

Need another word that means the same as “obscure”? Find 85 synonyms and 30 related words for “obscure” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Obscure” are: unnoticeable, unknown, unsung, vague, dark, apart, isolated, hidden, unclear, uncertain, in doubt, doubtful, dubious, mysterious, hazy, indeterminate, concealed, little known, undistinguished, insignificant, unimportant, inconsequential, inconspicuous, unnoticed, nameless, anonymous, minor, humble, lowly, unrenowned, unrecognized, unhonoured, inglorious, forgotten, abstruse, recondite, arcane, esoteric, recherché, occult, indistinct, faint, ill-defined, blurred, blurry, misty, foggy, veiled, cloudy, clouded, nebulous, fuzzy, blot out, hide, obliterate, veil, blur, confuse, obnubilate, bedim, overcloud, becloud, befog, cloud, fog, haze over, mist, conceal, cover, shroud, screen, mask, cloak, cast a shadow over, shadow, envelop, mantle, block, block out, blank out, eclipse, overshadow, complicate, obfuscate, muddy**

## Obscure as a Verb

### Definitions of "Obscure" as a verb

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

- *Make unclear and difficult to understand.*
- *Reduce a vowel to a neutral one, such as a schwa.*
- *Make unclear, indistinct, or blurred.*

- *Make undecipherable or imperceptible by obscuring or concealing.*
- *Make obscure or unclear.*
- *Keep from being known.*
- *Make less visible or unclear.*
- *Keep from being seen; conceal.*



### Synonyms of "Obscure" as a verb (33 Words)

<b>becloud</b>	Make obscure or muddled. <i>Confusion <b>beclouds</b> the issue.</i>
<b>bedim</b>	Cause to become dim. <i>A slight cloud would <b>bedim</b> the sky.</i>
<b>befog</b>	Make less visible or unclear. <i>Her brain was <b>befogged</b> with lack of sleep.</i>
<b>blank out</b>	Keep the opposing (baseball) team from winning.

<b>block</b>	Support secure or raise with a block. <i>The narrow roads were <b>blocked</b> by cars.</i>
<b>block out</b>	Stamp or emboss a title or design on a book with a block.
<b>blot out</b>	Dry (ink) with blotting paper.
<u><a href="#">blur</a></u>	Make unclear indistinct or blurred. <i>The distinction between the two theories <b>blurred</b>.</i>
<b>cast a shadow over</b>	Form by pouring (e.g., wax or hot metal) into a cast or mold.
<u><a href="#">cloak</a></u>	Cover with or as if with a cloak. <i><b>Cloaked</b> monks.</i>
<u><a href="#">cloud</a></u>	Darken the sky with cloud. <i>Their faces were <b>clouded</b> with sadness.</i>
<u><a href="#">complicate</a></u>	Make something more complicated. <i>There was a new development that <b>complicated</b> the matter.</i>
<u><a href="#">conceal</a></u>	Hold back; keep from being perceived by others. <i>She <b>conceals</b> her anger well.</i>
<b>confuse</b>	Cause to feel embarrassment. <i>The constant attention of the young man <b>confused</b> her.</i>
<b>cover</b>	Provide with a covering or cause to be covered. <i>This should <b>cover</b> everyone in the group.</i>
<u><a href="#">eclipse</a></u>	Cause an eclipse of a celestial body by intervention. <i>Jupiter was <b>eclipsed</b> by the Moon.</i>
<b>envelop</b>	Enclose or enfold completely with or as if with a covering. <i>A figure <b>enveloped</b> in a black cloak.</i>
<u><a href="#">fog</a></u>	Make (a film, negative, or print) obscure or cloudy. <i>The windscreen was starting to <b>fog</b> up.</i>
<b>haze over</b>	Harass by imposing humiliating or painful tasks, as in military institutions.
<b>hide</b>	Prevent (an emotion or fact) from being apparent or known; keep secret. <i>He used to <b>hide</b> out in a cave.</i>
<b>mantle</b>	Cover like a mantle. <i>A warm pink mounted to the girl's cheeks and <b>mantled</b> her brow.</i>
<u><a href="#">mask</a></u>	Cover the face with a mask. <i><b>Mask</b> the meat.</i>
<u><a href="#">mist</a></u>	Become covered with mist. <i>Don't <b>mist</b> furry leaved plants such as African violets.</i>

