

Need another word that means the same as “mistreat”? Find 15 synonyms and 30 related words for “mistreat” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Mistreat” are: abuse, ill-treat, ill-use, maltreat, step, misuse, treat badly, handle roughly, treat roughly, knock about, knock around, hit, beat, strike, mishandle**

## Mistreat as a Verb

### Definitions of "Mistreat" as a verb

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

- *Treat badly.*
- *Treat (a person or animal) badly, cruelly, or unfairly.*



## Synonyms of "Mistreat" as a verb (15 Words)

<b>abuse</b>	Assault (someone, especially a woman or child) sexually. <i>Her husband often <b>abuses</b> alcohol.</i>
<b>beat</b>	Indicate by beating as with the fingers or drumsticks. <i>We <b>beat</b> the competition.</i>
<b>handle roughly</b>	Touch, lift, or hold with the hands.
<b>hit</b>	Score a run or point by hitting a ball with a bat racket stick etc. <i>He <b>hit</b> her hard in the face.</i>
<b>ill-treat</b>	Treat badly.
<b>ill-use</b>	Treat badly.
<b>knock about</b>	Sound like a car engine that is firing too early.
<b>knock around</b>	Deliver a sharp blow or push.
<b>maltreat</b>	Treat badly. <i>Children die from neglect or are <b>maltreated</b> by their carers.</i>
<b>mishandle</b>	Manage or deal with (something) wrongly or ineffectively. <i>The officer had <b>mishandled</b> the situation.</i>
<b><u>misuse</u></b>	Treat (someone or something) badly or unfairly. <i>The director of the factory <b>misused</b> the funds intended for the health care of his workers.</i>
<b>step</b>	Place a ship's mast in its step. <i>He won't <b>step</b> into his father's footsteps.</i>
<b><u>strike</u></b>	Undertake strike action against an employer. <i><b>Strike</b> a balance.</i>
<b>treat badly</b>	Provide with a gift or entertainment.
<b>treat roughly</b>	Act on verbally or in some form of artistic expression.



## Usage Examples of "Mistreat" as a verb

- *He denied mistreating his workers.*
- *A dog which has been mistreated will remain very wary of strangers.*



## Associations of "Mistreat" (30 Words)

- abuse** Speak to (someone) in an insulting and offensive way.  
*Young people who have suffered sexual **abuse**.*
- afflict** Cause physical pain or suffering in.  
*Serious ills **afflict** the industry.*
- barbarous** Extremely brutal.  
*A **barbarous** crime.*
- cruelly** With cruelty.  
*Their hopes were **cruelly** dashed.*
- discriminate** Distinguish.  
***Discriminate** people.*
- draconian** Of or relating to Draco or his harsh code of laws.  
*The Nazis destroyed the independence of the press by a series of **draconian** laws.*

<b>expletive</b>	An oath or swear word. <i><b>Expletives</b> were deleted.</i>
<b><u>exterminate</u></b>	Kill en masse; kill on a large scale; kill many. <i>They use poison to <b>exterminate</b> moles.</i>
<b><u>ferocious</u></b>	Marked by extreme and violent energy. <i>A <b>ferocious</b> headache.</i>
<b><u>harass</u></b>	Make repeated small-scale attacks on (an enemy). <i>This man <b>harasses</b> his female co workers.</i>
<b><u>heinous</u></b>	(of a person or wrongful act, especially a crime) utterly odious or wicked. <i><b>Heinous</b> accusations.</i>
<b>irritate</b>	Make (someone) annoyed or a little angry. <i>Aspirin <b>irritates</b> my stomach.</i>
<b>maltreat</b>	Treat badly. <i>Children die from neglect or are <b>maltreated</b> by their carers.</i>
<b><u>merciless</u></b>	Showing no mercy. <i>The <b>merciless</b> summer heat.</i>
<b><u>misuse</u></b>	Change the inherent purpose or function of something. <i>A <b>misuse</b> of power.</i>
<b><u>mock</u></b>	The act of mocking or ridiculing. <i>At Christmas arguments and friction <b>mock</b> our pretence at peace.</i>
<b><u>oppress</u></b>	Keep (someone) in subjection and hardship, especially by the unjust exercise of authority. <i>He was <b>oppressed</b> by some secret worry.</i>
<b>parricide</b>	A person who commits parricide.
<b>persecute</b>	Cause to suffer. <i>No one should be <b>persecuted</b> for their religious beliefs.</i>
<b>persecutor</b>	A person who harasses or annoys someone persistently. <i>He is badly scarred by his treatment at the hands of his <b>persecutors</b>.</i>
<b>relentlessly</b>	In an unceasingly intense or harsh way. <i>He was being bullied <b>relentlessly</b> at school.</i>
<b><u>ruthless</u></b>	Having or showing no pity or compassion for others. <i>A <b>ruthless</b> manipulator.</i>
<b>ruthlessly</b>	In a ruthless manner. <i>They fell prey to money lenders who <b>ruthlessly</b> exploited them.</i>
<b>sadistic</b>	Deriving pleasure or sexual gratification from inflicting pain on another. <i>A <b>sadistic</b> killer.</i>

- sanguinary** Marked by eagerness to resort to violence and bloodshed-G.W.Johnson.  
*They lost heavily in the **sanguinary** campaigns that followed.*
- torment** Torment emotionally or mentally.  
*Their deaths have left both families in **torment**.*
- torture** Subject to torture.  
*He was **tortured** by grief.*
- truculence** Obstreperous and defiant aggressiveness.
- truculent** Eager or quick to argue or fight; aggressively defiant.  
*The **truculent** attitude of farmers to cheaper imports.*