

Need another word that means the same as “frightening”? Find 13 synonyms and 30 related words for “frightening” in this overview.

Table Of Contents:

- [Frightening as a Noun](#)
- [Definitions of "Frightening" as a noun](#)
- [Synonyms of "Frightening" as a noun \(2 Words\)](#)
- [Frightening as an Adjective](#)
- [Definitions of "Frightening" as an adjective](#)
- [Synonyms of "Frightening" as an adjective \(11 Words\)](#)
- [Usage Examples of "Frightening" as an adjective](#)
- [Associations of "Frightening" \(30 Words\)](#)

The synonyms of “Frightening” are: terrorisation, terrorization, awful, dire, direful, dread, dreaded, dreadful, fearful, fearsome, horrendous, horrific, terrible

Frightening as a Noun

Definitions of "Frightening" as a noun

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

- *The act of inspiring with fear.*



Synonyms of "Frightening" as a noun (2 Words)

terrorisation The act of inspiring with fear.

terrorization An act of terrorism.



Frightening as an Adjective

Definitions of "Frightening" as an adjective

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

- *Causing fear or dread or terror.*
- *Making someone afraid or anxious; terrifying.*



Synonyms of "Frightening" as an adjective (11 Words)

awful	Offensive or even (of persons) malicious. Awful worshippers with bowed heads.
<u>dire</u>	Of a very poor quality. <i>Misuse of drugs can have dire consequences.</i>
direful	Extremely bad; dreadful. <i>A career or vengeance so direful that London was shocked.</i>

<u>dread</u>	Greatly feared dreadful. <i>Polio is no longer the dreaded disease it once was.</i>
<u>dreaded</u>	Regarded with great fear or apprehension. <i>The dreaded news came that Joe had been wounded.</i>
<u>dreadful</u>	Very unpleasant. <i>She looked quite dreadful and she was struggling for breath.</i>
fearful	Causing or likely to cause people to be afraid; horrifying. <i>A fearful accident.</i>
fearsome	Causing fear or dread or terror. <i>The cat mewed displaying a fearsome set of teeth.</i>
<u>horrendous</u>	Extremely unpleasant, horrifying, or terrible. <i>She suffered horrendous injuries.</i>
<u>horrific</u>	Causing fear or dread or terror. <i>Horrific injuries.</i>
terrible	Extremely bad or serious. <i>Terrible handwriting.</i>



Usage Examples of "Frightening" as an adjective

- A *frightening* experience.



Associations of "Frightening" (30 Words)

afraid

Filled with fear or apprehension.

*She was **afraid** that he would be angry.*

alarming

Frightening because of an awareness of danger.

*Our countryside is disappearing at an **alarming** rate.*

appall

Strike with disgust or revulsion.

chilling

The process of becoming cooler; a falling temperature.

*A **chilling** account of the prisoners fate.*

claustrophobia

A morbid fear of being closed in a confined space.

*The small stuffy room had begun to give him **claustrophobia**.*

<u>dread</u>	Dreadlocks. <i>The thought of returning to London filled her with dread.</i>
<u>dreadful</u>	Extremely disagreeable. <i>A dreadful storm.</i>
fear	The likelihood of something unwelcome happening. <i>I fear she might get aggressive.</i>
fearful	Lacking courage; ignobly timid and faint-hearted. <i>Cast fearful glances at the large dog.</i>
fearfulness	An emotion experienced in anticipation of some specific pain or danger (usually accompanied by a desire to flee or fight).
fearsome	Causing fear or dread or terror. <i>The cat mewed displaying a fearsome set of teeth.</i>
<u>formidable</u>	Inspiring fear. <i>The challenge was formidable.</i>
fright	Frighten. <i>She s had a nasty fright.</i>
frighten	Drive out by frightening. <i>The savagery of his thoughts frightened him.</i>
frightful	Extremely distressing. <i>A frightful mistake.</i>
<u>gruesome</u>	Shockingly repellent; inspiring horror. <i>The most gruesome murder.</i>
hideous	Extremely unpleasant. <i>A hideous scar.</i>
<u>horrific</u>	Causing fear or dread or terror. <i>Horrific injuries.</i>
<u>horror</u>	A literary or film genre concerned with arousing feelings of horror. <i>The mere thought of it gives me the horrors.</i>
<u>macabre</u>	Disturbing because concerned with or causing a fear of death. <i>Macabre tortures conceived by madmen.</i>
<u>panic</u>	Cause sudden fear in or fill with sudden panic. <i>Panic in the stock market.</i>
petrify	Cause to become stonelike or stiff or dazed and stunned from fright. <i>Slogans petrify our thinking.</i>
<u>scare</u>	Become scared. <i>She has been given the all clear after a breast cancer scare.</i>

scared	Fearful; frightened. <i>I wasn't scared at all.</i>
scary	Uncannily striking or surprising. <i>It was scary the way they bonded with each other.</i>
spooky	Easily frightened; nervous. <i>I bet this place is really spooky late at night.</i>
terrible	Very unwell or troubled. <i>Despite passing my driving test first time I'm a terrible driver.</i>
terrify	Cause to feel extreme fear. <i>He is terrified of spiders.</i>
terrifying	Causing extreme terror. <i>A terrifying wail.</i>
terror	Terrorism. <i>A terror suspect.</i>

