

Need another word that means the same as “onset”? Find 26 synonyms and 30 related words for “onset” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Onset” are: attack, onrush, onslaught, oncoming, start, beginning, arrival, appearance, first appearance, opening, outset, inception, assault, offensive, offence, drive, push, thrust, sortie, sally, swoop, foray, raid, invasion, incursion, campaign**

## Onset as a Noun

### Definitions of "Onset" as a noun

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

- *The beginning of something, especially something unpleasant.*
- *The beginning or early stages.*
- *A military attack.*
- *An offensive against an enemy (using weapons).*
- *(military) an offensive against an enemy (using weapons).*



## Synonyms of "Onset" as a noun (26 Words)

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>appearance</b> | Formal attendance (in court or at a hearing) of a party in an action.<br><i>It was Bernhardt s last <b>appearance</b> in America.</i>                                  |
| <b>arrival</b>    | A person who has arrived somewhere.<br><i>Sociology is a relatively new <b>arrival</b> on the academic scene.</i>  |
| <b>assault</b>    | A threatened or attempted physical attack by someone who appears to be able to cause bodily harm if not stopped.<br><i>Troops began an <b>assault</b> on the city.</i> |
| <b>attack</b>     | The act of attacking.<br><i>A Cardiff <b>attack</b> broke down inside Llanelli s 22.</i>   |
| <b>beginning</b>  | The background or origins of a person or organization.<br><i>The ending of one relationship and the <b>beginning</b> of another.</i>                                   |
| <b>campaign</b>   | A race between candidates for elective office.<br><i>I managed his <b>campaign</b> for governor.</i>   |

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|-------------------------|---|
| <b>drive</b>            | Hitting a golf ball off of a tee with a driver.<br><i>A variable speed <b>drive</b> permitted operation through a range of speeds.</i>                              |
| <b>first appearance</b> | The first element in a countable series.  |
| <b>foray</b>            | A sudden short attack.<br><i>My first <b>foray</b> into journalism.</i>   |
| <b>inception</b>        | An event that is a beginning; a first part or stage of subsequent events.<br><i>She has been on the board since its <b>inception</b> two years ago.</i>             |
| <b>incursion</b>        | The act of entering some territory or domain (often in large numbers).<br><i><b>Incursions</b> into enemy territory.</i>  |
| <b>invasion</b>         | (pathology) the spread of pathogenic microorganisms or malignant cells to new sites in the body.<br><i>An <b>invasion</b> of tourists.</i>                          |
| <b>offence</b>          | The action of attacking an enemy.<br><i>The new <b>offence</b> of obtaining property by deception.</i>  |
| <b>offensive</b>        | The action of attacking an enemy.<br><i>An impending military <b>offensive</b> against the guerrillas.</i>  |
| <b>oncoming</b>         | The approach or onset of something.<br><i>The <b>oncoming</b> of age.</i>   |
| <b>onrush</b>           | A surging rush forward.<br><i>The mesmerizing <b>onrush</b> of the sea.</i>   |
| <b>onslaught</b>        | An overwhelmingly large number of people or things.<br><i>In some parks the <b>onslaught</b> of cars and people far exceeds capacity.</i>                           |
| <b>opening</b>          | The act of opening something.<br><i>The <b>opening</b> established the basic theme.</i>   |
| <b>outset</b>           | The start or beginning of something.<br><i>A field of which he had known nothing at the <b>outset</b> and learned on the job.</i>                                   |
| <b>push</b>             | The force used in pushing.<br><i>We re managing on our own but it s a <b>push</b>.</i>  |
| <b>raid</b>             | A rapid surprise attack to commit a crime, especially to steal from business premises.<br><i>A bombing <b>raid</b>.</i>   |
| <b>sally</b>            | A witty or lively remark, especially one made as an attack or as a diversion in an argument; a retort.<br><i>The garrison there made a <b>sally</b> against us.</i> |

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| <b>sortie</b> | A military action in which besieged troops burst forth from their position.<br><i>This latest book is the author's first <b>sortie</b> into non fiction.</i> |
| <b>start</b>  | A turn to be a starter in a game at the beginning.<br><i>If he would tell her who had put him up to it it would be a <b>start</b>.</i>                       |
| <b>swoop</b>  | A swooping or snatching movement or action.<br><i>The violinist was indulgent with his <b>swoops</b> and slides.</i>   |



