

Need another word that means the same as “miserable”? Find 143 synonyms and 30 related words for “miserable” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Miserable” are: deplorable, execrable, woeful, wretched, measly, paltry, hapless, misfortunate, pathetic, piteous, pitiable, pitiful, poor, abject, low, low-down, scummy, scurvy, suffering, unhappy, sad, sorrowful, dejected, depressed, downcast, downhearted, down, despondent, despairing, disconsolate, out of sorts, desolate, bowed down, glum, gloomy, dismal, blue, melancholy, melancholic, low-spirited, mournful, woebegone, doleful, forlorn, crestfallen, heartbroken, inconsolable, luckless, grief-stricken, dreary, dark, drab, sombre, depressing, grim, cheerless, godforsaken, bleak, joyless, uninviting, discouraging, disheartening, unpromising, hopeless, dire, tragic, distressing, grievous, unpleasant, disagreeable, displeasing, uncomfortable, grumpy, sullen, sulky, bad-tempered, ill-tempered, in a bad mood, dour, surly, sour, moody, unsmiling, humourless, uncommunicative, taciturn, unresponsive, unsociable, scowling, glowering, ill-humoured, sober, saturnine, pessimistic, lugubrious, irritable, churlish, cantankerous, crotchety, cross, crabbed, crabby, grouchy, testy, snappish, peevish, crusty, waspish, contemptible, despicable, confounded, inadequate, meagre, scanty, scant, limited, restricted, insufficient, deficient, negligible, insubstantial, skimpy, short, little, lean, small, slight, slender, lamentable, puny, niggardly, beggarly, miserly, parsimonious, penny-pinching, ungenerous, penurious, illiberal, close, grasping, greedy, avaricious, acquisitive

Miserable as an Adjective

Definitions of "Miserable" as an adjective

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

- *Contemptibly small in amount.*
- *Of very poor quality or condition.*
- *Of the most contemptible kind.*
- *(of a person) wretchedly unhappy or uncomfortable.*
- *Deserving or inciting pity.*
- *(of a person) habitually morose.*
- *Pitiably small or inadequate.*
- *Characterized by physical misery.*
- *Very unhappy; full of misery.*
- *Contemptible (used as a term of abuse or for emphasis).*
- *Miserly.*
- *Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy.*
- *Causing unhappiness or discomfort.*



Synonyms of "Miserable" as an adjective (143 Words)

| | |
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| abject | Most unfortunate or miserable. <i>Abject cowardice.</i> |
| acquisitive | Excessively interested in acquiring money or material things. <i>We live in a competitive and acquisitive society.</i> |
| avaricious | Immoderately desirous of acquiring e.g. wealth. <i>A corrupt and avaricious government.</i> |
| bad-tempered | Annoyed and irritable. |
| beggarly | Marked by poverty befitting a beggar. <i>The stipend in 1522 was a beggarly 26 shillings.</i> |
| bleak | (of an area of land) lacking vegetation and exposed to the elements. <i>He looked round the bleak little room in despair.</i> |
| blue | Of a bird or other animal having blue markings. <i>Blue blood.</i> |
| bowed down | Have legs that curve outward at the knees. |
| cantankerous | Stubbornly obstructive and unwilling to cooperate. <i>A cantankerous and venomous tongued old lady.</i> |
| cheerless | Gloomy; depressing. <i>The corridors were ill lit and cheerless.</i> |
| churlish | Rude and boorish. <i>It seems churlish to complain.</i> |
| close | Fitting closely but comfortably. <i>A close secret.</i> |
| confounded | Perplexed by many conflicting situations or statements; filled with bewilderment. <i>A cloudy and confounded philosopher.</i> |
| contemptible | Deserving contempt; despicable. <i>A display of contemptible cowardice.</i> |
| crabbed | Bad-tempered. <i>A crabbed unhappy middle age.</i> |
| crabby | Annoyed and irritable. <i>He was crabby at having his siesta interrupted.</i> |
| crestfallen | Brought low in spirit. <i>He came back empty handed and crestfallen.</i> |

