<b>inchoate</b>	Just begun and so not fully formed or developed; rudimentary. <i><b>Inchoate</b> proletarian protest.</i>
<b>inchoative</b>	An inchoative verb. <i><b>Inchoative</b> stages.</i>
<b>initial</b>	Mark or sign a document with one s initials in order to authorize or validate it. <i>Our <b>initial</b> impression was favourable.</i>
<b>medieval</b>	As if belonging to the Middle Ages; old-fashioned and unenlightened. <i>Without other people around I would let my flat degenerate into <b>medieval</b> levels of squalor.</i>
<b>neolithic</b>	Of or relating to the most recent period of the Stone Age (following the mesolithic).
<b>paleolithic</b>	Second part of the Stone Age beginning about 750,000 to 500,000 years BC and lasting until the end of the last ice age about 8,500 years BC. <i><b>Paleolithic</b> artifacts.</i>
<b>pioneer</b>	Open up a road or terrain as a pioneer. <i>The technique was <b>pioneered</b> by a Swiss doctor in the 1930s.</i>
<b>predate</b>	Exist or occur at a date earlier than (something). <i>Here parish boundaries seem clearly to <b>predate</b> Roman roads.</i>
<b>premature</b>	(of a baby) born before the end of the full term of gestation, especially three or more weeks before. <i>A <b>premature</b> infant.</i>
<b>prematurely</b>	Before the due time; ahead of time. <i><b>Prematurely</b> grey hair.</i>
<b>previous</b>	Previous convictions a criminal record. <i>Our condemnation of him was a bit <b>previous</b>.</i>
<b>primal</b>	Having existed from the beginning; in an earliest or original stage or state. <i><b>Primal</b> hunting societies.</i>

- primeval** Having existed from the beginning; in an earliest or original stage or state.  
*The forest **primeval**.*
- primitive** A painting by a primitive artist or an object in a primitive style.  
*The Fauves saw **primitive** art as a liberating force.*
- primordial** (of a cell, part, or tissue) in the earliest stage of development.  
*The **primordial** needs of the masses.*
- settler** A person who moves with a group of others to live in a new country or area.  
*The early European **settlers** in America were often fleeing from religious persecution.*
- untimely** Too soon; in a premature manner.  
*Alcohol brought him to an **untimely** end.*

