

Need another word that means the same as “hardly”? Find 15 synonyms and 30 related words for “hardly” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Hardly” are: barely, scarce, scarcely, hard, just, only just, not much, faintly, narrowly, slightly, rarely, little, only with difficulty, only with effort, almost not

Hardly as an Adverb

Definitions of "Hardly" as an adverb

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

- *Harshly.*
- *Scarcely (used to qualify a statement by saying that it is true to an insignificant degree.*
- *Only a very short time before.*
- *Almost not.*
- *No or not (suggesting surprise at or disagreement with a statement.*
- *Slowly and with difficulty.*
- *Only with great difficulty.*



Synonyms of "Hardly" as an adverb (15 Words)

almost not	Slightly short of or not quite accomplished; all but.
<u>barely</u>	Only a very short time before. <i>It was barely 5 a.m.</i>
faintly	To a faint degree or weakly perceived. <i>She smiled faintly.</i>
hard	Causing great damage or hardship. <i>It was raining hard.</i>
<u>just</u>	Only a very short time before. <i>That s just what I need.</i>
little	Only to a small extent; not much or often (used for emphasis). <i>He had slept little these past weeks.</i>

narrowly	Only just; by only a small margin. <i>Narrowly defined tasks.</i>
not much	To a great degree or extent.
only just	Without any others being included or involved.
only with difficulty	And nothing more.
only with effort	Never except when.
<u>rarely</u>	To an unusual degree; exceptionally. <i>We rarely met.</i>
<u>scarce</u>	Scarcely. <i>A babe scarce two years old.</i>
scarcely	Only just; almost not. <i>She had scarcely dismounted before the door swung open.</i>
<u>slightly</u>	To a small degree or extent. <i>The children argued because one slice of cake was slightly larger than the other.</i>



Usage Examples of "Hardly" as an adverb

- *We hardly knew them.*
- *I nodded, hardly able to breath.*
- *I can hardly hear what she is saying.*
- *I hardly think so.*
- *He was so dizzy he could hardly stand up straight.*
- *He hardly ever goes fishing.*
- *A thing hardly bigger than a credit card.*
- *The rule worked hardly.*
- *She could hardly sit up.*
- *The little house in which he lived was hardly bigger than a hut.*
- *The party had hardly started when the police arrived.*

- *We hardly know each other.*



Associations of "Hardly" (30 Words)

<u>anymore</u>	At the present or from now on; usually used with a negative. <i>Alice doesn't live here anymore.</i>
<u>barely</u>	In a sparse or scanty way. <i>They had barely sat down before forty policemen swarmed in.</i>
coincidentally	Happening at the same time. <i>The three are coincidentally reunited when captured by the enemy.</i>
curio	Something unusual — perhaps worthy of collecting. <i>They had such fun over the wonderful box of curios that Jack had sent from India.</i>
<u>deficient</u>	Insufficient or inadequate. <i>This diet is deficient in vitamin B.</i>
<u>frequently</u>	Regularly or habitually; often. <i>They go abroad frequently.</i>
infrequently	Not often; rarely. <i>A storage area for infrequently used items.</i>
meagerly	Deficient in amount or quality or extent. <i>These voices are meagerly represented at the conference.</i>
<u>no</u>	Not in any degree or manner not at all. <i>His no was loud and clear.</i>
occasional	Employed for a particular occasion or on an irregular basis. <i>Took an occasional glass of wine.</i>
<u>occasionally</u>	Now and then or here and there. <i>Very occasionally the condition can result in death.</i>
oddity	A strange attitude or habit. <i>She was regarded as a bit of an oddity.</i>
often	In many cases or instances. <i>We often met over a cup of coffee.</i>
<u>rare</u>	Not widely distributed. <i>A rare skill.</i>
<u>rarely</u>	Not often. <i>The rarely fine Sheraton bookcase.</i>
rareness	Noteworthy scarcity.
<u>rarity</u>	A rare thing, especially one having particular value. <i>The rarity of the condition.</i>

scant	Barely amounting to a specified number or quantity. <i>The press regularly scants a host of issues relating to safety and health.</i>
scanty	(of clothing) revealing the body. <i>Her dress was scanty and revealing.</i>
<u>scarce</u>	Scarcely. <i>A babe scarce two years old.</i>
scarcely	Only a very short time before. <i>Her voice is so low I can scarcely hear what she is saying.</i>
<u>seldom</u>	Not often. <i>An old seldom used church.</i>
<u>sometimes</u>	Occasionally, rather than all of the time. <i>Sometimes I want to do things on my own.</i>
<u>sparse</u>	Thinly dispersed or scattered. <i>Information on earnings is sparse.</i>
sparsely	In a sparse manner. <i>A sparsely populated region.</i>
special	For a special service or occasion. <i>Television s election night specials.</i>
sporadically	Occasionally or at irregular intervals. <i>He only works sporadically.</i>
<u>typically</u>	With the distinctive qualities of a particular type of person or thing. <i>Typically she showed no alarm.</i>
uncommonly	Exceptionally; very. <i>He is an uncommonly good talker.</i>
unusual	Being definitely out of the ordinary and unexpected; slightly odd or even a bit weird. <i>The government has taken the unusual step of calling home its ambassador.</i>

