

Need another word that means the same as “inefficient”? Find 24 synonyms and 30 related words for “inefficient” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Inefficient” are: ineffective, ineffectual, inefficacious, incompetent, inept, incapable, unfit, unsuitable, unskilled, unskilful, inexpert, amateurish, uneconomical, wasteful, purposeless, unproductive, slow, slow-moving, awkward, unwieldy, cumbersome, deficient, disorganized, unsystematic**

## Inefficient as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Inefficient" as an adjective

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

- *Not achieving maximum productivity; wasting or failing to make the best use of time or resources.*
- *Not producing desired results; wasteful.*
- *Lacking the ability or skill to perform effectively; inadequate.*

### Synonyms of "Inefficient" as an adjective (24 Words)

<b>amateurish</b>	Lacking professional skill or expertise. <i>A very <b>amateurish</b> job.</i>
<b>awkward</b>	Causing or feeling uneasy embarrassment or inconvenience. <i>Luther s <b>awkward</b> movements impeded his progress.</i>
<b>cumbersome</b>	Not elegant or graceful in expression. <i>Organizations with <b>cumbersome</b> hierarchical structures.</i>

<b><u>deficient</u></b>	Of a quantity not able to fulfill a need or requirement. <b>Deficient</b> in common sense.
<b><u>disorganized</u></b>	Lacking order or methodical arrangement or function. <i>She s very muddled and <b>disorganized</b>.</i>
<b><u>incapable</u></b>	(followed by `of') lacking capacity or ability. <b>Incapable</b> of doing the work.
<b>incompetent</b>	Not qualified to act in a particular capacity. <b>Incompetent</b> at chess.
<b><u>ineffective</u></b>	Not producing an intended effect. <i>An <b>ineffective</b> teacher.</i>
<b><u>ineffectual</u></b>	Lacking in power or forcefulness. <i>An <b>ineffectual</b> ruler.</i>
<b>inefficacious</b>	Lacking the power to produce a desired effect. <i>Social conventions honed over thousands of years were suddenly <b>inefficacious</b>.</i>
<b>inept</b>	Revealing lack of perceptiveness or judgment or finesse. <i>The referee s <b>inept</b> handling of the match.</i>
<b>inexpert</b>	Having or showing a lack of skill or knowledge. <i>An <b>inexpert</b> transcription from the real music.</i>
<b>purposeless</b>	Having no aim or plan. <i>His <b>purposeless</b> life.</i>
<b>slow</b>	At a slow tempo. <i>Business is dull or <b>slow</b>.</i>
<b>slow-moving</b>	Moving slowly.
<b>uneconomical</b>	Wasteful of money or other resources; not economical. <i>The old buses eventually become <b>uneconomical</b> to run.</i>
<b><u>unfit</u></b>	(of a thing) not of the necessary quality or standard to meet a particular purpose. <i>Fat and very <b>unfit</b>.</i>
<b><u>unproductive</u></b>	Not producing or able to produce large amounts of goods, crops, or other commodities. <b>Unproductive</b> meetings.
<b>unskilful</b>	Not having or showing skill. <i>Though kind and willing she was <b>unskilful</b>.</i>
<b><u>unskilled</u></b>	Not having or requiring special skill or training. <b>Unskilled</b> workmanship.

<b><u>unsuitable</u></b>	Not capable of being applied. <i>A solvent <b>unsuitable</b> for use on wood surfaces.</i>
<b>unsystematic</b>	Lacking systematic arrangement or method or organization. <i>The burial mound was excavated in an <b>unsystematic</b> way.</i>
<b>unwieldy</b>	Difficult to use or handle or manage because of size or weight or shape. <i>Huge <b>unwieldy</b> arc lamps.</i>
<b><u>wasteful</u></b>	Tending to squander and waste. <i>When <b>wasteful</b> war shall statues overturn.</i>

## Usage Examples of "Inefficient" as an adjective

- *An inefficient campaign against drugs.*
- *Inefficient workers.*
- *Inefficient transport systems.*
- *Outdated and inefficient design and methods.*
- *The government was both inefficient and corrupt.*

## Associations of "Inefficient" (30 Words)

<b>bin</b>	Throw something away by putting it in a bin. <i>Paint on the bottles indicated which way up they should be <b>binned</b>.</i>
<b><u>cash</u></b>	Exchange for cash. <i>A discount for <b>cash</b>.</i>
<b>consume</b>	Serve oneself to or consume regularly. <i>People <b>consume</b> a good deal of sugar in drinks.</i>
<b><u>costly</u></b>	Entailing great loss or sacrifice. <i><b>Costly</b> jewelry.</i>
<b>deluxe</b>	Ostentatiously rich and superior in quality. <i>A <b>deluxe</b> hotel.</i>
<b>dissipation</b>	Loss of energy through its conversion into heat. <i>Energy <b>dissipation</b>.</i>
<b>expendable</b>	(used of funds) remaining after taxes. <i>The region is <b>expendable</b> in the wider context of national politics.</i>
<b><u>expensive</u></b>	Costing a lot of money. <i>Keeping a horse is <b>expensive</b>.</i>

<b>extravagance</b>	The quality of exceeding the appropriate limits of decorum or probability or truth. <i>His reckless <b>extravagance</b> with other people s money.</i>
<b>extravagant</b>	Exceeding what is reasonable or appropriate; excessive or elaborate. <i><b>Extravagant</b> claims about the merchandise.</i>
<b>fling</b>	The act of flinging. <i>One final <b>fling</b> before a tranquil retirement.</i>
<b>garbage</b>	Rubbish or waste, especially domestic refuse. <i><b>Garbage</b> littered the estate.</i>
<b>ineffective</b>	Lacking in power or forcefulness. <i>An <b>ineffective</b> administration.</i>
<b>inefficiency</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>lavish</b>	Sumptuously rich, elaborate, or luxurious. <i><b>Lavish</b> praise.</i>
<b>luxury</b>	Luxurious or of the nature of a luxury. <i><b>Luxury</b> goods.</i>
<b>million</b>	(in Roman numerals, M written with a macron over it) denoting a quantity consisting of 1,000,000 items or units. <i>There were <b>millions</b> of flies.</i>
<b>outlay</b>	The act of spending or disbursing money. <i>Comparatively little financial <b>outlay</b>.</i>
<b>prodigal</b>	A person who leaves home to lead a prodigal life but later makes a repentant return. <i>The dessert was <b>prodigal</b> with whipped cream.</i>
<b>prodigality</b>	The trait of spending extravagantly.
<b>profligacy</b>	Reckless extravagance or wastefulness in the use of resources. <i>An era of extreme decadence and <b>profligacy</b>.</i>
<b>profligate</b>	Licentious; dissolute. <i>He is a drunkard and a <b>profligate</b>.</i>
<b>slow</b>	Of a sports field or ground likely to make the ball bounce or run slowly or to prevent competitors from travelling fast. <i>Investment has <b>slowed</b> down.</i>
<b>spending</b>	The act of spending or disbursing money.

- spendthrift** Someone who spends money prodigally.  
*Putt was a **spendthrift** and a heavy gambler.*
- splurge** A large or excessive amount of something.  
*I **splurged** on a new TV.*
- waste** Run off as waste.  
*A life characterized by thriftlessness and **waste**.*
- wastebasket** A container with an open top; for discarded paper and other rubbish.
- wasteful** Inefficient in use of time and effort and materials.  
*A clumsy and **wasteful** process.*
- wastrel** Someone who dissipates resources self-indulgently.  
*I have no intention of seeing my dues gambled away by your **wastrel** of a son.*