

Need another word that means the same as “malicious”? Find 26 synonyms and 30 related words for “malicious” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Malicious” are: spiteful, malevolent, hostile, bitter, venomous, poisonous, ill-natured, evil, baleful, vindictive, vengeful, vitriolic, rancorous, malign, malignant, pernicious, mean, nasty, harmful, hurtful, mischievous, destructive, wounding, cruel, unkind, defamatory

Malicious as an Adjective

Definitions of "Malicious" as an adjective

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

- *Having the nature of or resulting from malice.*
- *Having the nature of or resulting from malice- Rudyard Kipling.*
- *Characterized by malice; intending or intended to do harm.*



Synonyms of "Malicious" as an adjective (26 Words)

baleful	Threatening harm; menacing. <i>The Florida eagles have a fierce baleful look.</i>
<u>bitter</u>	Feeling or showing anger, hurt, or resentment because of bad experiences or a sense of unjust treatment. <i>Bitter enemies.</i>
cruel	(of persons or their actions) able or disposed to inflict pain or suffering. <i>The winters are long hard and cruel.</i>
defamatory	(used of statements) harmful and often untrue; tending to discredit or malign. <i>A defamatory allegation.</i>
<u>destructive</u>	Causing great and irreparable damage. <i>Destructive criticism.</i>
evil	Of a force or spirit embodying or associated with the forces of the devil. <i>His evil deeds.</i>

<u>harmful</u>	Causing or likely to cause harm. <i>The ozone layer blocks the harmful rays from the sun.</i>
<u>hostile</u>	Showing or feeling opposition or dislike; unfriendly. <i>Hostile bid.</i>
hurtful	Causing hurt. <i>Her hurtful unconsidered words.</i>
ill-natured	Having an irritable and unpleasant disposition.
malevolent	Having or showing a wish to do evil to others. <i>The glint of dark malevolent eyes.</i>
malign	Of a disease malignant. <i>Gave him a malign look.</i>
malignant	(of a tumour) tending to invade normal tissue or to recur after removal; cancerous. <i>In the hands of malignant fate.</i>
mean	So small in amount as to deserve contempt. <i>In a mean mood.</i>
<u>mischievous</u>	Causing or showing a fondness for causing trouble in a playful way. <i>Mischievous rumors and falsehoods.</i>
<u>nasty</u>	Offensive or even (of persons) malicious. <i>Her stories are very nasty full of murder and violence.</i>
<u>pernicious</u>	Working or spreading in a hidden and usually injurious way. <i>The pernicious influences of the mass media.</i>
poisonous	Extremely unpleasant or malicious. <i>There was a poisonous atmosphere at the office.</i>
rancorous	Showing deep-seated resentment- Aldous Huxley. <i>Sixteen miserable months of rancorous disputes.</i>
spiteful	Showing malicious ill will and a desire to hurt; motivated by spite. <i>A truly spiteful child.</i>
<u>unkind</u>	Inconsiderate and harsh to others. <i>He was the butt of some unkind jokes.</i>
<u>vengeful</u>	Seeking to harm someone in return for a perceived injury. <i>A vengeful ex con.</i>
venomous	Marked by deep ill will; deliberately harmful. <i>The critics weren't just harsh they were venomous.</i>
<u>vindictive</u>	Showing malicious ill will and a desire to hurt; motivated by spite. <i>A vindictive man will look for occasions for resentment.</i>

vitriolic

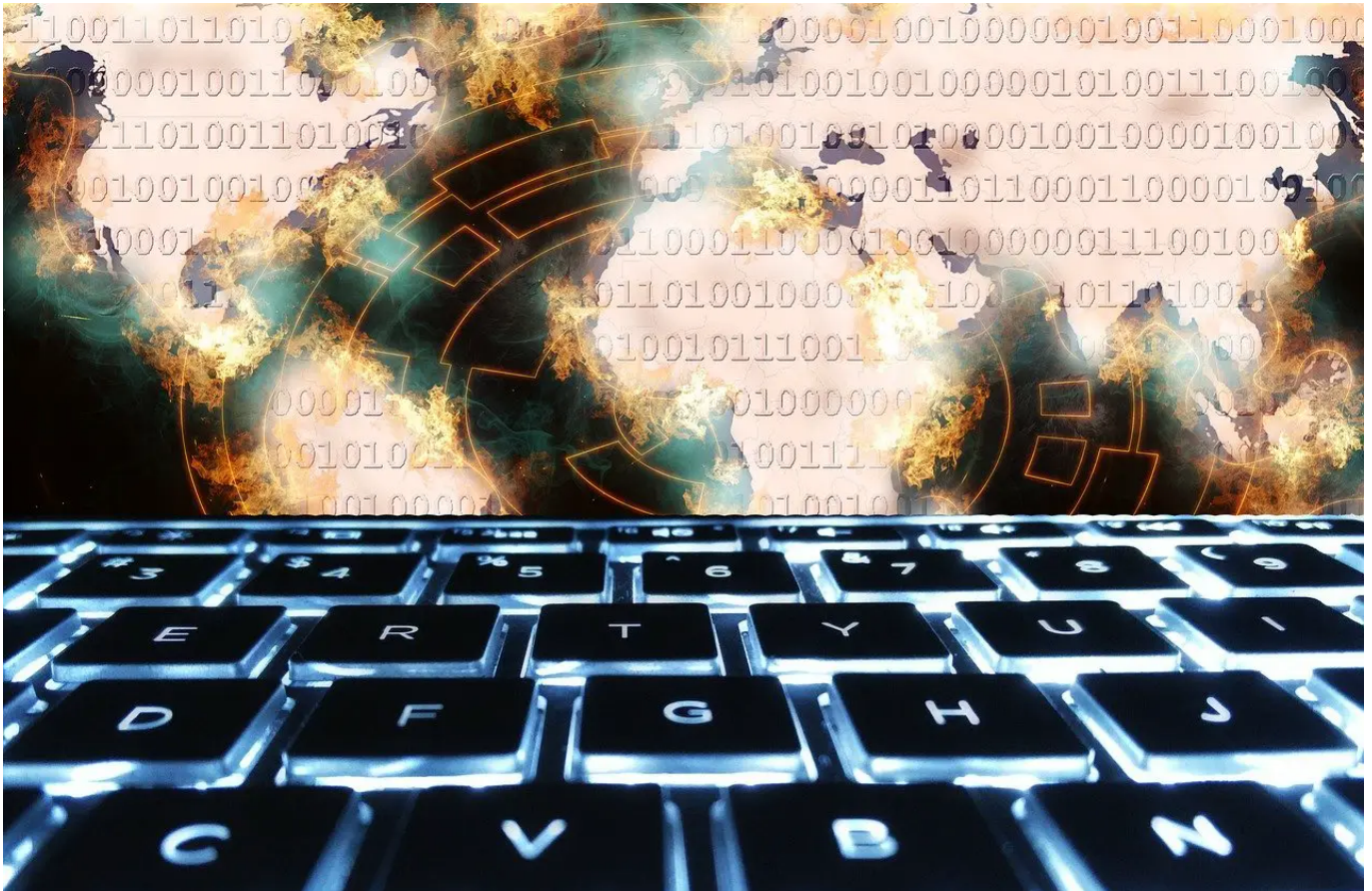
Of a substance, especially a strong acid; capable of destroying or eating away by chemical action.

