

Need another word that means the same as “oppress”? Find 47 synonyms and 30 related words for “oppress” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Oppress” are: crush, suppress, persecute, abuse, maltreat, ill-treat, treat harshly, be brutal to, be cruel to, tyrannize, repress, subjugate, hegemonize, subdue, subject, enslave, persecuted, abused, maltreated, tyrannized, subjugated, repressed, crushed, enslaved, exploited, victimized, misused, depress, make despondent, make gloomy, weigh down, lie heavy on, weigh heavily on, cast down, dampen someone's spirits, hang over, prey on, burden, dispirit, dishearten, discourage, sadden, make desolate, get down, bring down, trouble, afflict**

## **Oppress as a Verb**

### **Definitions of "Oppress" as a verb**

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

- *Come down on or keep down by unjust use of one's authority.*
- *Cause distress or anxiety to.*
- *Cause to suffer.*
- *Keep (someone) in subjection and hardship, especially by the unjust exercise of authority.*



## Synonyms of "Oppress" as a verb (47 Words)

<b>abuse</b>	Make excessive and habitual use of (alcohol or drugs, especially illegal ones. <i>At various times in her life she <b>abused</b> both alcohol and drugs.</i>
<b>abused</b>	Use foul or abusive language towards.
<b><u>afflict</u></b>	Cause physical pain or suffering in. <i>She was <b>afflicted</b> by the death of her parents.</i>
<b>be brutal to</b>	Be priced at.
<b>be cruel to</b>	Have an existence, be extant.
<b>bring down</b>	Advance or set forth in court.
<b><u>burden</u></b>	Load heavily. <i>They were not yet <b>burdened</b> with adult responsibility.</i>

<b>cast down</b>	Throw forcefully.
<b>crush</b>	Crush or bruise. <i>I was <b>crushed</b> was I not good enough.</i>
<b>crushed</b>	Crush or bruise.
<b>dampen someone's spirits</b>	Lessen in force or effect.
<b>depress</b>	Lessen the activity or force of. <i>The rising inflation <b>depressed</b> the economy.</i>
<b>discourage</b>	Deprive of courage or hope take away hope from cause to feel discouraged. <i>We want to <b>discourage</b> children from smoking.</i>
<b>dishearten</b>	Cause (someone) to lose determination or confidence. <i>The farmer was <b>disheartened</b> by the damage to his crops.</i>
<b>dispirit</b>	Cause (someone) to lose enthusiasm or hope. <i>The army was <b>dispirited</b> by the uncomfortable winter conditions.</i>
<b>enslave</b>	Make a slave of; bring into servitude. <i>They were <b>enslaved</b> by their need to take drugs.</i>
<b>enslaved</b>	Make a slave of; bring into servitude.
<b>exploited</b>	Draw from; make good use of.
<b>get down</b>	Come to have or undergo a change of (physical features and attributes).
<b>hang over</b>	Hold on tightly or tenaciously.
<b>hegemonize</b>	Subject (a population, region, process, etc.) to a dominant political or social power. <i>Colonialism sought to <b>hegemonize</b> through a process of acculturation.</i>
<b>ill-treat</b>	Treat badly.
<b>lie heavy on</b>	Be and remain in a particular state or condition.
<b>make desolate</b>	Gather and light the materials for.
<b>make despondent</b>	Amount to.
<b>make gloomy</b>	Proceed along a path.
<b>maltreat</b>	Treat badly. <i>Children die from neglect or are <b>maltreated</b> by their carers.</i>
<b>maltreated</b>	Treat badly.
<b>misused</b>	Apply to a wrong thing or person; apply badly or incorrectly.

