

Need another word that means the same as “grim”? Find 71 synonyms and 30 related words for “grim” in this overview.

#### Table Of Contents:

- [Grim as an Adjective](#)
- [Definitions of "Grim" as an adjective](#)
- [Synonyms of "Grim" as an adjective \(71 Words\)](#)
- [Usage Examples of "Grim" as an adjective](#)
- [Associations of "Grim" \(30 Words\)](#)

**The synonyms of “Grim” are: dour, forbidding, blue, dark, dingy, disconsolate, dismal, drab, drear, dreary, gloomy, sorry, inexorable, relentless, stern, unappeasable, unforgiving, unrelenting, ghastly, grisly, gruesome, macabre, sick, depressed, dispirited, down, down in the mouth, downcast, downhearted, low, low-spirited, black, mordant, uninviting, unapproachable, aloof, distant, dreadful, dire, horrible, horrendous, horrid, terrible, awful, appalling, frightful, shocking, unspeakable, atrocious, harrowing, mirthless, bleak, cynical, fatalistic, wretched, miserable, disheartening, depressing, cheerless, comfortless, joyless, sombre, merciless, cruel, ruthless, pitiless, savage, vicious, brutal, harsh, severe**

## Grim as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Grim" as an adjective

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

- *Not to be placated or appeased or moved by entreaty.*
- *Harshly uninviting or formidable in manner or appearance.*
- *Filled with melancholy and despondency.*
- *Causing dejection.*
- *Depressing or worrying to consider.*
- *Harshly ironic or sinister.*
- *Very serious or gloomy.*
- *Shockingly repellent; inspiring horror.*
- *(especially of a place) unattractive or forbidding.*

- *Harshly uninviting or formidable in manner or appearance- J.M.Barrie.*
- *Unrelentingly harsh.*
- *(of humour) lacking genuine levity; black.*



## Synonyms of "Grim" as an adjective (71 Words)

**aloof**

Remote in manner.

*They were courteous but faintly **aloof**.*

<u>appalling</u>	Causing shock or dismay; horrific. <i><b>Appalling</b> conditions.</i>
<u>atrocious</u>	Horribly wicked. <i><b>Atrocious</b> cruelties.</i>
awful	Used to emphasize the extent of something, especially something unpleasant or negative. <i>You look <b>awful</b> you should go and lie down.</i>
black	Relating to black people. <i>The entire cast is <b>black</b>.</i>
<u>bleak</u>	(of a situation) not hopeful or encouraging; unlikely to have a favourable outcome. <i>A <b>bleak</b> midwinter's day.</i>
blue	Of a ski run of the second lowest level of difficulty as indicated by blue markers positioned along it. <i><b>Blue</b> jokes.</i>
brutal	Disagreeably direct and precise. <i>The <b>brutal</b> honesty of his observations.</i>
cheerless	Gloomy; depressing. <i>Something <b>cheerless</b> about the room.</i>
comfortless	Having or offering nothing that serves to ease feelings or grief or distress. <i>A <b>comfortless</b> room.</i>
cruel	Causing pain or suffering. <i>People who are <b>cruel</b> to animals.</i>
<u>cynical</u>	Believing that people are motivated purely by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity. <i>Her <b>cynical</b> attitude.</i>
dark	Of a person having dark skin hair or eyes. <i><b>Dark</b> as the inside of a black cat.</i>
depressed	Filled with melancholy and despondency. <i><b>Depressed</b> by the loss of his job.</i>
depressing	Causing sad feelings of gloom and inadequacy. <i>The economic outlook is <b>depressing</b>.</i>
<u>dingy</u>	Gloomy and drab. <i>A <b>dingy</b> room.</i>
<u>dire</u>	Fraught with extreme danger; nearly hopeless- G.C.Marshall. <i><b>Dire</b> news.</i>

