

Need another word that means the same as “harm”? Find 41 synonyms and 30 related words for “harm” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Harm” are: damage, hurt, scathe, injury, trauma, impairment, pain, suffering, distress, anguish, torment, grief, evil, badness, wrong, mischief, wrongdoing, immorality, ill, wickedness, vice, iniquity, sin, sinfulness, nefariousness, injure, wound, maltreat, mistreat, misuse, ill-treat, ill-use, abuse, molest, inflict pain on, inflict suffering on, handle roughly, treat roughly, do violence to, lay a finger on**

## Harm as a Noun

### Definitions of "Harm" as a noun

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “harm” as a noun can have the following definitions:

- *The act of damaging something or someone.*
- *Physical injury, especially that which is deliberately inflicted.*
- *Actual or potential ill effects or danger.*
- *Material damage.*
- *The occurrence of a change for the worse.*
- *Any physical damage to the body caused by violence or accident or fracture etc.*



## Synonyms of "Harm" as a noun (25 Words)

### anguish

Severe mental or physical pain or suffering.

*Philip gave a cry of **anguish**.*

### badness

Poor quality or low standard.

*None of you are doing justice to the **badness** of this film.*

### **damage**

Any harm or injury resulting from a violation of a legal right.

*How much is the **damage**.*

### **distress**

Extreme anxiety, sorrow, or pain.

*The death of his wife caused him great **distress**.*

### **evil**

That which causes harm or destruction or misfortune- Shakespeare.

*Attempts to explain the origin of **evil** in the world.*

### grief

Intense sorrow caused by loss of a loved one (especially by death).

*She was overcome with **grief**.*

<b>hurt</b>	Any physical damage to the body caused by violence or accident or fracture etc. <i>Rolling properly into a fall minimizes <b>hurt</b>.</i>
<b><u>ill</u></b>	A problem or misfortune. <i>How could I wish him <b>ill</b>.</i>
<b>immorality</b>	Morally objectionable behavior. <i>He believed his father had been punished by God for his <b>immorality</b>.</i>
<b><u>impairment</u></b>	The act of making something futile and useless (as by routine). <i>A degree of physical or mental <b>impairment</b>.</i>
<b>iniquity</b>	Absence of moral or spiritual values. <i>A den of <b>iniquity</b>.</i>
<b>injury</b>	Wrongdoing that violates another's rights and is unjustly inflicted. <i>She suffered an <b>injury</b> to her back.</i>
<b><u>mischief</u></b>	Harm or trouble caused by someone or something. <i>She was bent on making <b>mischief</b>.</i>
<b>nefariousness</b>	The quality of being wicked.
<b>pain</b>	Emotional distress; a fundamental feeling that people try to avoid. <i>She s in great <b>pain</b>.</i>
<b>scathe</b>	The act of damaging something or someone. <i>It was cheering to hear that you had got through winter and diphtheria without <b>scathe</b>.</i>
<b><u>sin</u></b>	The 21st letter of the Hebrew alphabet. <i>The human capacity for <b>sin</b>.</i>
<b>sinfulness</b>	Estrangement from god.
<b>suffering</b>	Psychological suffering. <i>His disregard for the <b>sufferings</b> of his fellow countrymen.</i>
<b>torment</b>	A feeling of intense annoyance caused by being tormented. <i>The journey must have been a <b>torment</b> for them.</i>
<b><u>trauma</u></b>	Emotional shock following a stressful event or a physical injury, which may lead to long-term neurosis. <i>The event is relived with all the accompanying <b>trauma</b>.</i>
<b>vice</b>	A specific form of evildoing. <i>A mobile phone network is being used to peddle <b>vice</b>.</i>
<b>wickedness</b>	The quality of being disgusting to the senses or emotions. <i>The <b>wickedness</b> of the regime.</i>
<b>wrong</b>	An unjust, dishonest, or immoral act. <i>I have done you a great <b>wrong</b>.</i>

**wrongdoing**

Illegal or dishonest behaviour.

*Police have denied any **wrongdoing**.*



**Usage Examples of "Harm" as a noun**

- *I didn't mean to cause him any harm.*
- *I can't see any harm in it.*
- *It's unlikely to do much harm to the engine.*





## Harm as a Verb

### Definitions of "Harm" as a verb

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), "harm" as a verb can have the following definitions:

- *Damage the health of.*
- *Have an adverse effect on.*
- *Physically injure.*
- *Cause or do harm to.*



## Synonyms of "Harm" as a verb (16 Words)

<b>abuse</b>	Use foul or abusive language towards. <i>The actress <b>abused</b> the policeman who gave her a parking ticket.</i>
<b>do violence to</b>	Be sufficient; be adequate, either in quality or quantity.
<b>handle roughly</b>	Act on verbally or in some form of artistic expression.
<b>hurt</b>	Hurt the feelings of. <i>High interest rates are <b>hurting</b> the local economy.</i>
<b>ill-treat</b>	Treat badly.
<b>ill-use</b>	Treat badly.
<b>inflict pain on</b>	Impose something unpleasant.
<b>inflict suffering on</b>	Impose something unpleasant.
<b>injure</b>	Cause damage or affect negatively. <i>The explosion <b>injured</b> several people.</i>
<b>lay a finger on</b>	Lay eggs.