A **vitriolic** critique.

wounding

Causing harm to a person's feelings or reputation.

Wounding and false charges of disloyalty.



Usage Examples of "Malicious" as an adjective

- Took malicious pleasure in...watching me wince.
- A hotbed of rumour and malicious chit-chat.
- He was found guilty of malicious damage.
- Malicious gossip.
- The transmission of malicious software such as computer viruses.



Associations of "Malicious" (30 Words)

acrimonious	Marked by strong resentment or cynicism. <i>An acrimonious dispute.</i>
acrimony	Bitterness or ill feeling. <i>The AGM dissolved into acrimony.</i>
baneful	Harmful or destructive. <i>The baneful effects of envy and jealousy.</i>
<u>bitter</u>	Beer that is strongly flavoured with hops and has a bitter taste brewed by top fermentation. <i>I don't feel jealous or bitter.</i>
<u>demon</u>	An evil supernatural being. <i>His eyes are bursting with pure demon.</i>
<u>enmity</u>	A state or feeling of active opposition or hostility. <i>Decades of enmity between the two countries.</i>

evil	Of a force or spirit embodying or associated with the forces of the devil. <i>No man is so evil as to be beyond redemption.</i>
grudge	Bear a grudge harbor ill feelings. <i>I don't grudge him his moment of triumph.</i>
<u>indignant</u>	Feeling or showing anger or annoyance at what is perceived as unfair treatment. <i>He was indignant at being the object of suspicion.</i>
malevolence	The state or condition of being malevolent; hostility. <i>His eyes were glowing with malevolence.</i>
malevolent	Wishing or appearing to wish evil to others; arising from intense ill will or hatred. <i>Failure made him malevolent toward those who were successful.</i>
malice	The desire to harm someone; ill will. <i>I bear no malice towards anybody.</i>
maliciousness	Feeling a need to see others suffer.
<u>mischief</u>	A wrong or hardship that a statute is designed to remove or for which the common law affords a remedy. <i>She'll make sure Danny doesn't get into mischief.</i>
<u>notorious</u>	Famous or well known, typically for some bad quality or deed. <i>Los Angeles is notorious for its smog.</i>
poisonous	Having the qualities or effects of a poison. <i>There was a poisonous atmosphere at the office.</i>
rage	Feel intense anger. <i>His face turned red with rage.</i>
rancor	A feeling of deep and bitter anger and ill-will.
rancorous	Characterized by bitterness or resentment. <i>Sixteen miserable months of rancorous disputes.</i>
rancour	Bitterness or resentfulness, especially when long standing. <i>He spoke without rancour.</i>
<u>resentful</u>	Feeling or expressing bitterness or indignation at having been treated unfairly. <i>He was angry and resentful of their intrusion.</i>
resentment	Bitter indignation at having been treated unfairly. <i>His resentment at being demoted.</i>
revenge	Inflict revenge on behalf of someone else. <i>Other spurned wives have taken public revenge on their husbands.</i>

spite	Malevolence by virtue of being malicious or spiteful or nasty. <i>He d think I was saying it out of spite.</i>
venom	Feeling a need to see others suffer. <i>Her true venom seems reserved for the media itself.</i>
venomous	Extremely poisonous or injurious; producing venom. <i>The venomous tone of her voice.</i>
vice	A bad or neurotic habit of stabled horses, typically arising as a result of boredom. <i>Vice offends the moral standards of the community.</i>
virulent	Infectious; having the ability to cause disease. <i>A virulent strain of influenza.</i>
vitriolic	Filled with bitter criticism or malice. <i>Vitriolic attacks on the politicians.</i>
wickedness	The quality of being disgusting to the senses or emotions. <i>The wickedness of the regime.</i>

