

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

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The synonyms of “Harmful” are: damaging, injurious, detrimental, dangerous, deleterious, unfavourable, negative, disadvantageous, unhealthy, unwholesome, hurtful, baleful, wounding, destructive

Harmful as an Adjective

Definitions of "Harmful" as an adjective

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

- *Causing or likely to cause harm.*
- *Causing or capable of causing harm.*



Synonyms of "Harmful" as an adjective (14 Words)

baleful	Having a harmful or destructive effect. <i>Bill shot a baleful glance in her direction.</i>
damaging	Causing physical damage. <i>New cars are less damaging to the environment.</i>
dangerous	Able or likely to cause harm or injury. <i>Unemployment reached dangerous proportions.</i>
deleterious	Causing harm or damage. <i>Deleterious chemical additives.</i>
<u>destructive</u>	Causing great and irreparable damage. <i>Destructive criticism.</i>
<u>detrimental</u>	Tending to cause harm. <i>Moving her could have a detrimental effect on her health.</i>

disadvantageous	Involving or creating unfavourable circumstances that reduce the chances of success or effectiveness. A disadvantageous outcome.
hurtful	Causing distress to someone's feelings. Her hurtful unconsidered words.
injurious	Harmful to living things. Food which is injurious to health.
negative	Having a negative charge. A colorless negative personality.
unfavourable	Tending to hinder or oppose. Unfavourable economic conditions.
<u>unhealthy</u>	(of a person's attitude or behaviour) not sensible or well balanced. Unhealthy ulcers.
unwholesome	Detrimental to physical or moral well-being. The use of the living room as sleeping quarters led to unwholesome crowding.
wounding	Causing harm to a person's feelings or reputation. A wounding description of their mother.



Usage Examples of "Harmful" as an adjective

- *Too much sun is harmful to the skin.*
- *The ozone layer blocks the harmful rays from the sun.*
- *Sugars which can be harmful to the teeth.*
- *Harmful effects of smoking.*



Associations of "Harmful" (30 Words)

<u>counterproductive</u>	Tending to hinder the achievement of a goal. <i>Child experts fear the Executive's plans may prove counterproductive.</i>
damage	Inflict damage upon. <i>The car was badly damaged in the accident.</i>
damaging	Causing physical damage. <i>Damaging allegations of corruption.</i>
deadly	Exceedingly harmful. <i>My end of the theatre is deadly at the moment.</i>
deleterious	Causing harm or damage. <i>Deleterious chemical additives.</i>
<u>destructive</u>	Negative and unhelpful. <i>A policy that is destructive to the economy.</i>

<u>detrimental</u>	(sometimes followed by `to') causing harm or injury. <i>Moving her could have a detrimental effect on her health.</i>
exotoxin	A toxin released by a living bacterial cell into its surroundings.
<u>fatal</u>	Having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin. <i>Such doctrines if true would be absolutely fatal to my theory.</i>
<u>harm</u>	Cause or do harm to. <i>The villains didn't harm him.</i>
hurt	Hurt the feelings of. <i>Dogs and cats with hurt paws.</i>
injurious	(of language) maliciously insulting; libellous. <i>Food which is injurious to health.</i>
injury	A casualty to military personnel resulting from combat. <i>Compensation for injury to feelings.</i>
insulting	Disrespectful or scornfully abusive. <i>Insulting remarks.</i>
libellous	Containing or constituting a libel. <i>A libellous newspaper story.</i>
libelous	(used of statements) harmful and often untrue; tending to discredit or malign.
noxious	Harmful, poisonous, or very unpleasant. <i>They were overcome by the noxious fumes.</i>
<u>pernicious</u>	Working or spreading in a hidden and usually injurious way. <i>The pernicious influences of the mass media.</i>
poison	Kill by its poison. <i>She poisoned her husband.</i>
poisoning	The physiological state produced by a poison or other toxic substance. <i>Symptoms of poisoning may include nausea diarrhoea and vomiting.</i>
poisonous	(of an animal) producing poison as a means of attacking enemies or prey; venomous. <i>A poisonous snake.</i>
prejudicial	(sometimes followed by `to') causing harm or injury. <i>The proposals were considered prejudicial to the city centre.</i>
ruinous	Causing injury or blight; especially affecting with sudden violence or plague or ruin. <i>A ruinous course of action.</i>
slanderous	(of a spoken statement) false and malicious. <i>Slanderous allegations.</i>

<u>toxic</u>	Denoting securities that are based on toxic debt and for which there is not a healthy or functioning market. <i>Toxic liver injury.</i>
toxin	A poisonous substance produced during the metabolism and growth of certain microorganisms and some higher plant and animal species.
<u>unhealthy</u>	Not conducive to good health. <i>An unhealthy obsession with fast cars.</i>
venom	Toxin secreted by animals; secreted by certain snakes and poisonous insects (e.g., spiders and scorpions). <i>His voice was full of venom.</i>
virulent	Infectious; having the ability to cause disease. <i><i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> is a common organism whose virulent strains are causing problems.</i>
<u>wound</u>	Inflict a wound on. <i>A wound to the thigh.</i>

