

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)

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

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

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

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

extravagance	The quality of exceeding the appropriate limits of decorum or probability or truth. <i>His reckless extravagance with other people s money.</i>
extravagant	Exceeding what is reasonable or appropriate; excessive or elaborate. <i>Extravagant claims about the merchandise.</i>
fling	The act of flinging. <i>One final fling before a tranquil retirement.</i>
garbage	Rubbish or waste, especially domestic refuse. <i>Garbage littered the estate.</i>
ineffective	Lacking in power or forcefulness. <i>An ineffective administration.</i>
inefficiency	The state of not achieving maximum productivity; failure to make the best use of time or resources. <i>The idea is to eliminate inefficiency creating a seamless manufacturing process.</i>
lavish	Sumptuously rich, elaborate, or luxurious. <i>Lavish praise.</i>
luxury	Luxurious or of the nature of a luxury. <i>Luxury goods.</i>
million	(in Roman numerals, M written with a macron over it) denoting a quantity consisting of 1,000,000 items or units. <i>There were millions of flies.</i>
outlay	The act of spending or disbursing money. <i>Comparatively little financial outlay.</i>
prodigal	A person who leaves home to lead a prodigal life but later makes a repentant return. <i>The dessert was prodigal with whipped cream.</i>
prodigality	The trait of spending extravagantly.
profligacy	Reckless extravagance or wastefulness in the use of resources. <i>An era of extreme decadence and profligacy.</i>
profligate	Licentious; dissolute. <i>He is a drunkard and a profligate.</i>
slow	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 slowed down.</i>
spending	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.*