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| <u>cross</u> | Extending or lying across in a crosswise direction at right angles to the long axis. <i>He seemed to be very cross about something.</i> |
| crotchety | Having a difficult and contrary disposition- Dorothy Sayers. <i>He was tired and crotchety.</i> |
| crusty | Having or acting as a hard outer layer or covering. <i>A crusty old Scots judge.</i> |
| dark | Having a dark hue. <i>A dark purpose.</i> |
| <u>deficient</u> | Insufficient or inadequate. <i>The documentary evidence is deficient.</i> |
| dejected | Sad and depressed; dispirited. <i>Is dejected but trying to look cheerful.</i> |
| deplorable | Bringing or deserving severe rebuke or censure. <i>Deplorable housing conditions in the inner city.</i> |
| depressed | (of a person) in a state of unhappiness or despondency. <i>The market is depressed.</i> |
| depressing | Causing sad feelings of gloom and inadequacy. <i>The mortgage rate increase will have a depressing effect on the housing market.</i> |
| desolate | Providing no shelter or sustenance. <i>A low desolate wail.</i> |
| despairing | Showing the loss of all hope. <i>The last despairing plea of the condemned criminal.</i> |
| despicable | Deserving hatred and contempt. <i>A despicable crime.</i> |
| despondent | Without or almost without hope. <i>She grew more and more despondent.</i> |
| <u>dire</u> | Of a very poor quality. <i>A career or vengeance so direful that London was shocked.</i> |
| <u>disagreeable</u> | Not agreeing with your tastes or expectations. <i>Aspects of his work are disagreeable to him.</i> |
| disconsolate | Very unhappy and unable to be comforted. <i>She left Fritz looking disconsolate.</i> |
| <u>discouraging</u> | Expressing disapproval. <i>Where never is heard a discouraging word.</i> |

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| <u>disheartening</u> | Causing someone to lose determination or confidence; discouraging or dispiriting. <i>Her death is particularly disheartening because it was preventable.</i> |
| dismal | Causing dejection. <i>The dismal weather made the late afternoon seem like evening.</i> |
| displeasing | Causing displeasure or lacking pleasing qualities. <i>It was not entirely displeasing to be the centre of such a drama.</i> |
| distressing | Causing anxiety, sorrow or pain; upsetting. <i>Some very distressing news.</i> |
| doleful | Expressing sorrow; mournful. <i>The child s doleful expression.</i> |
| dour | Relentlessly severe, stern, or gloomy in manner or appearance. <i>A hard dour humourless fanatic.</i> |
| <u>down</u> | Denoting a flavour variety of stable quark having relatively low mass and an electric charge of $\frac{1}{3}$. In the Standard Model protons and neutrons are composed of up and down quarks. <i>Sorry but the computer s down.</i> |
| downcast | Directed downward. <i>A downcast glance.</i> |
| downhearted | Filled with melancholy and despondency. <i>Fans must not be downhearted even though we lost.</i> |
| <u>drab</u> | Lacking brightness or color; dull. <i>Drab faded curtains.</i> |
| dreary | Lacking in liveliness or charm or surprise. <i>A series of dreary dinner parties.</i> |
| execrable | Unequivocally detestable. <i>Execrable cheap wine.</i> |
| <u>forlorn</u> | (of an aim or endeavour) unlikely to succeed or be fulfilled. <i>Forlorn figures at bus stops.</i> |
| <u>gloomy</u> | Depressingly dark. <i>Gloomy forecasts about the economy.</i> |
| glowering | Showing a brooding ill humor. |
| <u>glum</u> | Looking or feeling dejected; morose. <i>The princess looked glum but later cheered up.</i> |
| godforsaken | Lacking any merit or attraction. <i>What are you doing in this godforsaken place.</i> |

