

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)

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

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)

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

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

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