

Need another word that means the same as “indirect”? Find 28 synonyms and 30 related words for “indirect” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Indirect” are: collateral, incidental, accidental, unintended, secondary, subordinate, ancillary, concomitant, accompanying, contingent, resulting, resultant, consequential, derived, derivative, roundabout, circuitous, deviant, divergent, wandering, meandering, serpentine, winding, curving, tortuous, zigzag, oblique, inexplicit**

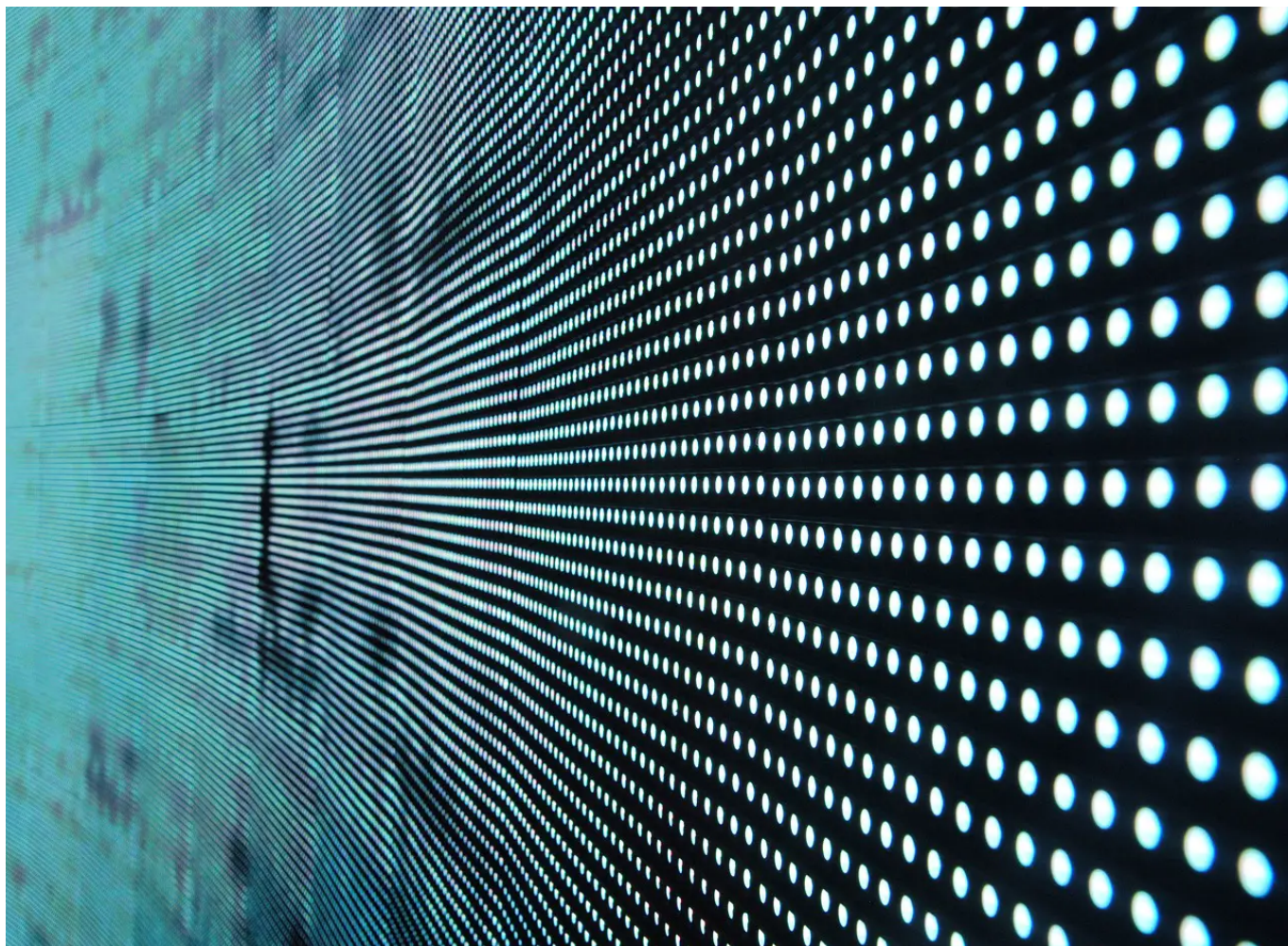
## Indirect as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Indirect" as an adjective

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

- *(of taxation) levied on goods and services rather than income or profits.*
- *(of lighting) from a concealed source and diffusely reflected.*
- *Not as a direct effect or consequence.*
- *Having intervening factors or persons or influences.*
- *(of costs) deriving from overhead charges or subsidiary work.*
- *Not done directly; conducted through intermediaries.*
- *(of a route) not straight; not following the shortest way.*
- *Extended senses; not direct in manner or language or behavior or action.*
- *Not directly caused by or resulting from something.*
- *Not direct in spatial dimension; not leading by a straight line or course to a destination.*
- *Descended from a common ancestor but through different lines.*
- *Avoiding direct mention or exposition of a subject.*

- Denoting a free kick from which a goal may not be scored directly.