<b>muddy</b>	Cause to become muddy. <i>The first year's results <b>muddy</b> rather than clarify the situation.</i>
<b>obfuscate</b>	Bewilder (someone). <i>The spelling changes will deform some familiar words and <b>obfuscate</b> their etymological origins.</i>
<b>obliterate</b>	Mark for deletion, rub off, or erase. <i>The special stamp should be placed on the left hand side and not be used to <b>obliterate</b> the postage stamp.</i>
<b>obnubilate</b>	Make less visible or unclear. <i>Their words <b>obnubilate</b> their intentions.</i>
<b>overcloud</b>	Make dark, gloomy, or obscure. <i>The darkness of the beginning <b>overclouds</b> the set.</i>
<b>overshadow</b>	Cast a shadow upon. <i>He was always <b>overshadowed</b> by his brilliant elder brother.</i>
<b>screen</b>	Conceal, protect, or shelter someone or something with a screen or something forming a screen. <i><b>Screen</b> these samples.</i>
<b>shadow</b>	Cast a shadow over. <i>A hood <b>shadowed</b> her face.</i>
<b>shroud</b>	Wrap or dress a body in a shroud for burial. <i>The mystery which <b>shrouds</b> the origins of the universe.</i>
<b>veil</b>	Cover with a veil. <i>Cold mists <b>veiled</b> the mountain peaks.</i>





## Usage Examples of "Obscure" as a verb

- *The distinction was obscured.*
- *The debate has become obscured by conflicting ideological perspectives.*
- *Grey clouds obscure the sun.*
- *None of this should obscure the skill and perseverance of the workers.*
- *The stars are obscured by the clouds.*
- *The big elm tree obscures our view of the valley.*





## Obscure as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Obscure" as an adjective

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

- *Not discovered or known about; uncertain.*
- *Remote and separate physically or socially- W.H.Hudson.*
- *Not clearly understood or expressed-Anatole Broyard- P.A.So.*
- *Hard to define; vague.*
- *Difficult to find.*
- *Not drawing attention.*
- *Not important or well known.*
- *Not famous or acclaimed.*
- *Marked by difficulty of style or expression.*



- *Not clearly expressed or understood.*
- *Dark or dim.*
- *Not clearly expressed or easily understood.*
- *Remote and separate physically or socially.*



## Synonyms of "Obscure" as an adjective (52 Words)

<b>abstruse</b>	Difficult to penetrate; incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge. <i>The professor's lectures were so <b>abstruse</b> that students tended to avoid them.</i>
<b>anonymous</b>	Having no outstanding, individual, or unusual features; unremarkable or impersonal. <i>An <b>anonymous</b> phone call.</i>
<b>apart</b>	Remote and separate physically or socially. <i>Existed over the centuries as a world <b>apart</b>.</i>

<b><u>arcane</u></b>	Requiring secret or mysterious knowledge. <i><b>Arcane</b> procedures for electing people.</i>
<b>blurred</b>	Indistinct or hazy in outline. <i>The <b>blurred</b> distinctions between childhood and adulthood.</i>
<b><u>blurry</u></b>	Perceived or remembered indistinctly. <i>Vision may be hazy or <b>blurry</b> for a few days after surgery.</i>
<b>clouded</b>	Made troubled or apprehensive or distressed in appearance. <i>Sometimes one understood clearly and sometimes the meaning was <b>clouded</b>.</i>
<b><u>cloudy</u></b>	(of liquids) clouded as with sediment. <i>The pond water is slightly <b>cloudy</b>.</i>
<b>concealed</b>	Hidden on any grounds for any motive. <i><b>Concealed</b> or hidden damage.</i>
<b>dark</b>	Of a person having dark skin hair or eyes. <i><b>Dark</b> green.</i>
<b>doubtful</b>	Not known with certainty. <i>Of <b>doubtful</b> legality.</i>
<b><u>dubious</u></b>	Morally suspect. <i>He holds the <b>dubious</b> distinction of being relegated with every club he has played for.</i>
<b>esoteric</b>	Confined to and understandable by only an enlightened inner circle. <i>A compilation of <b>esoteric</b> philosophical theories.</i>
<b><u>faint</u></b>	(of a sight, smell, or sound) barely perceptible. <i>A <b>faint</b> clue to the origin of the mystery.</i>
<b><u>foggy</u></b>	Unable to think clearly; confused. <i>She was <b>foggy</b> with sleep.</i>
<b>forgotten</b>	Not noticed inadvertently. <i>He was scolded for his <b>forgotten</b> chores.</i>
<b><u>fuzzy</u></b>	Having a frizzy texture or appearance. <i><b>Fuzzy</b> fake fur throw pillows.</i>
<b><u>hazy</u></b>	Indistinct or hazy in outline. <i>The picture we have of him is extremely <b>hazy</b>.</i>
<b><u>hidden</u></b>	Not accessible to view. <i><b>Hidden</b> dangers.</i>
<b>humble</b>	Marked by meekness or modesty; not arrogant or prideful. <i>She came from a <b>humble</b> unprivileged background.</i>
<b>ill-defined</b>	Poorly stated or described.