## Usage Examples of "Onset" as a noun

- *The onset of pneumonia.*
- *Early-onset Alzheimer's disease.*
- *The onset of winter.*



## Associations of "Onset" (30 Words)

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>ahead</b>        | Ahead of time in anticipation.<br><i>The road <b>ahead</b>.</i>  |
| <b>approaching</b>  | Of the relatively near future.<br><i>An <b>approaching</b> car.</i>  |
| <b>beforehand</b>   | Before an action or event; in advance.<br><i>Should have made reservations <b>beforehand</b>.</i>                                    |
| <b>beginning</b>    | The background or origins of a person or organization.<br><i>The ending of one relationship and the <b>beginning</b> of another.</i> |
| <b>betimes</b>      | Sometimes; on occasion.<br><i>He awoke <b>betimes</b> that morning.</i>  |
| <b>colonist</b>     | A settler in or inhabitant of a colony.  |
| <b>commencement</b> | The time at which something is supposed to begin.<br><i>The <b>commencement</b> of the trial.</i>                                    |

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| <b>delayed</b>    | Not as far along as normal in development.  |
| <b>early</b>      | Of an early stage in the development of a language or literature.<br><i>We ate an <b>early</b> lunch.</i>   |
| <b>elementary</b> | Of or pertaining to or characteristic of elementary school or elementary education.<br><i><b>Elementary</b> my dear Watson.</i>   |
| <b>embryonic</b>  | (of a system, idea, or organization) in a rudimentary stage with potential for development.<br><i>The <b>embryonic</b> government staffed by survivors of the massacre.</i> |
| <b>germinal</b>   | Containing seeds of later development.<br><i>De Beauvoir's <b>germinal</b> book <i>The Second Sex</i>.</i>  |
| <b>inchoate</b>   | Just begun and so not fully formed or developed; rudimentary.<br><i>A vague <b>inchoate</b> idea.</i>   |
| <b>inchoative</b> | An inchoative verb.<br><i><b>Inchoative</b> stages.</i>   |
| <b>incipient</b>  | (of a person) developing into a specified type or role.<br><i><b>Incipient</b> civil disorder.</i>  |
| <b>initial</b>    | Mark with one's initials.<br><i><b>Initial</b> consonants.</i>  |
| <b>initially</b>  | At first.<br><i><b>Initially</b> he thought the new concept was nonsense.</i>   |
| <b>mount</b>      | A mounting consisting of a piece of metal as in a ring or other jewelry that holds a gem in place.<br><i>He took the bicycle <b>mounted</b> it and rode to the station.</i> |
| <b>oncoming</b>   | Approaching from the front; moving towards one.<br><i>She walked into the path of an <b>oncoming</b> car.</i>   |
| <b>outset</b>     | The start or beginning of something.<br><i>A field of which he had known nothing at the <b>outset</b> and learned on the job.</i>   |
| <b>pacesetter</b> | A horse used to set the pace in racing.<br><i>These centres are the <b>pacesetters</b> for the nation.</i>  |
| <b>pioneer</b>    | Open up a road or terrain as a pioneer.<br><i>The technique was <b>pioneered</b> by a Swiss doctor in the 1930s.</i>  |
| <b>premature</b>  | (of a baby) born before the end of the full term of gestation, especially three or more weeks before.<br><i>A <b>premature</b> infant.</i>                                  |

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| <b>prematurely</b> | Too soon; in a premature manner.<br><i>I spoke <b>prematurely</b>.</i>   |
| <b>proterozoic</b> | Formed in the later of two divisions of the Precambrian era.<br><b>Proterozoic</b> life forms.   |
| <b>settler</b>     | A negotiator who settles disputes.<br><i>The early European <b>settlers</b> in America were often fleeing from religious persecution.</i>          |
| <b>start</b>       | A line indicating the location of the start of a race or a game.<br><i>It s quite expensive <b>starting</b> from 800 for the most basic model.</i> |
| <b>stirring</b>    | Causing excitement or strong emotion; rousing.<br><b>Stirring</b> events such as wars and rescues.   |
| <b>trailblazer</b> | A person who makes a new track through wild country.<br><i>He was a <b>trailblazer</b> for many ideas that are now standard fare.</i>              |
| <b>untimely</b>    | Uncommonly early or before the expected time.<br><i>Alcohol brought him to an <b>untimely</b> end.</i>   |