## Synonyms of "Indirect" as an adjective (28 Words)

<b>accidental</b>	Happening by chance or unexpectedly or unintentionally. <i>The character's motives remain <b>accidental</b> to the plot.</i>
<b>accompanying</b>	Following or accompanying as a consequence. <i>The <b>accompanying</b> documentation.</i>
<b>ancillary</b>	Furnishing added support. <i>Paragraph 19 was merely <b>ancillary</b> to paragraph 16.</i>
<b>circuitous</b>	Deviating from a straight course. <i>The canal followed a <b>circuitous</b> route.</i>
<b>collateral</b>	Accompany, concomitant. <i><b>Collateral</b> evidence.</i>

<b>concomitant</b>	Occurring with or following as a consequence. <i><b>Concomitant</b> with his obsession with dirt was a desire for order.</i>
<b>consequential</b>	Following as a result or effect. <i>A loss of confidence and a <b>consequential</b> withdrawal of funds.</i>
<b>contingent</b>	Possible but not certain to occur. <i>That men are living creatures is a <b>contingent</b> fact.</i>
<b>curving</b>	Having or marked by a curve or smoothly rounded bend.
<b>derivative</b>	Resulting from or employing derivation. <i>A <b>derivative</b> process.</i>
<b>derived</b>	Formed or developed from something else; not original. <i>The belief that classes and organizations are secondary and <b>derived</b>.</i>
<b>deviant</b>	Homosexual (typically used of a man). <i><b>Deviant</b> ideas.</i>
<b>divergent</b>	(of thought) using a variety of premises, especially unfamiliar premises, as bases for inference, and avoiding common limiting assumptions in making deductions. <i>A <b>divergent</b> opinion.</i>
<b>incidental</b>	Not of prime or central importance. <i>Labor problems <b>incidental</b> to a rapid expansion.</i>
<b>implicit</b>	Not definitely or clearly expressed or explained. <i><b>Implicit</b> declarations.</i>
<b>meandering</b>	Of a path e.g. <i><b>Meandering</b> streams.</i>
<b>oblique</b>	(especially of a muscle) neither parallel nor perpendicular to the long axis of a body or limb. <i>Acute and obtuse angles are <b>oblique</b> angles.</i>
<b>resultant</b>	Occurring or produced as a result of something. <i>Restructuring and the <b>resultant</b> cost savings.</i>
<b>resulting</b>	Occurring or following as the consequence of something. <i>Talk of a general election and the <b>resulting</b> political uncertainty.</i>
<b>roundabout</b>	Not saying what is meant clearly and directly; circumlocutory. <i>A <b>roundabout</b> paragraph.</i>
<b>secondary</b>	(chiefly of amines) derived from ammonia by replacement of two hydrogen atoms by organic groups. <i>A <b>secondary</b> issue.</i>
<b>serpentine</b>	Of or like a serpent or snake. <i><b>Serpentine</b> country lanes.</i>



<b><u>subordinate</u></b>	Lower in rank or position. <i>In adventure stories character must be <b>subordinate</b> to action.</i>
<b><u>tortuous</u></b>	Full of twists and turns. <i>A <b>tortuous</b> road up the mountain.</i>
<b><u>unintended</u></b>	Not planned or meant. <i>The <b>unintended</b> consequences of people's actions.</i>
<b>wandering</b>	Travelling aimlessly from place to place; itinerant. <i><b>Wandering</b> tribes.</i>
<b>winding</b>	Of a path e.g. <i><b>Winding</b> roads are full of surprises.</i>
<b>zigzag</b>	Having the form of a zigzag veering alternately to right and left. <i>When chased by a predator some animals take a <b>zigzag</b> course.</i>

