

Need another word that means the same as “melancholy”? Find 17 synonyms and 30 related words for “melancholy” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Melancholy” are: black bile, desolation, sadness, pensiveness, woe, sorrow, melancholia, melancholic, somber, sombre, sad, sorrowful, desolate, mournful, lugubrious, gloomy, pensive

Melancholy as a Noun

Definitions of "Melancholy" as a noun

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

- *A feeling of pensive sadness, typically with no obvious cause.*
- *A humor that was once believed to be secreted by the kidneys or spleen and to cause sadness and melancholy.*
- *A feeling of thoughtful sadness.*
- *A constitutional tendency to be gloomy and depressed.*



Synonyms of "Melancholy" as a noun (7 Words)

- black bile** A person with dark skin who comes from Africa (or whose ancestors came from Africa).
- desolation** An event that results in total destruction.
*In choked **desolation** she watched him leave.*
- melancholia** Extreme depression characterized by tearful sadness and irrational fears.
*The haunting **melancholia** that dominates the album.*
- pensiveness** Deep serious thoughtfulness.
- sadness** The state of being sad.
*A source of great **sadness**.*
- sorrow** An event or circumstance that causes sorrow.
*He tried to express his **sorrow** at her loss.*
- woe** Misery resulting from affliction.
*The Everton tale of **woe** continued.*



Usage Examples of "Melancholy" as a noun

- *An air of melancholy surrounded him.*
- *He had an ability to convey a sense of deep melancholy and yearning through much of his work.*
- *At the centre of his music lies a profound melancholy and nostalgia.*



Melancholy as an Adjective

Definitions of "Melancholy" as an adjective

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

- *Grave or even gloomy in character.*
- *Characterized by or causing or expressing sadness.*
- *Causing or expressing sadness; depressing.*
- *Having a feeling of melancholy; sad and pensive.*



Synonyms of "Melancholy" as an adjective (10 Words)

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| desolate | Providing no shelter or sustenance. <i>The desolate surface of the moon.</i> |
| <u>gloomy</u> | Dark or poorly lit, especially so as to appear depressing or frightening. <i>Gloomy at the thought of what he had to face.</i> |
| lugubrious | Excessively mournful. <i>His face looked even more lugubrious than usual.</i> |
| <u>melancholic</u> | Suffering from or denoting a severe form of depression. <i>His work often has a wistful or melancholic mood.</i> |
| mournful | Feeling, expressing, or inducing sadness, regret, or grief. <i>Mournful news.</i> |
| pensive | Showing pensive sadness. <i>A pensive mood.</i> |
| sad | Of things that make you feel sad Christina Rossetti. <i>I was sad and subdued.</i> |

- somber** Grave or even gloomy in character.
*A suit of **somber** black.*
- sombre** Dark or dull in colour or tone.
*The night skies were **sombre** and starless.*
- sorrowful** Experiencing or marked by or expressing sorrow especially that associated with irreparable loss- Proverbs 14:13.
*She looked at him with **sorrowful** eyes.*



Usage Examples of "Melancholy" as an adjective

- *She felt a little melancholy.*
- *The melancholy tone of her writing.*
- *Growing more melancholy every hour.*
- *We acquainted him with the melancholy truth.*
- *A dark, melancholy young man with deep-set eyes.*



Associations of "Melancholy" (30 Words)

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| blue | Blue color or pigment resembling the color of the clear sky in the daytime. <i>He had eyes of bright blue.</i> |
| cheerless | Gloomy; depressing. <i>The corridors were ill lit and cheerless.</i> |
| contemplative | A person devoted to the contemplative life. <i>Contemplative knowledge of God.</i> |
| dejected | Sad and depressed; dispirited. <i>Is dejected but trying to look cheerful.</i> |
| depressed | (of a person) in a state of unhappiness or despondency. <i>A depressed fracture of the skull.</i> |
| depression | A period during the 1930s when there was a worldwide economic depression and mass unemployment. <i>The depression in the housing market.</i> |
| despair | A state in which all hope is lost or absent. <i>They moaned in despair and dismay.</i> |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| despondency | Feeling downcast and disheartened and hopeless. <i>An air of despondency.</i> |
| despondent | Without or almost without hope. <i>She grew more and more despondent.</i> |
| disappointment | A person or thing that causes disappointment. <i>To her disappointment there was no chance to talk privately with Luke.</i> |
| dismal | Pitifully or disgracefully bad. <i>He shuddered as he watched his team s dismal performance.</i> |
| dreary | Depressingly dull and bleak or repetitive. <i>The dreary round of working eating and trying to sleep.</i> |
| elegiac | Verses in an elegiac metre. <i>An elegiac lament for youthful ideals.</i> |
| gloom | Have a dark or sombre appearance. <i>A black yew gloom d the stagnant air.</i> |
| grief | Trouble or annoyance. <i>We were too tired to cause any grief.</i> |
| grim | Harshly uninviting or formidable in manner or appearance- J.M.Barrie. <i>Few creatures thrive in this grim and hostile land.</i> |
| homesickness | A feeling of longing for one's home during a period of absence from it. <i>I lived four years in London without a single pang of homesickness.</i> |
| hopeless | Beyond hope of management or reform. <i>I m hopeless at names.</i> |
| lamentation | The passionate and demonstrative activity of expressing grief. <i>Scenes of lamentation.</i> |
| loneliness | Sadness because one has no friends or company. <i>The loneliness of a sailor s life.</i> |
| mourning | The passionate and demonstrative activity of expressing grief. <i>She s still in mourning after the death of her husband.</i> |
| nostalgia | Something done or presented in order to evoke feelings of nostalgia. <i>An evening of TV nostalgia.</i> |
| pensive | Showing pensive sadness. <i>A pensive mood.</i> |
| pessimism | The feeling that things will turn out badly. <i>The dispute cast an air of deep pessimism over the future of the peace talks.</i> |
| sadness | The quality of excessive mournfulness and uncheerfulness. <i>It is one of life s sadnesses.</i> |

somber

Lacking brightness or color; dull.
A **somber** mood.

sorrow

An event or circumstance that causes sorrow.
A *bereaved person needs time to work through their **sorrow**.*

sorry

Feeling or expressing regret or sorrow or a sense of loss over something done or undone.
A **sorry** horse.

unhappy

Generalized feeling of distress.
*After the argument they lapsed into an **unhappy** silence.*

wistful

Showing pensive sadness.
A **wistful** smile.