<b>in doubt</b>	Holding office.
<b><u>inconsequential</u></b>	Lacking worth or importance. <i>They talked about <b>inconsequential</b> things.</i>
<b><u>inconspicuous</u></b>	Not clearly visible or attracting attention. <i>An <b>inconspicuous</b> red brick building.</i>
<b>indeterminate</b>	(of a shoot) not having all the axes terminating in a flower bud and so potentially of indefinite length. <i>Of <b>indeterminate</b> age.</i>
<b>indistinct</b>	Not clearly defined or easy to perceive or understand. <i>An <b>indistinct</b> memory.</i>
<b>inglorious</b>	Not bringing honor and glory. <i><b>Inglorious</b> though the peasants may have been this is not synonymous with mute.</i>
<b><u>insignificant</u></b>	Signifying nothing. <i><b>Insignificant</b> sounds.</i>
<b>isolated</b>	Cut off or left behind. <i>Tiny <b>isolated</b> villages remote from centers of civilization.</i>
<b>little known</b>	Lowercase.
<b><u>lowly</u></b>	Of low birth or station ('base' is archaic in this sense). <i>A <b>lowly</b> corporal.</i>
<b><u>minor</u></b>	Of a premise containing the minor term in a categorical syllogism. <i>A <b>minor</b> poet.</i>
<b>misty</b>	(of a person's eyes) full of tears so as to blur the vision. <i>The evening was cold and <b>misty</b>.</i>
<b>mysterious</b>	(of a location) having an atmosphere of strangeness or secrecy. <i>In its <b>mysterious</b> past it encompasses all the dim origins of life.</i>
<b>nameless</b>	(of a child) illegitimate. <i>His grandfather had been a <b>nameless</b> parentless child.</i>
<b>nebulous</b>	In the form of a cloud or haze; hazy. <i><b>Nebulous</b> concepts like quality of life.</i>
<b><u>occult</u></b>	Having an import not apparent to the senses nor obvious to the intelligence; beyond ordinary understanding. <i><b>Occult</b> lore.</i>
<b>recherché</b>	Lavishly elegant and refined.
<b>recondite</b>	Difficult to penetrate; incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge. <i>The book is full of <b>recondite</b> information.</i>

<b><u>uncertain</u></b>	Not established or confirmed. <i>She spoke in no <b>uncertain</b> terms.</i>
<b><u>unclear</u></b>	Not easy to see, hear, or understand. <i>Users are still <b>unclear</b> about what middleware does.</i>
<b>undistinguished</b>	Not worthy of notice. <i>An <b>undistinguished</b> career.</i>
<b>unhonoured</b>	Not given public praise or respect. <i>His first rate performances were largely <b>unhonoured</b>.</i>
<b><u>unimportant</u></b>	Lacking in importance or significance. <i>The question seems <b>unimportant</b>.</i>
<b>unknown</b>	Being or having an unknown or unnamed source. <i>An <b>unknown</b> island.</i>
<b><u>unnoticeable</u></b>	Not noticeable; not drawing attention- J.G.Cozzens. <i>Her clothes were simple and <b>unnoticeable</b>.</i>
<b><u>unnoticed</u></b>	Not noticed. <i>A deliberate kick that went <b>unnoticed</b> by the referee.</i>
<b><u>unrecognized</u></b>	Not having a secure reputation. <i>Their contribution often goes <b>unrecognized</b>.</i>
<b>unrenowned</b>	Not renowned.
<b>unsung</b>	Having value that is not acknowledged. <i>Harvey is one of the <b>unsung</b> heroes of the industrial revolution.</i>
<b><u>vague</u></b>	Thinking or communicating in an unfocused or imprecise way. <i>Their descriptions of human behavior become <b>vague</b> dull and unclear.</i>
<b><u>veiled</u></b>	Having or as if having a veil or concealing cover. <i>A young girl with a <b>veiled</b> face.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Obscure" as an adjective