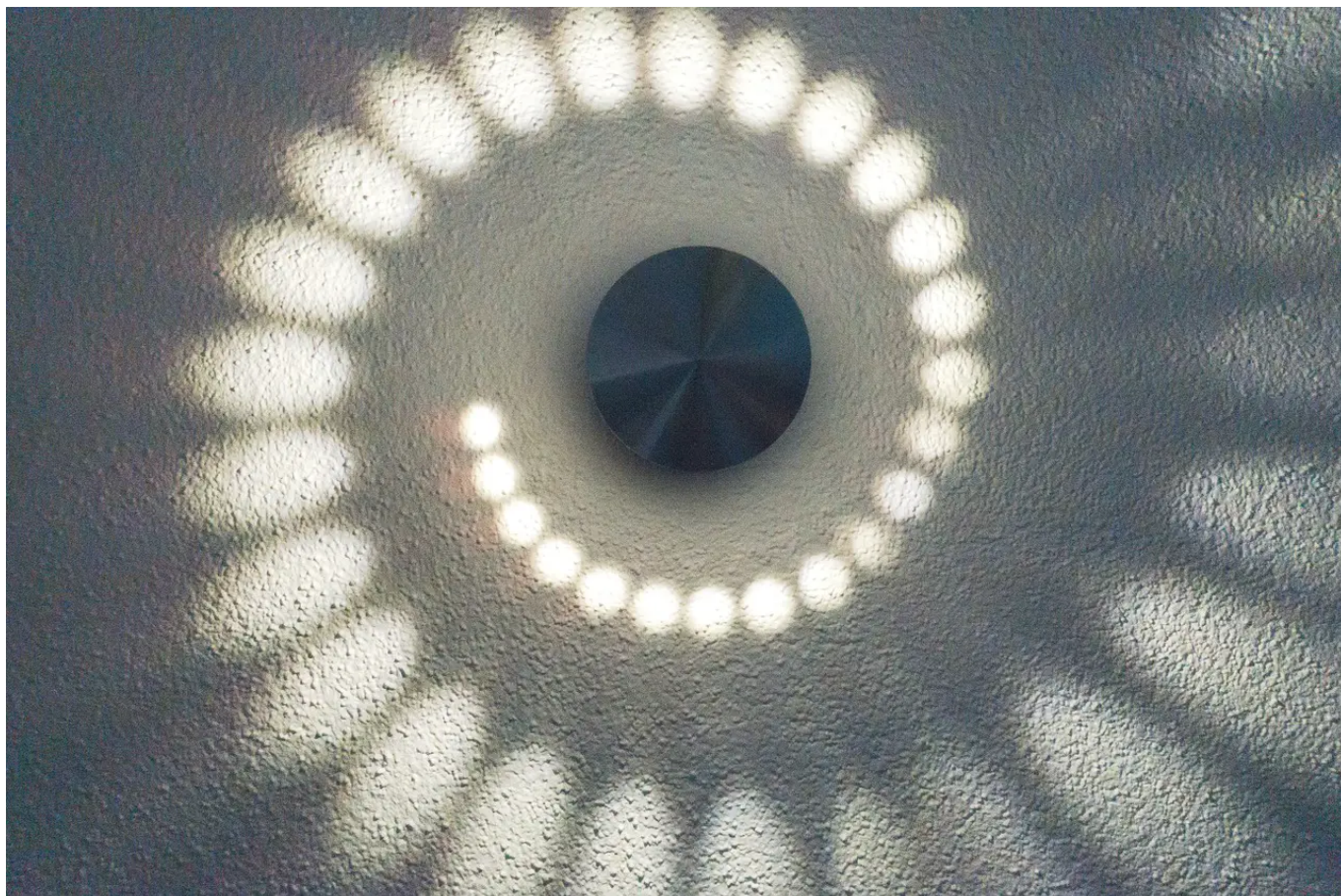


## Usage Examples of "Indirect" as an adjective

- *Making indirect but legitimate inquiries.*
- *Sometimes taking an indirect path saves time.*

- *Hidden or indirect costs involved in training.*
- *You must take an indirect course in sailing.*
- *Full employment would have an indirect effect on wage levels.*
- *An indirect attack on the Archbishop.*
- *Fittings were installed to give a subdued, indirect light in the nave.*
- *Known as a shady indirect fellow.*
- *Local government under the indirect control of the British.*
- *Indirect benefits.*
- *An indirect descendant of the Stuarts.*
- *An indirect advantage.*
- *Reflection from the ceiling provided a soft indirect light.*
- *An indirect cause.*
- *Though his methods are indirect they are not dishonest.*
- *Indirect evidence.*
- *Doubtless they had some indirect purpose in mind.*
- *An indirect insult.*
- *He took a careful, indirect route home from his dockside rendezvous.*





## Associations of "Indirect" (30 Words)

### [away](#)

Out of the way especially away from one's thoughts.

