

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)

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

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

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

