

Need another word that means the same as “nervous”? Find 43 synonyms and 30 related words for “nervous” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Nervous” are: flighty, skittish, spooky, neural, aflutter, anxious, queasy, uneasy, unquiet, edgy, tense, excitable, jumpy, brittle, neurotic, hysterical, worried, apprehensive, strained, stressed, agitated, in a state of nerves, in a state of agitation, restless, worked up, keyed up, overwrought, wrought up, strung out, fidgety, fearful, frightened, scared, like a cat on a hot tin roof, trembling, shaky, in a cold sweat, fevered, febrile, embarrassed, uncomfortable, ill at ease, neurological

Nervous as an Adjective

Definitions of "Nervous" as an adjective

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

- *Easily agitated or alarmed.*
- *Relating to or affecting the nerves.*
- *Unpredictably excitable (especially of horses).*
- *Of or relating to the nervous system.*
- *Easily agitated.*
- *Anxious or apprehensive.*
- *Causing or fraught with or showing anxiety.*
- *Excited in anticipation.*
- *(of a feeling or reaction) resulting from anxiety or anticipation.*



Synonyms of "Nervous" as an adjective (43 Words)

aflutter	Excited in anticipation. <i>He has the physique that could send a thousand female hearts aflutter.</i>
agitated	Troubled emotionally and usually deeply. <i>Agitated parents.</i>
anxious	Very eager or concerned to do something or for something to happen. <i>There were some anxious moments.</i>
<u>apprehensive</u>	In fear or dread of possible evil or harm. <i>Apprehensive of danger.</i>
<u>brittle</u>	(of a person's voice) unpleasantly hard and sharp and showing signs of instability or nervousness. <i>Glass is brittle.</i>
<u>edgy</u>	Being in a tense state. <i>Tremendously edgy brass playing.</i>

embarrassed

Feeling or caused to feel uneasy and self-conscious.

*I felt quite **embarrassed** whenever I talked to her.*

excitable

Responding too readily to something new or stimulating; easily excited.

*A rather **excitable** young man.*

fearful

Experiencing or showing fear.

*A **fearful** howling.*

febrile

Having or showing the symptoms of a fever.

*A **febrile** reaction caused by an allergen.*

fevered

Highly or nervously excited.

*They mopped his **fevered** brow.*

fidgety

Nervous and unable to relax.

*I get nervous and **fidgety** at the dentist.*

flighty

Fickle and irresponsible.

*Her mother was a **flighty** Southern belle.*

frightened

Made afraid.

*A **frightened** child.*

hysterical

Characterized by or arising from psychoneurotic hysteria-Morris Fishbein.

*Janet became **hysterical** and began screaming.*

ill at ease

Affected by an impairment of normal physical or mental function.

in a cold sweat

Directed or bound inward.

in a state of agitation

Currently fashionable.

in a state of nerves

Directed or bound inward.

jumpy

Causing or characterized by jolts and irregular movements.

*A **jumpy** pulse.*

keyed up

Serving as an essential component.

like a cat on a hot tin roof

Having the same or similar characteristics.

neural

Relating to a nerve or the nervous system.

***Neural** disorder.*

neurological

Relating to the anatomy, functions, and organic disorders of nerves and the nervous system.

***Neurological** evidence.*

neurotic

Characteristic of or affected by neurosis.

*He seemed a **neurotic** self obsessed character.*

overwrought	(of a piece of writing or a work of art) too elaborate or complicated in design or construction. <i>She was too overwrought to listen to reason.</i>
queasy	Causing or fraught with or showing anxiety. <i>The queasy swell of the boat.</i>
<u>restless</u>	Lacking or not affording physical or mental rest. <i>The restless sea.</i>
scared	Made afraid. <i>We re both scared of spiders.</i>
<u>shaky</u>	Unstable because of poor construction or heavy use. <i>After a shaky start the Scottish team made superb efforts.</i>
<u>skittish</u>	(of an animal, especially a horse) nervous or excitable; easily scared. <i>A skittish chestnut mare.</i>
<u>spooky</u>	Unpredictably excitable (especially of horses). <i>I bet this place is really spooky late at night.</i>
<u>strained</u>	Of a mainly liquid substance having been strained to separate out any solid matter. <i>A constrained smile.</i>
stressed	Strengthened by the application of stress during manufacture prestressed. <i>He dropped out of the race clearly distressed and having difficulty breathing.</i>
strung out	That is on a string.
<u>tense</u>	Pronounced with relatively tense tongue muscles e g the vowel sound in beat. <i>She tried to relax her tense muscles.</i>
<u>trembling</u>	Shaking or quivering, typically as a result of anxiety, excitement, or frailty. <i>Trembling hands.</i>
<u>uncomfortable</u>	Causing or feeling unease or awkwardness. <i>Grew uncomfortable beneath his appraising eye.</i>
<u>uneasy</u>	(of a situation or relationship) not settled; liable to change. <i>She fell into an uneasy sleep.</i>
unquiet	Uneasy; anxious. <i>Poor Amy s unquiet spirit.</i>
worked up	Out of bed.

