

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

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**The synonyms of “Ineffective” are: ineffectual, uneffective, unable, inefficient, unsuccessful, unproductive, fruitless, profitless, unprofitable, abortive, failed, futile, purposeless, worthless, useless, inefficacious, inadequate, vain, unavailing, to no effect, powerless, impotent, incompetent, incapable, unfit, inept, lame, feeble, weak, poor**

## Ineffective as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Ineffective" as an adjective

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

- *Lacking the ability or skill to perform effectively; inadequate.*
- *Not producing any significant or desired effect.*
- *Lacking in power or forcefulness.*
- *Not producing an intended effect.*



## Synonyms of "Ineffective" as an adjective (30 Words)

- abortive** (of an organ or organism) rudimentary; arrested in development.  
*Abortive medusae.*
- failed** (of an undertaking or a relationship) not achieving its end or not lasting; unsuccessful.  
*A failed transport company.*
- feeble** Lacking strength.  
*I know it s **feeble** but I ve never been one to stand up for myself.*
- fruitless** Failing to achieve the desired results; unproductive or useless.  
*A banana leaf from a **fruitless** palm.*
- futile** Unproductive of success.  
*A **futile** attempt to keep fans from mounting the stage.*

<b>impotent</b>	Lacking power or ability- Freeman J.Dyson. <i>He was on medication which had made him <b>impotent</b>.</i>
<b><u>inadequate</u></b>	Lacking the requisite qualities or resources to meet a task. <i>An <b>inadequate</b> income.</i>
<b><u>incapable</u></b>	(of a person) too caring or moral to do (something). <i>The pilot may become <b>incapable</b> from the lack of oxygen.</i>
<b>incompetent</b>	Showing lack of skill or aptitude. <i>The patient is deemed legally <b>incompetent</b>.</i>
<b><u>ineffectual</u></b>	Lacking in power or forcefulness. <i>An <b>ineffectual</b> campaign.</i>
<b>inefficacious</b>	Not producing the desired effect. <i>Laws that are <b>inefficacious</b> in stopping crime.</i>
<b><u>inefficient</u></b>	Not producing desired results; wasteful. <i><b>Inefficient</b> transport systems.</i>
<b>inept</b>	Revealing lack of perceptiveness or judgment or finesse. <i>If the rumor is true can anything be more <b>inept</b> than to repeat it now.</i>
<b><u>lame</u></b>	Disabled in the feet or legs. <i>A <b>lame</b> argument.</i>
<b>poor</b>	Lacking in specific resources, qualities or substances. <i>A <b>poor</b> land.</i>
<b>powerless</b>	Without ability, influence, or power. <i>Troops were <b>powerless</b> to stop last night s shooting.</i>
<b>profitless</b>	Without profit or reward- D.D.Eisenhower- Shakespeare. <i>Let us have no part in <b>profitless</b> quarrels.</i>
<b>purposeless</b>	Done or made with no discernible point or purpose. <i>A life essentially <b>purposeless</b>.</i>
<b>to no effect</b>	Quantifier; used with either mass nouns or plural count nouns for indicating a complete or almost complete lack or zero quantity of.
<b><u>unable</u></b>	Lacking necessary physical or mental ability. <i>Dyslexics are <b>unable</b> to learn to read adequately.</i>
<b>unavailing</b>	Producing no result or effect. <i>Their efforts were <b>unavailing</b>.</i>
<b>uneffective</b>	Not producing an intended effect.
<b><u>unfit</u></b>	Below the required standards for a purpose. <i>Fat and very <b>unfit</b>.</i>
<b><u>unproductive</u></b>	(of an activity or period) not achieving much; not very useful. <i><b>Unproductive</b> meetings.</i>

<b>unprofitable</b>	(of a business or activity) not yielding profit or financial gain. <i>There has been much <b>unprofitable</b> speculation.</i>
<b>unsuccessful</b>	Not successful; having failed or having an unfavorable outcome. <i>An <b>unsuccessful</b> attempt to enter Parliament.</i>
<b>useless</b>	Not fulfilling or not expected to achieve the intended purpose or desired outcome. <i>We tried to pacify him but it was <b>useless</b>.</i>
<b>vain</b>	Producing no result; useless. <i>A <b>vain</b> attempt.</i>
<b>weak</b>	Relating to or denoting the weakest of the known kinds of force between particles which acts only at distances less than about 10 cm is very much weaker than the electromagnetic and the strong interactions and conserves neither strangeness parity nor isospin. <i>A <b>weak</b> plot.</i>
<b>worthless</b>	Lacking in usefulness or value. <i>Joan had been deserted by a <b>worthless</b> husband.</i>