**maltreat**

Treat (a person or animal) cruelly or with violence.  
*Children die from neglect or are **maltreated** by their carers.*

**mistreat**

Treat (a person or animal) badly, cruelly, or unfairly.  
*A dog which has been **mistreated** will remain very wary of strangers.*

**misuse**

Apply to a wrong thing or person; apply badly or incorrectly.  
*We felt that we had been deceived and **misused**.*

**treat roughly**

Subject to a process or treatment, with the aim of readying for some purpose, improving, or remedying a condition.

**wound**

Inflict a wound on.  
*The sergeant was seriously **wounded**.*



## Usage Examples of "Harm" as a verb

- *This could harm his World Cup prospects.*
- *The villains didn't harm him.*
- *These pills won't harm your system.*
- *Smoking when pregnant can harm your baby.*



## Associations of "Harm" (30 Words)

### con

A swindle in which you cheat at gambling or persuade a person to buy worthless property.

*The Charter is a glossy public relations **con**.*

### damage

Inflict damage upon.

*These fine china cups **damage** easily.*

### damaging

Designed or tending to discredit, especially without positive or helpful suggestions.

***Damaging** allegations of corruption.*

### defect

A mark or flaw that spoils the appearance of something (especially on a person's body).

*If there are any **defects** you should send it back to the manufacturer.*

### demerit

A fault or disadvantage.

*The merits and **demerits** of these proposals.*



<b>detriment</b>	The state of being harmed or damaged. <i>Light industry can be carried out in a residential area without <b>detriment</b> to its amenities.</i>
<b>detrimental</b>	(sometimes followed by `to') causing harm or injury. <i>Moving her could have a <b>detrimental</b> effect on her health.</i>
<b>disadvantage</b>	Put at a disadvantage hinder harm. <i>The pension scheme tends to <b>disadvantage</b> women.</i>
<b>disfigure</b>	Mar or spoil the appearance of. <i>The vandals <b>disfigured</b> the statue.</i>
<b>downside</b>	A negative aspect of something that is generally positive. <i>He says being a rock star is a fun line of work when you re young but admits fame can have its <b>downsides</b>.</i>
<b>drawback</b>	A feature that renders something less acceptable; a disadvantage or problem. <i>He pointed out all the <b>drawbacks</b> to my plan.</i>
<b>failing</b>	Failure to reach a minimum required performance. <i>His <b>failing</b> the course led to his disqualification.</i>
<b>fatal</b>	Controlled or decreed by fate; predetermined. <i>The <b>fatal</b> day of the election finally arrived.</i>
<b>fault</b>	Of a rock formation be broken by a fault or faults. <i>He served too many double <b>faults</b>.</i>
<b>flawed</b>	Having or characterized by a fundamental weakness or imperfection. <i>A fatally <b>flawed</b> strategy.</i>
<b>harmful</b>	Causing or capable of causing harm. <i>The ozone layer blocks the <b>harmful</b> rays from the sun.</i>
<b>inadequacy</b>	Unsatisfactoriness by virtue of being inadequate. <i>Her feelings of personal <b>inadequacy</b>.</i>
<b>injurious</b>	(of language) maliciously insulting; libellous. <i>Food which is <b>injurious</b> to health.</i>
<b>injury</b>	Damage to a person's feelings. <i>An ankle <b>injury</b>.</i>
<b>irremediable</b>	Impossible to cure or put right. <i><b>Irremediable</b> marital breakdowns.</i>
<b>libel</b>	The action or crime of publishing a libel. <i>The newspaper was accused of <b>libeling</b> him.</i>
<b>libellous</b>	Harmful and often untrue; tending to discredit or malign. <i>A <b>libellous</b> newspaper story.</i>

<b>maleficent</b>	Causing harm or destruction, especially by supernatural means. <i>A <b>maleficent</b> deity.</i>
<b><u>mischief</u></b>	A person responsible for harm or annoyance. <i>She was bent on making <b>mischief</b>.</i>
<b>misconceive</b>	Fail to understand (something) correctly. <i>Criticism of the trade surplus in Washington is <b>misconceived</b>.</i>
<b><u>misunderstanding</u></b>	An understanding of something that is not correct. <i>He left the army after a slight <b>misunderstanding</b> with his commanding officer.</i>
<b>neurotoxin</b>	Any toxin that affects neural tissues.
<b>prejudicial</b>	(sometimes followed by `to') causing harm or injury. <i>The reporter's coverage resulted in <b>prejudicial</b> publicity for the defendant.</i>
<b><u>shortcoming</u></b>	A failing or deficiency. <i>He is so forthright about his <b>shortcomings</b> it's hard to chastise him.</i>
<b>unforced</b>	Not brought about by coercion or force. <i>An <b>unforced</b> cheerfulness.</i>