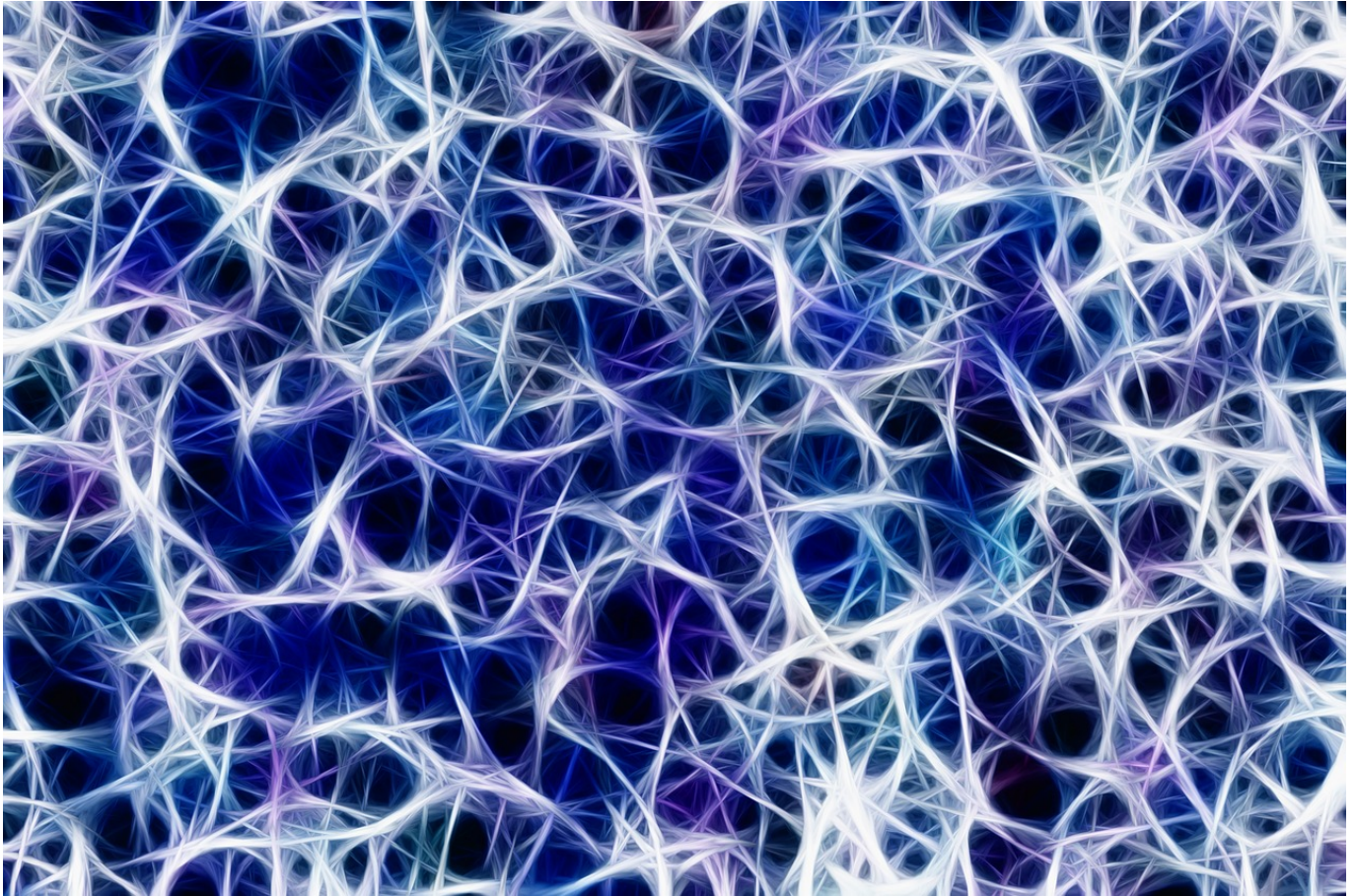
worried

Afflicted with or marked by anxious uneasiness or trouble or grief.