<b>disconsolate</b>	Sad beyond comforting; incapable of being consoled. <i>She left Fritz looking <b>disconsolate</b>.</i>
<b><u>disheartening</u></b>	Causing someone to lose determination or confidence; discouraging or dispiriting. <i>Her death is particularly <b>disheartening</b> because it was preventable.</i>
<b>dismal</b>	Causing dejection. <i>The first <b>dismal</b> dispiriting days of November.</i>
<b>dispirited</b>	Having lost enthusiasm and hope; disheartened. <i>She was determined to appear unworried in front of her <b>dispirited</b> family.</i>
<b><u>distant</u></b>	Remote or far apart in resemblance or relationship. <i>A <b>distant</b> cousin of the King.</i>
<b>dour</b>	Showing a brooding ill humor. <i>A <b>dour</b> self sacrificing life.</i>
<b><u>down</u></b>	Denoting a flavour variety of stable quark having relatively low mass and an electric charge of $1/3$ . In the Standard Model protons and neutrons are composed of up and down quarks. <i>You going to the movies Yo I m <b>down</b>.</i>
<b>down in the mouth</b>	Extending or moving from a higher to a lower place.
<b>downcast</b>	Directed downward. <i>Her modestly <b>downcast</b> eyes.</i>
<b>downhearted</b>	Discouraged; in low spirits. <i>Feeling discouraged and <b>downhearted</b>.</i>
<b><u>drab</u></b>	Lacking in liveliness or charm or surprise. <i>Her <b>drab</b> suburban existence.</i>
<b><u>dreadful</u></b>	Very unpleasant. <i>A <b>dreadful</b> storm.</i>
<b>drear</b>	Causing dejection.
<b>dreary</b>	Lacking in liveliness or charm or surprise. <i>A series of <b>dreary</b> dinner parties.</i>
<b>fatalistic</b>	Relating to or characteristic of the belief that all events are predetermined and therefore inevitable. <i>He gives a <b>fatalistic</b> shrug at the bleak future.</i>
<b>forbidding</b>	Threatening or foreshadowing evil or tragic developments. <i>A grim and <b>forbidding</b> building.</i>
<b>frightful</b>	Provoking horror- Winston Churchill. <i>A <b>frightful</b> crime of decapitation.</i>



ghastly

Gruesomely indicative of death or the dead.  
*One of the most **ghastly** crimes ever committed.*

gloomy

Filled with melancholy and despondency.  
*A dark **gloomy** day.*

grisly

Shockingly repellent; inspiring horror.  
*The town was shaken by a series of **grisly** crimes.*

gruesome

Extremely unpleasant.  
*The most **gruesome** murder.*

harrowing

Acutely distressing.  
*It was a **harrowing** experience.*

harsh

Severe.  
*The **harsh** white light makes you screw up your eyes.*

horrendous

Causing fear or dread or terror.  
*She suffered **horrendous** injuries.*

horrible

Very unpleasant.  
*A **horrible** massacre.*

horrid

Grossly offensive to decency or morality; causing horror.  
*When she was bad she was **horrid**.*

inexorable

Impossible to stop or prevent.  
*The seemingly **inexorable** march of new technology.*

joyless

Not experiencing or inspiring joy.  
*A **joyless** occasion.*

low

Below average in amount extent or intensity.  
*A **low** bow.*

low-spirited

Filled with melancholy and despondency.

macabre

Disturbing because concerned with or causing a fear of death.  
*A **macabre** series of murders.*

merciless

Showing no mercy.  
*A **merciless** critic.*

mirthless

Lacking mirth.  
*He gave a short **mirthless** laugh.*

miserable

Pitiably small or inadequate.  
***Miserable** victims of war.*

mordant

Of a substance, especially a strong acid; capable of destroying or eating away by chemical action.  
*A **mordant** sense of humour.*

<b>pitiless</b>	(especially of weather) unrelentingly harsh or severe. <i>A night of <b>pitiless</b> rain.</i>
<b>relentless</b>	Unceasingly intense. <i>A patient but <b>relentless</b> taskmaster.</i>
<b>ruthless</b>	Having or showing no pity or compassion for others. <i>An act of <b>ruthless</b> ferocity.</i>
<b>savage</b>	Cruel and vicious; aggressively hostile. <i>The decision was a <b>savage</b> blow for the town.</i>
<b>severe</b>	Severely simple. <i>A <b>severe</b> test of stamina.</i>
<b>shocking</b>	Very bad. <i>I've got a <b>shocking</b> cold.</i>
<b>sick</b>	Intensely annoyed with or bored by (someone or something) as a result of having had too much of them. <i>Gossip that makes one <b>sick</b>.</i>
<b>sombre</b>	Dark or dull in colour or tone. <i>The night skies were <b>sombre</b> and starless.</i>
<b>sorry</b>	Without merit; of little or no value or use. <i>I'm <b>sorry</b> you were saying.</i>
<b>stern</b>	Of a stern or strict bearing or demeanor forbidding in aspect. <i>The <b>stern</b> demands of parenthood.</i>
<b>terrible</b>	Exceptionally bad or displeasing. <i>A <b>terrible</b> crime.</i>
<b>unappeasable</b>	Not to be placated or appeased or moved by entreaty. <i>What began as an aspiration turned soon to an <b>unappeasable</b> hunger.</i>
<b>unapproachable</b>	Discouraging intimacies; reserved. <i>An <b>unapproachable</b> executive.</i>
<b>unforgiving</b>	Unwilling or unable to forgive or show mercy. <i>He was always a proud and <b>unforgiving</b> man.</i>
<b>uninviting</b>	Not tempting. <i>The house was dark and <b>uninviting</b>.</i>
<b>unrelenting</b>	Not to be placated or appeased or moved by entreaty. <i><b>Unrelenting</b> opponents.</i>
<b>unspeakable</b>	Too sacred to be uttered. <i>I felt an <b>unspeakable</b> tenderness towards her.</i>

**vicious**

Bringing or deserving severe rebuke or censure.

