

Need another word that means the same as “fray”? Find 34 synonyms and 30 related words for “fray” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Fray” are: chafe, fret, rub, scratch, frazzle, unravelling, unravelled, worn, well worn, unravel, wear, wear thin, wear out, wear away, wear through, become worn, become threadbare, become tattered, become ragged, go into holes, go through, taxed, overtaxed, tense, strain, tax, overtax, irritate, put on edge, make edgy, make tense, affray, disturbance, ruffle

Fray as a Noun

Definitions of "Fray" as a noun

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

- *A noisy fight.*



Synonyms of "Fray" as a noun (3 Words)

- affray** An instance of group fighting in a public place that disturbs the peace.
*Lowe was charged with causing an **affray**.*
- disturbance** The interruption of a settled and peaceful condition.
*He looked around for the source of the **disturbance**.*
- ruffle** A vibrating drumbeat.



Fray as a Verb

Definitions of "Fray" as a verb

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

- *(of a male deer) rub (a bush or small tree) with the head in order to remove the velvet from newly formed antlers, or to mark territory during the rut.*
- *(of a fabric, rope, or cord) unravel or become worn at the edge, typically through constant rubbing.*
- *(of a person's nerves or temper) show the effects of strain.*
- *Wear away by rubbing.*
- *Cause friction.*



Synonyms of "Fray" as a verb (31 Words)

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| become ragged | Come into existence. |
| become tattered | Enter or assume a certain state or condition. |
| become threadbare | Enhance the appearance of. |
| become worn | Enhance the appearance of. |
| <u>chafe</u> | Tear or wear off the skin or make sore by abrading. <i>The bank chafed at the restrictions imposed upon it.</i> |
| frazzle | Wear away by rubbing. <i>Richard was frequently frazzled by the conflicting demands of work and home.</i> |
| <u>fret</u> | Provide a musical instrument with frets. <i>Don't fret over these small details.</i> |
| go into holes | To be spent or finished. |
| go through | Go through in search of something search through someone's belongings in an unauthorized way. |
| irritate | Cause inflammation or other discomfort in (a part of the body). <i>It irritates me that she never closes the door after she leaves.</i> |
| make edgy | Assure the success of. |
| make tense | Engage in. |
| overtax | Require to pay too much tax. <i>Do athletes overtax their hearts.</i> |
| overtaxed | Tax excessively. |
| put on edge | Adapt. |
| <u>rub</u> | Make dry clean or smooth by rubbing. <i>Many insects make noises by rubbing parts of their bodies together.</i> |
| <u>scratch</u> | Play a record using the scratch technique. <i>He scratched at a stain on his jacket.</i> |
| strain | Separate by passing through a sieve or other straining device to separate out coarser elements. <i>His voice was so quiet that I had to strain to hear it.</i> |
| <u>tax</u> | Impose a tax on someone or something. <i>The income will be taxed at the top rate.</i> |
| taxed | Make a charge against or accuse. |
| <u>tense</u> | Become stretched or tense or taut. <i>He tensed up when he saw his opponent enter the room.</i> |

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| unravel | Become undone. <i>Part of the crew neck had unravelling.</i> |
| unravelling | Disentangle. |
| unravelling | Become or cause to become undone by separating the fibers or threads of. |
| wear | Have in one's aspect wear an expression of one's attitude or personality. <i>What should I wear today.</i> |
| wear away | Put clothing on one's body. |
| wear out | Have in one's aspect; wear an expression of one's attitude or personality. |
| wear thin | Last and be usable. |
| wear through | Be dressed in. |
| well worn | Come up, as of a liquid. |
| worn | Be dressed in. |



Usage Examples of "Fray" as a verb

- *Cheap fabric soon frays.*
- *As the temperature rose, tempers frayed.*
- *The friction frayed the sleeve.*
- *Bucks mark their territory by fraying small trees.*



Associations of "Fray" (30 Words)

adulthood

The state or condition of being fully grown or mature.

*Most of the larvae die although some survive to **adulthood**.*

aged

Of wines fruit cheeses having reached a desired or final condition aged pronounced as one syllable.

***Aged** men with white hair.*

aging

The organic process of growing older and showing the effects of increasing age.

antediluvian

Any of the early patriarchs who lived prior to the Noachian deluge.

***Antediluvian** man.*

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| chafe | Cause annoyance in; disturb, especially by minor irritations. <i>The bank chafed at the restrictions imposed upon it.</i> |
| crone | An ugly old woman. |
| dowdy | Primly out of date. <i>A clean and sunny but completely dowdy room.</i> |
| faded | Reduced in strength. <i>The faded tones of an old recording.</i> |
| flaccid | (of part of the body) soft and hanging loosely or limply, especially so as to look or feel unpleasant. <i>She took his flaccid hand in hers.</i> |
| geriatrics | The branch of medical science that deals with diseases and problems specific to old people. |
| grown | Fully developed. <i>A grown woman.</i> |
| lighten | Make or become more cheerful or less serious. <i>After a glass of wine he lightened up a bit.</i> |
| mangy | In poor condition; shabby. <i>A mangy old fur coat.</i> |
| mature | Fully developed or matured and ready to be eaten or used. <i>He has matured and is ready to take on new responsibilities.</i> |
| octogenarian | Someone whose age is in the eighties. <i>The octogenarian is making his TV writing debut.</i> |
| old | Very familiar used for emphasis old adj skilled through long experience. <i>My old house was larger.</i> |
| rub | Scrape or rub as if to relieve itching. <i>The ice breaks into small floes that rub against each other.</i> |
| ruffle | Pleat or gather into a ruffle. <i>Ruffle the surface of the water.</i> |
| scratch | A mark or wound made by scratching. <i>A 631 metres handicap when the excellent stayer Too Fast will be off scratch.</i> |
| senescence | The property characteristic of old age. |
| senescent | Growing old. |
| senile | (of a person) having or showing the weaknesses or diseases of old age, especially a loss of mental faculties. <i>She couldn't cope with her senile husband.</i> |

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| shabby | Dressed in old or worn clothes. <i>Shabby treatment.</i> |
| stodgy | (used pejoratively) out of fashion; old fashioned. <i>Some of the material is rather stodgy and top heavy with facts.</i> |
| stuffy | (of a place) lacking fresh air or ventilation. <i>He was steady and rather stuffy.</i> |
| superannuated | Old; no longer valid or fashionable. <i>Superannuated computing equipment.</i> |
| tatty | Of poor quality. <i>The generally tatty output of the current Celtic revival.</i> |
| wizened | Lean and wrinkled by shrinkage as from age or illness. <i>A wizened little man with frizzy grey hair.</i> |
| wrinkle | Make wrinkles or creases on a smooth surface make a pressed folded or wrinkled line in. <i>He sniffed and wrinkled his nose.</i> |
| yore | Time long past. |