*He is **worried** that we are not sustaining high employment.*

wrought up

Shaped to fit by or as if by altering the contours of a pliable mass (as by work or effort.



Usage Examples of "Nervous" as an adjective

- *A nervous disorder.*
- *Nervous disease.*
- *A nervous addict.*
- *A nervous thoroughbred.*
- *Nervous energy.*
- *He's nervous of speaking in public.*
- *Those nervous moments before takeoff.*
- *A sensitive, nervous person.*
- *Staying in the house on her own made her nervous.*



Associations of "Nervous" (30 Words)

<u>apprehensive</u>	Mentally upset over possible misfortune or danger etc. <i>Apprehensive for one's life.</i>
defuse	Make (a situation) less tense or dangerous. <i>Explosives specialists tried to defuse the grenade.</i>
<u>dejection</u>	Solid excretory product evacuated from the bowels. <i>He was slumped in deep dejection.</i>
excitability	Being easily excited.
<u>flighty</u>	Fickle and irresponsible. <i>Her mother was a flighty Southern belle.</i>
fraught	Marked by distress. <i>There was a fraught silence.</i>
<u>fretful</u>	Nervous and unable to relax. <i>A constant fretful stamping of hooves.</i>

harried	Feeling strained as a result of having demands persistently made on one; harassed. <i>Harried detectives answer ringing phones.</i>
<u>impatience</u>	The tendency to be impatient; irritability or restlessness. <i>He was shifting in his seat with impatience.</i>
<u>insecurity</u>	The state of being subject to danger or injury. <i>She had a deep sense of insecurity.</i>
irritability	An irritable petulant feeling. <i>Symptoms include insomnia and irritability.</i>
nervously	In an anxiously nervous manner. <i>Kevin nervously glanced at his watch.</i>
nervy	Characterized or produced by apprehension or uncertainty. <i>He was nervy and on edge.</i>
paralyze	Cause to be paralyzed and immobile. <i>The bureaucracy paralyzes the entire operation.</i>
peevish	Having or showing an irritable disposition. <i>A thin peevish voice.</i>
petulance	The quality of being childishly sulky or bad-tempered. <i>A slight degree of petulance had crept into his voice.</i>
<u>preoccupied</u>	Having or showing excessive or compulsive concern with something. <i>She seemed a bit preoccupied.</i>
querulous	Habitually complaining. <i>She became querulous and demanding.</i>
restlessly	In a restless manner.
<u>skittish</u>	(of a person) playfully frivolous or unpredictable. <i>My skittish and immature mother.</i>
solicitous	Showing hovering attentiveness. <i>Solicitous parents.</i>
<u>strained</u>	Of a mainly liquid substance having been strained to separate out any solid matter. <i>There was a strained silence.</i>
stressed	Strengthened by the application of stress during manufacture prestressed. <i>Stressed concrete walls.</i>
<u>temper</u>	Make more temperate acceptable or suitable by adding something else. <i>Tempered steel pins.</i>
<u>tense</u>	Become tense nervous or uneasy. <i>She tried to relax her tense muscles.</i>

troubled

Characterized by or indicative of distress or affliction or danger or need.
***Troubled** teenagers.*

uneasy

Lacking a sense of security or affording no ease or reassurance.
*She lived in a state of **uneasy** truce with her strict father.*

uptight

Anxious or angry in a tense and overly controlled way.
*He is so **uptight** about everything.*

volatility

Tendency of a substance to evaporate at normal temperatures.
*The **volatility** of the market drove many investors away.*

worried

Afflicted with or marked by anxious uneasiness or trouble or grief.
*A **worried** frown.*