*The dog was **vicious** and likely to bite.*

**wretched**

(of a person) in a very unhappy or unfortunate state.

*The **wretched** conditions of the slums.*



**Usage Examples of "Grim" as an adjective**

- *His grim expression.*
- *Few creatures thrive in this grim and hostile land.*
- *Grim rainy weather.*
- *The grim aftermath of the bombing.*
- *Grim determination.*
- *A grim goalless draw in appalling weather.*
- *The grim task of burying the victims.*
- *Undoubtedly the grimmest part of him was his iron claw.*
- *She was looking grim.*
- *Grim laughter.*

- *The outlook's pretty grim.*
- *Took a grim view of the economy.*
- *The grim news of the murder.*
- *Some moments of grim humour.*
- *Rows of grim, dark housing developments.*
- *A grim man loving duty more than humanity.*
- *A grim joke.*
- *Grim necessity.*



## Associations of "Grim" (30 Words)

**blue**

Blue colour or pigment.  
**Blued** paper.



<b>cheerless</b>	Gloomy; depressing. <i>The corridors were ill lit and <b>cheerless</b>.</i>
<b>contemplative</b>	A person devoted to the contemplative life. <i><b>Contemplative</b> knowledge of God.</i>
<b>dejected</b>	Sad and depressed; dispirited. <i>Is <b>dejected</b> but trying to look cheerful.</i>
<b>depressed</b>	(of a place or economic activity) suffering the damaging effects of a lack of demand or employment. <i>A <b>depressed</b> fracture of the skull.</i>
<b>depression</b>	A period during the 1930s when there was a worldwide economic depression and mass unemployment. <i><b>Depression</b> of the space bar on the typewriter.</i>
<b>despair</b>	The complete loss or absence of hope. <i>She <b>despaired</b> of finding a good restaurant nearby.</i>
<b>despondent</b>	In low spirits from loss of hope or courage. <i><b>Despondent</b> about his failure.</i>
<b>dingy</b>	Causing dejection. <i>A dirty or <b>dingy</b> white.</i>
<b>disconsolate</b>	Sad beyond comforting; incapable of being consoled. <i>A <b>disconsolate</b> winter landscape.</i>
<b>dismal</b>	(of a person or their mood) gloomy. <i>His <b>dismal</b> mood was not dispelled by finding the house empty.</i>
<b>dour</b>	Stubbornly unyielding. <i>A hard <b>dour</b> humourless fanatic.</i>
<b>downcast</b>	A ventilation shaft through which air enters a mine. <i><b>Downcast</b> after his defeat.</i>
<b>drab</b>	Clothes especially trousers made of drab. <i><b>Drab</b> camouflage uniforms.</i>
<b>dreary</b>	Lacking in liveliness or charm or surprise. <i>A series of <b>dreary</b> dinner parties.</i>
<b>gloom</b>	Be or look depressed or despondent. <i>His <b>gloom</b> deepened.</i>
<b>gloomy</b>	Filled with melancholy and despondency. <i><b>Gloomy</b> at the thought of what he had to face.</i>
<b>heartsick</b>	Full of sorrow. <i>Too <b>heartsick</b> to fight back.</i>

<b><u>melancholy</u></b>	A humor that was once believed to be secreted by the kidneys or spleen and to cause sadness and melancholy. <i>We acquainted him with the <b>melancholy</b> truth.</i>
<b>mourning</b>	The expression of sorrow for someone's death. <i>She s still in <b>mourning</b> after the death of her husband.</i>
<b>pensive</b>	Showing pensive sadness. <i>A <b>pensive</b> mood.</i>
<b>sad</b>	Of things that make you feel sad Christina Rossetti. <i>He told her the <b>sad</b> story of his life.</i>
<b>sadness</b>	The state of being sad. <i>It is one of life s <b>sadnesses</b>.</i>
<b><u>somber</u></b>	Grave or even gloomy in character. <i>Children in <b>somber</b> brown clothes.</i>
<b><u>sorrowful</u></b>	Causing grief. <i>A <b>sorrowful</b> tale of death and despair.</i>
<b><u>sorry</u></b>	Causing dejection. <i>A <b>sorry</b> excuse.</i>
<b>stern</b>	Of a stern or strict bearing or demeanor forbidding in aspect. <i>A <b>stern</b> disciplinarian.</i>
<b>sullen</b>	A sulky or depressed mood. <i>A <b>sullen</b> sunless sky.</i>
<b>unhappy</b>	Not satisfied or pleased with (a situation). <i><b>Unhappy</b> with her raise.</i>
<b><u>wistful</u></b>	Showing pensive sadness. <i>A <b>wistful</b> smile.</i>