- *An obscure village.*
- *A relatively obscure actor.*
- *An obscure family.*
- *I feel an obscure resentment.*
- *An obscure turn of phrase.*
- *The obscure light of dawn.*
- *His origins and parentage are obscure.*
- *Those who do not appreciate Kafka's work say his style is obscure.*
- *Obscure references to Proust.*
- *An obscure flaw.*
- *An impulse to go off and fight certain obscure battles of his own spirit.*
- *An obscure retreat.*





## Associations of "Obscure" (30 Words)

<b>abstruse</b>	Difficult to penetrate; incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge. <i>The professor's lectures were so <b>abstruse</b> that students tended to avoid them.</i>
<b>blur</b>	Make unclear, indistinct, or blurred. <i>In front of him the page <b>blurred</b>.</i>
<b>blurred</b>	Unclear in form or expression. <i>The camera caught only two <b>blurred</b> images.</i>
<b>blurry</b>	Unable to perceive clear or sharp images. <i>Vision may be hazy or <b>blurry</b> for a few days after surgery.</i>
<b>concealed</b>	Hidden on any grounds for any motive. <i>A <b>concealed</b> compartment in his briefcase.</i>

<b>convoluted</b>	Highly complex or intricate and occasionally devious. <i><b>Convoluted</b> legal language.</i>
<b>elusive</b>	Skillful at eluding capture. <i>A cabal of conspirators each more <b>elusive</b> than the archterrorist.</i>
<b>esoteric</b>	Intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with a specialized knowledge or interest. <i>A compilation of <b>esoteric</b> philosophical theories.</i>
<b>faint</b>	A spontaneous loss of consciousness caused by insufficient blood to the brain. <i>Only a <b>faint</b> recollection.</i>
<b>hazy</b>	Indistinct or hazy in outline. <i>School leavers were often <b>hazy</b> about employment.</i>
<b>imprecision</b>	The quality of lacking precision. <i>All scientific measurements come with some degree of <b>imprecision</b>.</i>
<b>inconspicuous</b>	Not prominent or readily noticeable. <i>He pushed the string through an <b>inconspicuous</b> hole.</i>
<b>indefinite</b>	Lasting for an unknown or unstated length of time. <i>Plans are <b>indefinite</b>.</i>
<b>indistinct</b>	Not clearly defined or easy to perceive or understand. <i>His speech was slurred and <b>indistinct</b>.</i>
<b>invisible</b>	Invisible exports and imports. <i><b>Invisible</b> rays.</i>
<b>nebulous</b>	Lacking definition or definite content. <i>A giant <b>nebulous</b> glow.</i>
<b>nuance</b>	Give nuances to. <i>Without understanding the finer <b>nuances</b> you can't enjoy the humor.</i>
<b>opaque</b>	An opaque thing. <i>Technical jargon that was <b>opaque</b> to her.</i>
<b>puzzling</b>	Not clear to the understanding. <i>A <b>puzzling</b> statement.</i>
<b>recondite</b>	Difficult to penetrate; incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge. <i>Some <b>recondite</b> problem in historiography.</i>
<b>subtle</b>	(of a mixture or effect) delicately complex and understated. <i>A <b>subtle</b> difference.</i>
<b>subtlety</b>	A subtle distinction, feature, or argument. <i>You had to admire the <b>subtlety</b> of the distinctions he drew.</i>

**trivia** Details, considerations, or pieces of information of little importance or value.

*We fill our days with meaningless **trivia**.*

Having value that is not acknowledged.

**unappreciated** *She had been brought up in a family where she felt **unappreciated** and undervalued.*

**unclear** Not easily deciphered.

*The motive for this killing is **unclear**.*

**unknown** An unknown and unexplored region.

*She is a relative **unknown**.*

**unnoticeable** Not drawing attention.

*The reverberation will be so slight as to be **unnoticeable**.*

**unobtrusive** Not obtrusive or undesirably noticeable.

*A quiet **unobtrusive** life of self denial.*

**unsung** Having value that is not acknowledged.

***Unsung** heroes of the war.*

**vague** Not clearly understood or expressed-Anatole Broyard- P.A.So.

*He had been very **vague** about his activities.*