*He put **away** the pistol.*

### **backhanded**

(of racket strokes) made across the body with back of hand facing direction of stroke.

*A **backhanded** and dishonest way of reaching his goal.*

### **circuitous**

Marked by obliqueness or indirection in speech or conduct.

*The explanation was **circuitous** and puzzling.*

### **circumlocutory**

Using many words where fewer would do, especially in a deliberate attempt to be vague or evasive; long-winded.

*Had a preference for circumlocutious or **circumlocutory** rather than forthright expression.*

### **cowardly**

In a way which shows a lack of courage.

*A **cowardly** attack on a helpless victim.*

<b><u>devious</u></b>	<p>Deviating from a straight course.  <i>A <b>devious</b> character.</i></p>
<b><u>digress</u></b>	<p>Lose clarity or turn aside especially from the main subject of attention or course of argument in writing, thinking, or speaking.  <i>She always <b>digresses</b> when telling a story.</i></p>
<b>digressive</b>	<p>(of e.g. speech and writing) tending to depart from the main point or cover a wide range of subjects.  <i>A <b>digressive</b> allusion to the day of the week.</i></p>
<b><u>discursive</u></b>	<p>(of a style of speech or writing) fluent and expansive.  <i>The attempt to transform utterances from one <b>discursive</b> context to another.</i></p>
<b><u>dislodge</u></b>	<p>Remove or force out from a position.  <i>The hoofs of their horses <b>dislodged</b> loose stones.</i></p>
<b>distract</b>	<p>Prevent (someone) from concentrating on something.  <i>Horror and doubt <b>distract</b> His troubl d thoughts.</i></p>
<b>excursive</b>	<p>Tending to deviate from a course or activity; digressive.  <i>His <b>excursive</b> remarks.</i></p>
<b><u>extraction</u></b>	<p>Properties attributable to your ancestry.  <i>A worker of Polish <b>extraction</b>.</i></p>
<b>instead</b>	<p>In place of, or as an alternative to.  <i>Used English terms <b>instead</b> of Latin ones.</i></p>
<b><u>irrelevant</u></b>	<p>Not connected with or relevant to something.  <i>Theory can sometimes be hastily dismissed as <b>irrelevant</b> to the classroom.</i></p>
<b>meandering</b>	<p>Convolutd or undirected thought or language.  <i>A brilliant sample of <b>meandering</b> discourse.</i></p>
<b><u>rambling</u></b>	<p>(of e.g. speech and writing) tending to depart from the main point or cover a wide range of subjects.  <i>A <b>rambling</b> club.</i></p>
<b>roam</b>	<p>(of a person's eyes or hands) pass lightly over something without stopping.  <i>Her eyes <b>roamed</b> over the chattering women.</i></p>
<b>rotary</b>	<p>A rotary machine engine or device.  <i>A <b>rotary</b> mower.</i></p>
<b><u>roundabout</u></b>	<p>A revolving machine with model horses or cars on which people ride for amusement; a merry-go-round.  <i>Hear in a <b>roundabout</b> way that her ex husband was marrying her best friend.</i></p>

<b>scrappy</b>	Consisting of disorganized, untidy, or incomplete parts. <i>He had a <b>scrappy</b> New York temperament.</i>
<b>secondhand</b>	Derived from what is primary or original; not firsthand. <i>Most of our knowledge is <b>secondhand</b>.</i>
<b>serpentine</b>	A kind of cannon, used especially in the 15th and 16th centuries. <i>For young horses suppleness and control were built with <b>serpentine</b>s.</i>
<b>sidetrack</b>	A minor path or track. <i>A <b>sidetrack</b> to the original discovery well.</i>
<u><b>substitute</b></u>	Act or serve as a substitute. <i>A sheriff <b>substitute</b>.</i>
<u><b>tangential</b></u>	Diverging from a previous course or line; erratic. <i>A <b>tangential</b> line.</i>
<u><b>tortuous</b></u>	Not straightforward. <i>A <b>tortuous</b> road up the mountain.</i>
<b>wandering</b>	Having no fixed course. <i><b>Wandering</b> tribes.</i>
<b>wind</b>	Wind instruments or specifically woodwind instruments forming a band or a section of an orchestra. <i>The <b>wind</b> howled about the building.</i>
<b>winding</b>	The act of winding or twisting. <i>The <b>windings</b> of the stream.</i>



