

Need another word that means the same as “furtive”? Find 8 synonyms and 30 related words for “furtive” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Furtive” are: backstair, backstairs, sneak, sneaky, stealthy, surreptitious, secretive, secret

Furtive as an Adjective

Definitions of "Furtive" as an adjective

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

- *Secret and sly or sordid- A.L.Guerard.*
- *Secret and sly or sordid.*
- *Suggestive of guilty nervousness.*
- *Marked by quiet and caution and secrecy; taking pains to avoid being observed.*
- *Attempting to avoid notice or attention, typically because of guilt or a belief that discovery would lead to trouble; secretive.*

Synonyms of "Furtive" as an adjective (8 Words)

backstair	Secret and sly or sordid- A.L.Guerard. <i>Backstairs</i> gossip.
backstairs	Secret and sly or sordid- A.L.Guerard. <i>Backstairs</i> intimacies.
secret	Of information given in confidence or in secret. <i>Their secret signal was a wink.</i>

<u>secretive</u>	(of a person's expression or manner) having an enigmatic or conspiratorial quality. <i>She was very secretive about her past.</i>
<u>sneak</u>	Marked by quiet and caution and secrecy; taking pains to avoid being observed. <i>A sneak thief.</i>
sneaky	(of a feeling) persistent but reluctantly held; sneaking. <i>Sneaky underhand tactics.</i>
<u>stealthy</u>	Behaving or done in a cautious and surreptitious manner, so as not to be seen or heard. <i>Stealthy footsteps.</i>
surreptitious	Conducted with or marked by hidden aims or methods. <i>Low wages were supplemented by surreptitious payments from tradesmen.</i>

Usage Examples of "Furtive" as an adjective

- *Furtive behavior.*
- *A furtive manner.*
- *He stole a furtive glance at her.*
- *They spent a furtive day together.*
- *The look in his eyes became furtive.*

Associations of "Furtive" (30 Words)

clandestine	Kept secret or done secretly, especially because illicit. <i>She deserved better than these clandestine meetings.</i>
concealed	Not accessible to view. <i>He spoke with barely concealed anger.</i>
<u>covert</u>	Not openly acknowledged or displayed. <i>Covert funding for the rebels.</i>
<u>cower</u>	Crouch down in fear. <i>Children cowered in terror as the shoot out erupted.</i>
<u>creep</u>	(of a plant) grow along the ground or other surface by means of extending stems or branches. <i>Metals and ceramics can also exhibit creep.</i>
disguised	Concealed or obscured; made unrecognizable. <i>A disguised reporter.</i>

esoteric	Intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with a specialized knowledge or interest. <i>Esoteric philosophical debates.</i>
esoterica	Secrets known only to an initiated minority. <i>A professor of such esoterica as angelology and comparative shamanism.</i>
<u>hidden</u>	Not accessible to view. <i>A hidden room or place of concealment such as a priest hole.</i>
hide	Conceal oneself. <i>He used to hide out in a cave.</i>
incognito	Without revealing one's identity. <i>She is locked in her incognito.</i>
infiltration	A process in which individuals (or small groups) penetrate an area (especially the military penetration of enemy positions without detection). <i>The gradual infiltration of Boyce's music into the national consciousness.</i>
<u>insidious</u>	Beguiling but harmful. <i>Sexual harassment is a serious and insidious problem.</i>
<u>invisible</u>	Invisible exports and imports. <i>Invisible exports.</i>
lurk	(of an unpleasant quality) be present in a latent or barely discernible state, although still presenting a threat. <i>Danger lurks beneath the surface.</i>
purloin	Make off with belongings of others. <i>He must have managed to purloin a copy of the key.</i>
<u>secrecy</u>	The trait of keeping things secret. <i>The bidding is conducted in secrecy.</i>
secret	Of information given in confidence or in secret. <i>The secret compartment in the desk.</i>
<u>secretive</u>	(of a person or an organization) inclined to conceal feelings and intentions or not to disclose information. <i>Secretive deals.</i>
<u>sly</u>	Marked by skill in deception. <i>A sly sip of water.</i>
<u>sneak</u>	Someone who prowls or sneaks about usually with unlawful intentions. <i>A sneak thief.</i>
sneaker	A soft shoe worn for sports or casual occasions; a trainer.
snitch	Steal. <i>Someone snitched my wallet.</i>

- stealthy** Behaving or done in a cautious and surreptitious manner, so as not to be seen or heard.
Stealthy footsteps.
- surreptitious** Marked by quiet and caution and secrecy; taking pains to avoid being observed.
A surreptitious glance at his watch.
- ulterior** Existing beyond what is obvious or admitted; intentionally hidden.
Without any purpose immediate or ulterior.
- undercover** Involving secret work within a community or organization, especially for the purposes of police investigation or espionage.
He worked undercover in Northern Ireland.
- underground** An underground railway especially the one in London.
Underground resistance.
- underhanded** With hand brought forward and up from below shoulder level.
Underhanded practices.
- unopened** Not yet opened or unsealed.
Unopened mail.