

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

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**The synonyms of “Futile” are: bootless, fruitless, sleeveless, vain, ineffectual, meaningless, otiose, unavailing, pointless**

## **Futile as an Adjective**

### **Definitions of "Futile" as an adjective**

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

- *Incapable of producing any useful result; pointless.*
- *Unproductive of success.*
- *Producing no result or effect.*



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

<b>bootless</b>	Unproductive of success. <i>Remonstrating with him seems ever to have been a <b>bootless</b> task.</i>
<b>fruitless</b>	Failing to achieve the desired results; unproductive or useless. <i>A <b>fruitless</b> search.</i>
<b>ineffectual</b>	Not producing an intended effect. <i>The therapy was <b>ineffectual</b>.</i>
<b>meaningless</b>	Producing no result or effect. <i>Rules are <b>meaningless</b> to a child if they do not have a rationale.</i>
<b>otiose</b>	Disinclined to work or exertion. <i>There were occasions when I felt my efforts were rather <b>otiose</b>.</i>
<b>pointless</b>	Having little or no sense, use, or purpose. <i>A <b>pointless</b> remark.</i>
<b>sleeveless</b>	Unproductive of success. <i>A <b>sleeveless</b> errand.</i>

**unavailing** Achieving little or nothing; ineffective.  
*Their efforts were **unavailing**.*

**vain** Unproductive of success.  
*A **vain** attempt to tidy up the room.*



### Usage Examples of "Futile" as an adjective

- *A futile effort.*
- *Futile years after her artistic peak.*
- *It is futile to allocate blame for this.*
- *A futile attempt to keep fans from mounting the stage.*



## Associations of "Futile" (30 Words)

<b>abortive</b>	(of an organ or organism) rudimentary; arrested in development. <i><b>Abortive</b> techniques.</i>
<b>barren</b>	A barren tract or tracts of land. <i>The <b>barren</b> fig tree.</i>
<b>bootless</b>	(of a task or undertaking) ineffectual; useless. <i>Remonstrating with him seems ever to have been a <b>bootless</b> task.</i>
<b>counterproductive</b>	Having the opposite of the desired effect. <i>Child experts fear the Executive's plans may prove <b>counterproductive</b>.</i>
<b>fruitless</b>	(of a tree or plant) not producing fruit. <i>A banana leaf from a <b>fruitless</b> palm.</i>
<b>incapable</b>	Unable to do or achieve (something). <i><b>Incapable</b> of carrying a tune.</i>
<b>incompetence</b>	Inability to do something successfully; ineptitude. <i>Allegations of professional <b>incompetence</b>.</i>

<b>incompetent</b>	An incompetent person. <i>A forgetful and utterly <b>incompetent</b> assistant.</i>
<b><u>ineffective</u></b>	Lacking in power or forcefulness. <i>An <b>ineffective</b> teacher.</i>
<b><u>ineffectual</u></b>	Lacking in power or forcefulness. <i>An <b>ineffectual</b> ruler.</i>
<b>inept</b>	Revealing lack of perceptiveness or judgment or finesse. <i>The referee s <b>inept</b> handling of the match.</i>
<b>infertile</b>	Incapable of reproducing. <i>Barren and <b>infertile</b> soils.</i>
<b>infertility</b>	Inability to conceive children or young. <i>A couple undergoing <b>infertility</b> treatment.</i>
<b>interbreed</b>	(of an animal) inbreed. <i>Their energy and physique had been sapped by <b>interbreeding</b>.</i>
<b><u>invalid</u></b>	A person made weak or disabled by illness or injury. <i>She spent the rest of her life as an <b>invalid</b>.</i>
<b>nugatory</b>	Useless or futile. <i>The teacher shortages will render <b>nugatory</b> the hopes of implementing the new curriculum.</i>
<b>powerless</b>	Lacking power. <i>Troops were <b>powerless</b> to stop last night s shooting.</i>
<b>pregnant</b>	Carrying developing offspring within the body or being about to produce new life. <i>A silence <b>pregnant</b> with suspense.</i>
<b><u>stark</u></b>	Physically strong or powerful. <i>He came running back in <b>stark</b> terror.</i>
<b><u>sterile</u></b>	(of a plant) not able to produce fruit or seeds. <i>He found the fraternity s teachings <b>sterile</b>.</i>
<b>sterility</b>	The quality or condition of being sterile. <i>The disease can cause <b>sterility</b> in males.</i>
<b>stillborn</b>	(of newborn infant) showing no signs of life at birth; not liveborn. <i>The proposed wealth tax was <b>stillborn</b>.</i>
<b><u>trivia</u></b>	Something of small importance. <i>We fill our days with meaningless <b>trivia</b>.</i>
<b><u>unable</u></b>	(usually followed by `to') not having the necessary means or skill or know-how. <i>The sun was <b>unable</b> to melt enough snow.</i>

<b>unavailing</b>	Achieving little or nothing; ineffective. <i>Their efforts were <b>unavailing</b>.</i>
<b>unfruitful</b>	Not fruitful; not conducive to abundant production. <i>Single trees are often <b>unfruitful</b> and mixed planting is desirable.</i>
<b><u>unproductive</u></b>	Not producing desired results. <i>Elimination of high cost or <b>unproductive</b> industries.</i>
<b><u>useless</u></b>	Having no ability or skill in a specified activity or area. <i>She is <b>useless</b> in an emergency.</i>
<b>vain</b>	Producing no result; useless. <i>A <b>vain</b> attempt.</i>
<b><u>wasteful</u></b>	Laying waste. <i>When <b>wasteful</b> war shall statues overturn.</i>