## Usage Examples of "Ineffective" as an adjective

- *A weak and ineffective president.*
- *Ineffective legislation.*
- *An ineffective teacher.*
- *The legal sanctions against oil spills are virtually ineffective.*
- *An ineffective administration.*

## Associations of "Ineffective" (30 Words)

<b>bungling</b>	Lacking physical movement skills, especially with the hands- Mary H. <i>A <b>bungling</b> performance.</i>
<b>feckless</b>	Lacking initiative or strength of character; irresponsible. <i>Her <b>feckless</b> younger brother.</i>
<b>fruitless</b>	(of a tree or plant) not producing fruit. <i>His <b>fruitless</b> attempts to publish poetry.</i>
<b>futile</b>	Producing no result or effect. <i><b>Futile</b> years after her artistic peak.</i>
<b>garbage</b>	Rubbish or waste, especially domestic refuse. <i>A <b>garbage</b> dump.</i>

<b><u>incapable</u></b>	Unable to do or achieve (something). <i><b>Incapable</b> of doing the work.</i>
<b>incompetence</b>	Inability to do something successfully; ineptitude. <i>Allegations of professional <b>incompetence</b>.</i>
<b>incompetent</b>	An incompetent person. <i><b>Incompetent</b> at chess.</i>
<b><u>ineffectual</u></b>	Not producing any significant or desired effect. <i>The therapy was <b>ineffectual</b>.</i>
<b><u>inefficiency</u></b>	The state of not achieving maximum productivity; failure to make the best use of time or resources. <i>The idea is to eliminate <b>inefficiency</b> creating a seamless manufacturing process.</i>
<b>inept</b>	Not elegant or graceful in expression. <i>The referee s <b>inept</b> handling of the match.</i>
<b>infertile</b>	Incapable of reproducing. <i><b>Infertile</b> couples are offered specialist advice.</i>
<b>infertility</b>	Inability to conceive children or young. <i>Ecological problems such as increasing soil <b>infertility</b>.</i>
<b><u>invalid</u></b>	Remove (someone) from active service in the armed forces because of injury or illness. <i>She spent the rest of her life as an <b>invalid</b>.</i>
<b>maladroit</b>	Inefficient or inept; clumsy. <i>A <b>maladroit</b> movement of his hand caused the car to swerve.</i>
<b>powerless</b>	Without ability, influence, or power. <i>Troops were <b>powerless</b> to stop last night s shooting.</i>
<b>prodigal</b>	A person who leaves home to lead a prodigal life but later makes a repentant return. <i>The government wished to clip the wings of the local authority <b>prodigals</b>.</i>
<b>prodigality</b>	Excessive spending.
<b><u>senile</u></b>	(of a condition) characteristic of or caused by old age. <i>She couldn t cope with her <b>senile</b> husband.</i>
<b>spendthrift</b>	A person who spends money in an extravagant, irresponsible way. <i>A <b>spendthrift</b> uncle.</i>
<b><u>sterile</u></b>	(of a plant) not able to produce fruit or seeds. <i>A <b>sterile</b> ideology lacking in originality.</i>
<b>sterility</b>	(of non-living objects) the state of being free of pathogenic organisms. <i>The disease can cause <b>sterility</b> in males.</i>

<b><u>tactless</u></b>	Having or showing a lack of skill and sensitivity in dealing with others or with difficult issues. <i>It was <b>tactless</b> to bring up those disagreeable.</i>
<b><u>unable</u></b>	(usually followed by `to') lacking necessary physical or mental ability. <i>She was <b>unable</b> to conceal her surprise.</i>
<b><u>unavailing</u></b>	Producing no result or effect. <i>Their efforts were <b>unavailing</b>.</i>
<b><u>unfruitful</u></b>	Not producing fruit or crops; unfertile. <i>Single trees are often <b>unfruitful</b> and mixed planting is desirable.</i>
<b><u>unproductive</u></b>	(of an activity or period) not achieving much; not very useful. <i>The talks between labor and management were <b>unproductive</b>.</i>
<b><u>unskilled</u></b>	Lacking professional skill or expertise. <i><b>Unskilled</b> labor.</i>
<b><u>useless</u></b>	Having no ability or skill in a specified activity or area. <i>He was <b>useless</b> at football.</i>
<b><u>wasteful</u></b>	Inefficient in use of time and effort and materials. <i>When <b>wasteful</b> war shall statues overturn.</i>