

Need another word that means the same as “gradual”? Find 14 synonyms and 30 related words for “gradual” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Gradual” are: slow, moderate, measured, unhurried, restrained, cautious, circumspect, unspectacular, gentle, not steep, slight, easy, subtle, imperceptible**

## Gradual as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Gradual" as an adjective

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

- *Not steep or abrupt.*
- *Taking place or progressing slowly or by degrees.*
- *(of a slope) not steep or abrupt.*
- *Proceeding in small stages.*
- *(of a topographical gradient) not steep or abrupt.*



## Synonyms of "Gradual" as an adjective (14 Words)

<b>cautious</b>	(of a person) careful to avoid potential problems or dangers. <i>A <b>cautious</b> driver.</i>
<b>circumspect</b>	Heedful of potential consequences. <i>The officials were very <b>circumspect</b> in their statements.</i>
<b>easy</b>	Affording pleasure. <i>An <b>easy</b> pat on the shoulder.</i>
<b>gentle</b>	Soft and mild; not harsh or stern or severe. <i>A <b>gentle</b> sensitive man.</i>
<b>imperceptible</b>	So slight, gradual, or subtle as not to be perceived. <i>His head moved in an almost <b>imperceptible</b> nod.</i>
<b>measured</b>	The rhythmic arrangement of syllables. <i>She set off with <b>measured</b> tread.</i>
<b>moderate</b>	Average in amount, intensity, quality, or degree. <i><b>Moderate</b> demands.</i>
<b>not steep</b>	Greatly exceeding bounds of reason or moderation.
<b>restrained</b>	Prudent. <i><b>Restrained</b> in his response.</i>
<b>slight</b>	Being of delicate or slender build. <i>A <b>slight</b> increase.</i>
<b>slow</b>	At a slow tempo. <i>Until recently diesel cars were <b>slow</b> and noisy.</i>
<b>subtle</b>	(especially of a change or distinction) so delicate or precise as to be difficult to analyse or describe. <i>His language expresses rich and <b>subtle</b> meanings.</i>
<b>unhurried</b>	Relaxed and leisurely; without hurry or haste. <i>The singing is <b>unhurried</b>.</i>
<b>unspectacular</b>	Not spectacular; unremarkable. <i>She had been an <b>unspectacular</b> student.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Gradual" as an adjective

- A *gradual* slope.
- A *gradual* increase in prices.
- The *gradual* introduction of new methods.

## Associations of "Gradual" (30 Words)

<b>bit</b>	The cutting part of a drill usually pointed and threaded and is replaceable in a brace or bitstock or drill press. <i>A <b>bit</b> of rock caught him in the eye.</i>
<b>changeover</b>	An event that results in a transformation. <i>The <b>changeover</b> from handicraft to mechanized manufacture.</i>
<b><u>conversion</u></b>	A change in the units or form of an expression. <i><b>Conversion</b> disorders.</i>
<b>decline</b>	Go down in value. <i>Caroline <b>declined</b> the coffee.</i>
<b>deduct</b>	Reason by deduction establish by deduction. <i>Tax has been <b>deducted</b> from the payments.</i>
<b>dilatory</b>	Wasting time. <i>They resorted to <b>dilatory</b> tactics forcing a postponement of peace talks.</i>
<b>diminish</b>	Lessen the authority, dignity, or reputation of. <i>The pain will gradually <b>diminish</b>.</i>

<b>diminished</b>	Of an organ or body part diminished in size or strength as a result of disease or injury or lack of use. <i>She felt <b>diminished</b> by the report.</i>
<b>diminution</b>	The statement of a theme in notes of lesser duration (usually half the length of the original). <i>A permanent <b>diminution</b> in value.</i>
<b>erode</b>	(of a disease) gradually destroy (bodily tissue). <i>This humiliation has <b>eroded</b> what confidence Jean has.</i>
<b>escalation</b>	A rapid increase; a rise. <i>There was a gradual <b>escalation</b> of hostilities.</i>
<b>fading</b>	Weakening in force or intensity.
<b>gradually</b>	In a gradual manner. <i><b>Gradually</b> his powers of speech returned.</i>
<b>laggard</b>	A person who makes slow progress and falls behind others. <i>Staff were under enormous pressure and there was no time for <b>laggards</b>.</i>
<b>lessen</b>	Decrease in size, extent, or range. <i>The warmth of the afternoon <b>lessened</b>.</i>
<b>minimize</b>	Reduce (something, especially something undesirable) to the smallest possible amount or degree. <i>Let s <b>minimize</b> the risk.</i>
<b>minority</b>	A small group of people within a community or country, differing from the main population in race, religion, language, or political persuasion. <i>A blocking <b>minority</b> of 23 votes.</i>
<b>piecemeal</b>	A little bit at a time. <i>The village is slowly being killed off by <b>piecemeal</b> development.</i>
<b>reduce</b>	Reduce in size reduce physically. <i>The arsenic is <b>reduced</b> to the trivalent condition.</i>
<b>reduced</b>	Well below normal (especially in price).
<b>reducible</b>	Capable of being reduced- Edmund Wilson. <i>Shakespeare s major soliloquies are not <b>reducible</b> to categories.</i>
<b>reduction</b>	A copy of a picture or photograph made on a smaller scale than the original. <i>Talks on arms <b>reduction</b>.</i>
<b>shrinkage</b>	The process, fact, or amount of shrinking. <i>Give long curtains good hems to allow for <b>shrinkage</b>.</i>
<b>shrinking</b>	The act of becoming less. <i>The <b>shrinking</b> market has provoked a massive price war.</i>

- slacken** Reduce or decrease in speed or intensity.  
*Suddenly the line **slackens** and flutters in the wind.*
- slow** Of a sports field or ground likely to make the ball bounce or run slowly or to prevent competitors from travelling fast.  
*Business is dull or **slow**.*
- slowly** Without speed slow is sometimes used informally for slowly.  
*They moved forward **slowly**.*
- steady** Support or hold steady and make steadfast with or as if with a brace.  
*A good **steady** ballplayer.*
- waning** Pertaining to the period during which the visible surface of the moon decreases.  
*The waxing and **waning** of the moon.*
- weaken** Lessen in force or effect.  
*The fever **weakened** his body.*