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| grasping | Avaricious; greedy. <i>A grasping old miser.</i> |
| greedy | Wanting to eat or drink more than one can reasonably consume. <i>Don't be greedy with the cookies.</i> |
| grief-stricken | Sorrowful through loss or deprivation. |
| grievous | Of great gravity or crucial import; requiring serious thought. <i>The American fleet suffered grievous losses.</i> |
| grim | Depressing or worrying to consider. <i>Took a grim view of the economy.</i> |
| grouchy | Annoyed and irritable. <i>The old man grew sulky and grouchy.</i> |
| grumpy | Bad-tempered and irritable. <i>His performance as the grumpy gateman.</i> |
| hapless | (especially of a person) unfortunate. <i>The hapless victims of the disaster.</i> |
| heartbroken | Full of sorrow. <i>He was heartbroken at the thought of leaving the house.</i> |
| hopeless | Of a person unable to do something skillfully. <i>The situation is hopeless.</i> |
| humourless | Lacking humour; not able to appreciate or express humour. <i>They are such a humourless bunch.</i> |
| ill-humoured | Brusque and surly and forbidding. |
| ill-tempered | Annoyed and irritable. |
| illiberal | Not generous; mean. <i>Illiberal and anti democratic policies.</i> |
| in a bad mood | Currently fashionable. |
| inadequate | Of insufficient quantity to meet a need. <i>These labels prove to be wholly inadequate.</i> |
| inconsolable | Sad beyond comforting; incapable of being consoled. <i>His widow Jane was inconsolable.</i> |
| insubstantial | Lacking in nutritive value. <i>Insubstantial evidence.</i> |
| insufficient | Not enough; inadequate. <i>There was insufficient evidence to convict him.</i> |
| irritable | (of a body part) abnormally sensitive. <i>She was tired and irritable.</i> |

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| joyless | Not giving or feeling any pleasure or satisfaction; grim or dismal. <i>A joyless occasion.</i> |
| lamentable | Bad; unfortunate. <i>A lamentable decision.</i> |
| <u>lean</u> | Lacking excess flesh. <i>A lean year.</i> |
| limited | Denoting a limited company used after a company name. <i>A limited list of choices.</i> |
| little | Small and of little importance. <i>A little house.</i> |
| <u>low</u> | Very low in volume. <i>Training will be given low priority.</i> |
| low-down | Of the most contemptible kind. |
| low-spirited | Filled with melancholy and despondency. |
| luckless | Having bad luck; unfortunate. <i>An osprey seized the luckless fish with its talons.</i> |
| lugubrious | Looking or sounding sad and dismal. <i>His face looked even more lugubrious than usual.</i> |
| meagre | (of a person or animal) lean; thin. <i>A meagre diet of bread and beans.</i> |
| measly | Ridiculously small or few. <i>A measly tip.</i> |
| <u>melancholic</u> | Feeling or expressing pensive sadness. <i>Her melancholic smile.</i> |
| <u>melancholy</u> | Having a feeling of melancholy sad and pensive. <i>Growing more melancholy every hour.</i> |
| miserly | (used of persons or behavior) characterized by or indicative of lack of generosity. <i>The prize for the winner will be a miserly 3 500.</i> |
| misfortunate | Deserving or inciting pity. |
| <u>moody</u> | Giving an impression of melancholy or mystery. <i>His moody adolescent brother.</i> |
| mournful | Filled with or evoking sadness. <i>Her large mournful eyes.</i> |
| <u>negligible</u> | So small as to be meaningless; insignificant. <i>He said that the risks were negligible.</i> |

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| niggardly | Meagre and given grudgingly. <i>A niggardly shoestring budget.</i> |
| out of sorts | Outer or outlying. |
| paltry | Petty; trivial. <i>She would earn a paltry 33 more a month.</i> |
| parsimonious | Very unwilling to spend money or use resources. <i>Parsimonious thrift relieved by few generous impulses.</i> |
| pathetic | Miserably inadequate; of very low standard. <i>The shabby room struck her as extraordinarily pathetic.</i> |
| peevish | Easily irritated or annoyed. <i>A thin peevish voice.</i> |
| penny-pinching | Giving or spending with reluctance. |
| penurious | Unwilling to spend money; mean. <i>Penurious years.</i> |
| pessimistic | Tending to see the worst aspect of things or believe that the worst will happen. <i>He was pessimistic about the prospects.</i> |
| piteous | Deserving or inciting pity. <i>Piteous appeals for help.</i> |
| pitiable | Contemptibly poor or small. <i>A pitiable imitation of the real thing.</i> |
| pitiful | Compassionate. <i>A pitiful attempt to impress her.</i> |
| poor | Unsatisfactory. <i>His poor distorted limbs.</i> |
| puny | Inferior in strength or significance. <i>The army was reduced to a puny 100 000 men.</i> |
| restricted | Restricted in meaning as e g man in a tall man. <i>Some enzymes cleave DNA at restricted sites.</i> |
| sad | Of things that make you feel sad Christina Rossetti. <i>Feeling sad because his dog had died.</i> |
| saturnine | Showing a brooding ill humor. <i>A saturnine temperament.</i> |
| scant | Barely amounting to a specified number or quantity. <i>She weighed a scant two pounds.</i> |

