

Need another word that means the same as “instinct”? Find 22 synonyms and 30 related words for “instinct” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Instinct” are: urge, appetite, desire, need, natural tendency, inclination, drive, compulsion, talent, gift, ability, capacity, facility, faculty, aptitude, skill, flair, feel, genius, knack, bent, replete

Instinct as a Noun

Definitions of "Instinct" as a noun

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “instinct” as a noun can have the following definitions:

- *Inborn pattern of behavior often responsive to specific stimuli.*
- *A natural propensity or skill of a specified kind.*
- *The fact or quality of possessing innate behaviour patterns.*
- *An innate, typically fixed pattern of behaviour in animals in response to certain stimuli.*
- *A natural or intuitive way of acting or thinking.*



Synonyms of "Instinct" as a noun (21 Words)

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| ability | The quality of being able to perform; a quality that permits or facilitates achievement or accomplishment. <i>A man of exceptional ability.</i> |
| appetite | A feeling of craving something. <i>They suffered from loss of appetite.</i> |
| <u>aptitude</u> | Suitability or fitness. <i>The aptitude of this society to assimilate new elements.</i> |
| <u>bent</u> | A special way of doing something. <i>He had a bent for it.</i> |
| capacity | The maximum amount that something can contain. <i>The room was filled to capacity.</i> |
| <u>compulsion</u> | The action or state of forcing or being forced to do something; constraint. <i>The payment was made under compulsion.</i> |
| desire | Something desired. <i>A man of many desires.</i> |

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| <u>drive</u> | Hitting a golf ball off of a tee with a driver. <i>Emotional and sexual drives.</i> |
| facility | A natural effortlessness. <i>They conversed with great facility.</i> |
| <u>faculty</u> | One of the inherent cognitive or perceptual powers of the mind. <i>The law faculty.</i> |
| feel | Feelings of heightened emotion. <i>It s easy when you get the feel of it.</i> |
| <u>flair</u> | Stylishness and originality. <i>She had a flair for languages.</i> |
| genius | An exceptionally intelligent person or one with exceptional skill in a particular area of activity. <i>That woman has a genius for organization.</i> |
| gift | Something acquired without compensation. <i>Wedding gifts.</i> |
| inclination | (geometry) the angle formed by the x-axis and a given line (measured counterclockwise from the positive half of the x-axis). <i>Changes in inclination of the line on the graph.</i> |
| knack | A tendency to do something. <i>He had a special knack for getting into trouble.</i> |
| natural tendency | Someone regarded as certain to succeed. |
| need | A state of extreme poverty or destitution. <i>God has no need of men to accomplish His work.</i> |
| skill | A particular ability. <i>Difficult work taking great skill.</i> |
| <u>talent</u> | A former weight and unit of currency, used especially by the ancient Romans and Greeks. <i>She displayed a talent for garden design.</i> |
| urge | An instinctive motive. <i>He felt the urge to giggle.</i> |



Usage Examples of "Instinct" as a noun

- *His instinct for making the most of his chances.*
- *The homing instinct.*
- *Altruistic instincts in social animals.*
- *Instinct told her not to ask the question.*
- *The spawning instinct in salmon.*
- *They retain their old authoritarian instincts.*



Instinct as an Adjective

Definitions of "Instinct" as an adjective

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

- *Deeply filled or permeated.*
- *(followed by `with') deeply filled or permeated.*
- *Imbued or filled with (a quality, especially a desirable one).*



Synonyms of "Instinct" as an adjective (1 Word)

replete Filled to satisfaction with food or drink.
*I went out into the sun drenched streets again **replete** and relaxed.*



Usage Examples of "Instinct" as an adjective

- *Words instinct with love.*
- *These canvases are instinct with passion.*



Associations of "Instinct" (30 Words)

- adoptee** Someone (such as a child) who has been adopted.
- antenatal** Occurring or existing before birth.
***Antenatal** care.*
- born** British nuclear physicist born in Germany honored for his contributions to quantum mechanics 1882 1970.
*A **born** musician.*
- congenital** (of a disease or physical abnormality) present from birth.
*A **congenital** liar.*
- distaff** A stick or spindle on to which wool or flax is wound for spinning.
*Marriage is still the passport to **distaff** power.*
- feminine** A feminine word or form.
*The snowdrops gave a **feminine** touch to the table.*

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| genetically | In a way that relates to origin or development. <i>Language varieties that are genetically related.</i> |
| hereditary | Relating to inheritance. <i>Either hereditary or environmental factors.</i> |
| inborn | Present at birth but not necessarily hereditary; acquired during fetal development. <i>An inborn defect in the formation of collagen.</i> |
| inherence | The state of inhering; the state of being a fixed characteristic. <i>The inherence of polysemy in human language.</i> |
| <u>inherent</u> | Vested in someone as a right or privilege. <i>Shortcomings inherent in our approach.</i> |
| innate | Being talented through inherited qualities. <i>An innate talent.</i> |
| <u>intrinsic</u> | Belonging to a thing by its very nature. <i>Intrinsic muscles.</i> |
| intuition | An impression that something might be the case. <i>He had an intuition that something had gone wrong.</i> |
| maternal | Relating to a mother, especially during pregnancy or shortly after childbirth. <i>Warm maternal affection for her guest.</i> |
| matriarch | A feisty older woman with a big bosom (as drawn in cartoons). <i>A domineering matriarch.</i> |
| <u>mother</u> | Care for like a mother. <i>She didn't know how to mother my brother and he was very sensitive.</i> |
| <u>mutual</u> | A mutual building society or insurance company. <i>Scottish Amicable may switch from mutual to plc status.</i> |
| <u>nascent</u> | (especially of a process or organization) just coming into existence and beginning to display signs of future potential. <i>The nascent chicks.</i> |
| natal | A port city in northeastern Brazil. <i>He was living in the south many miles from his natal city.</i> |
| <u>native</u> | Used in names of animals or plants resembling others familiar elsewhere e.g. native bee. <i>The marigold is a native of southern Europe.</i> |
| <u>parent</u> | Be or act as a parent to a child. <i>Stems will root down creating a new crown near the parent.</i> |

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| parental | Denoting an organization or company which owns or controls a number of subsidiaries. <i>Parental guidance.</i> |
| paternal | Belonging to or inherited from one's father. <i>His father and paternal grandfather were porcelain painters.</i> |
| paternity | Paternal origin. <i>Tests were conducted to determine paternity.</i> |
| pregnancy | The condition or period of being pregnant. <i>A straightforward pregnancy.</i> |
| prenatal | Before birth; during or relating to pregnancy. <i>The prenatal period.</i> |
| uncle | A source of help and advice and encouragement. <i>He visited his uncle.</i> |
| visceral | Relating to or affecting the viscera. <i>The visceral nervous system.</i> |