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| scanty | Small or insufficient in quantity or amount. <i>They paid whatever they could out of their scanty wages to their families.</i> |
| scowling | Sullen or unfriendly in appearance. |
| scummy | Covered with scum. <i>The scummy surface of the polluted pond.</i> |
| scurvy | Worthless or contemptible. <i>That was a scurvy trick.</i> |
| short | Of a broker position in the market etc buying or based on short stocks or other securities or commodities. <i>Money is short.</i> |
| skimpy | Containing little excess. <i>A skimpy allowance.</i> |
| <u>slender</u> | Being of delicate or slender build. <i>People of slender means.</i> |
| slight | (especially of a creative work) not profound or substantial; rather trivial or superficial. <i>A slight ankle injury.</i> |
| small | Have fine or very small constituent particles. <i>Helped in my own small way.</i> |
| snappish | Apt to speak irritably. <i>She was often snappish with the children.</i> |
| <u>sober</u> | Serious, sensible, and solemn. <i>As sober as a judge.</i> |
| sombre | Having or conveying a feeling of deep seriousness and sadness. <i>The night skies were sombre and starless.</i> |
| <u>sorrowful</u> | Causing grief. <i>Sorrowful news.</i> |
| <u>sour</u> | Showing a brooding ill humor- Bruce Bli. <i>She sampled the wine and found it was sour.</i> |
| suffering | Troubled by pain or loss. <i>A message of hope for suffering humanity.</i> |
| sulky | Expressing or suggesting gloom and bad temper. <i>Disappointment was making her sulky.</i> |
| sullen | Showing a brooding ill humor- Bruce Bli. <i>A sullen crowd.</i> |

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| <u>surly</u> | Bad-tempered and unfriendly. A surly waiter. |
| <u>taciturn</u> | (of a person) reserved or uncommunicative in speech; saying little. <i>After such gatherings she would be taciturn and morose.</i> |
| testy | Easily irritated or annoyed. <i>His testy disapproving father.</i> |
| <u>tragic</u> | Relating to tragedy in a literary work. <i>The same rules apply whether the plot is tragic or comic.</i> |
| <u>uncomfortable</u> | Causing or feeling unease or awkwardness. <i>He began to feel uncomfortable at the man's hard stare.</i> |
| uncommunicative | Unwilling to talk or impart information. <i>The uncommunicative Emily disappeared.</i> |
| ungenerous | Lacking in magnanimity- Times Litt. Sup. <i>He was not an ungenerous man.</i> |
| unhappy | Generalized feeling of distress. <i>The unhappy or sad news.</i> |
| <u>uninviting</u> | Neither attractive nor tempting. <i>The house was dark and uninviting.</i> |
| <u>unpleasant</u> | Offensive or disagreeable; causing discomfort or unhappiness. Unpleasant repercussions. |
| unpromising | Not giving hope of future success or good results. <i>The boy's natural intellect had survived in unpromising circumstances.</i> |
| <u>unresponsive</u> | Aloof or indifferent. <i>Was unresponsive to her passionate advances.</i> |
| unsmiling | (of a person or their manner or expression) serious or unfriendly; not smiling. <i>A large unsmiling woman.</i> |
| unsociable | Not enjoying or making an effort to behave sociably in the company of others. <i>An unsociable nature shy and reserved.</i> |
| waspish | Readily expressing anger or irritation. <i>Witty and waspish about his colleagues.</i> |
| woebegone | Affected by or full of grief or woe. <i>Don't look so woebegone Joanna.</i> |
| woeful | Of very poor quality or condition. Woeful errors of judgment. |

wretched

Of poor quality; very bad.

*I felt so **wretched** because I thought I might never see you again.*



Usage Examples of "Miserable" as an adjective

- *All they pay me is a miserable £8,000 a year.*
- *A lousy dollar a day—could any government be more miserable?*
- *The company donated a miserable \$100 for flood relief.*
- *A wet miserable weekend.*
- *His miserable treatment of his family.*
- *Their happiness made Anne feel even more miserable.*
- *A miserable man in his late sixties.*
- *Almost depleted his miserable store of dried beans.*
- *You miserable skunk!*
- *Horribly wet and miserable conditions.*
- *He felt depressed and miserable.*
- *You miserable old creep!*
- *Miserable victims of war.*



Associations of "Miserable" (30 Words)

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| <u>abject</u> | (of a person or their behaviour) completely without pride or dignity; self-abasing. <i>Abject cowardice.</i> |
| affliction | An instance of one celestial body afflicting another. <i>Poor people in great affliction.</i> |
| dejected | Sad and depressed; dispirited. <i>Is dejected but trying to look cheerful.</i> |
| <u>dejection</u> | A sad and depressed state; low spirits. <i>He was slumped in deep dejection.</i> |
| deplorable | Deserving strong condemnation; completely unacceptable. <i>Deplorable housing conditions in the inner city.</i> |

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| <u>disappointment</u> | A person or thing that causes disappointment. <i>The job proved a disappointment.</i> |
| <u>disastrous</u> | Having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin. <i>A disastrous fire swept through the museum.</i> |
| <u>discourage</u> | Deprive of courage or hope take away hope from cause to feel discouraged. <i>We should discourage this practice among our youth.</i> |
| <u>grief</u> | Intense sorrow, especially caused by someone's death. <i>Time heals griefs and quarrels.</i> |
| grieve | Feel intense sorrow about. <i>His behavior grieves his mother.</i> |
| hapless | Deserving or inciting pity. <i>A hapless victim.</i> |
| <u>inferior</u> | Of low or inferior quality. <i>Her social and intellectual inferiors.</i> |
| lamentable | Full of or expressing sorrow or grief. <i>The lamentable friends trailing their long black garments.</i> |
| mournful | Filled with or evoking sadness. <i>Stared with mournful eyes.</i> |
| mourning | The expression of sorrow for someone's death. <i>She s still in mourning after the death of her husband.</i> |
| <u>pathetic</u> | Inspiring scornful pity. <i>Their efforts were pathetic.</i> |
| piteous | Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy. <i>Piteous appeals for help.</i> |
| pitiable | Deserving or inciting pity. <i>Pitiable lack of character.</i> |
| <u>pitiful</u> | Inspiring mixed contempt and pity. <i>Pitiful exhibition of cowardice.</i> |
| <u>pity</u> | The feeling of sorrow and compassion caused by the suffering and misfortunes of others. <i>Her voice was full of pity.</i> |
| regrettable | Deserving regret. <i>Regrettable remarks.</i> |
| sad | Of things that make you feel sad Christina Rossetti. <i>Feeling sad because his dog had died.</i> |

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| sadness | The state of being sad. <i>She tired of his perpetual sadness.</i> |
| <u>sorrowful</u> | Experiencing or marked by or expressing sorrow especially that associated with irreparable loss. <i>Sorrowful</i> widows. |
| <u>sorry</u> | Used as a polite request that someone should repeat something that one has failed to hear or understand. <i>He said he was sorry he had upset me.</i> |
| <u>unfortunate</u> | A person who is considered immoral or lacking in religious faith or instruction, especially a prostitute. <i>An unfortunate decision.</i> |
| unhappy | Generalized feeling of distress. <i>After the argument they lapsed into an unhappy silence.</i> |
| unlucky | Having, bringing, or resulting from bad luck. <i>Friday the 13th is an unlucky date.</i> |
| worthless | (of a person) having no good qualities; deserving contempt. <i>Joan had been deserted by a worthless husband.</i> |
| wretched | Characterized by physical misery. <i>A wretched life.</i> |