<b>persecute</b>	Cause to suffer. <i>Hilda was <b>persecuted</b> by some of the other girls.</i>
<b>persecuted</b>	Cause to suffer.
<b>prey on</b>	Prey on or hunt for.
<b>repress</b>	Suppress (a thought or desire) so that it becomes or remains unconscious. <i>The process of <b>repressing</b> gene transcription.</i>
<b>repressed</b>	Conceal or hide.
<b>sadden</b>	Come to feel sad. <i>I was <b>saddened</b> to see their lack of commitment.</i>
<b>subdue</b>	Bring under control by force or authority. <i><b>Subdue</b> one's appetites.</i>
<b><u>subject</u></b>	Make accountable for. <i>People in Chernobyl were <b>subjected</b> to radiation.</i>
<b><u>subjugate</u></b>	Bring under domination or control, especially by conquest. <i>The rich landowners <b>subjugated</b> the peasants working the land.</i>
<b>subjugated</b>	Make subservient; force to submit or subdue.
<b><u>suppress</u></b>	Control and refrain from showing; of emotions, desires, impulses, or behavior. <i>Use of the drug <b>suppressed</b> the immune response.</i>
<b>treat harshly</b>	Interact in a certain way.
<b>trouble</b>	Take the trouble to do something concern oneself. <i>Sorry to <b>trouble</b> you.</i>
<b>tyrannize</b>	Rule or exercise power over (somebody) in a cruel and autocratic manner. <i>She <b>tyrannized</b> her family.</i>
<b>tyrannized</b>	Rule a country as a tyrant.
<b>victimized</b>	Punish unjustly.
<b>weigh down</b>	Have a certain weight.
<b>weigh heavily on</b>	Show consideration for; take into account.



## Usage Examples of "Oppress" as a verb

- *A system which oppressed working people.*
- *The government oppresses political activists.*
- *He was oppressed by some secret worry.*



## Associations of "Oppress" (30 Words)

### **afflict**

(of a celestial body) be in a stressful aspect with (another celestial body or a point on the ecliptic.

*Jupiter is **afflicted** by Mars in opposition.*

### **burden**

Weight down with a load.

*The schooner Wyoming of about 6 000 tons **burden**.*

### **choke**

A knob which controls the choke in a carburettor.

*Vegetation **choked** the trails.*

### **conquer**

Climb (a mountain) successfully.

***Conquer** a country.*

### **cruelly**

(with reference to an event) in a way that causes pain or suffering.

*Their hopes were **cruelly** dashed.*

### **curb**

Keep to the curb.

*She promised she would **curb** her temper.*

<b>defeat</b>	An instance of defeating or being defeated. <i><b>Defeat</b> your enemies.</i>
<b>encumber</b>	Hold back. <i>She was <b>encumbered</b> by her heavy skirts.</i>
<b>harass</b>	Subject to aggressive pressure or intimidation. <i>Being <b>harassed</b> at work can leave you feeling confused and helpless.</i>
<b>irritate</b>	Make (someone) annoyed or a little angry. <i><b>Irritate</b> the glands of a leaf.</i>
<b>mistreat</b>	Treat (a person or animal) badly, cruelly, or unfairly. <i>He denied <b>mistreating</b> his workers.</i>
<b>muffle</b>	Deaden (a sound or noise), especially by wrapping. <i>A <b>muffle</b> furnace.</i>
<b>overawe</b>	Subdue, restrain, or overcome by affecting with a feeling of awe; frighten (as with threats). <i>The eleven year old was <b>overawed</b> by the atmosphere.</i>
<b>persecute</b>	Subject (someone) to hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of their ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation or their political beliefs. <i>Some religious groups are <b>persecuted</b> in some countries.</i>
<b>predominance</b>	The state of being predominant over others. <i>Hollywood s continued <b>predominance</b> in the international film market.</i>
<b>repress</b>	Impede or hinder the natural development or self-expression of. <i>Isabel couldn t <b>repress</b> a sharp cry of fear.</i>
<b>restrain</b>	Deprive (someone) of freedom of movement or personal liberty. <i>All front seats must be equipped with seat belts which <b>restrain</b> the upper part of the body.</i>
<b>restrict</b>	Place under restrictions limit access to by law. <i>Some roads may have to be closed at peak times to <b>restrict</b> the number of visitors.</i>
<b>rile</b>	Make turbid by stirring up the sediments of. <i>He d been drinking sweet clear water from a well and now that water had been muddied and <b>riled</b>.</i>
<b>ruthlessly</b>	Without pity or compassion for others. <i>They fell prey to money lenders who <b>ruthlessly</b> exploited them.</i>
<b>smother</b>	Make (someone) feel trapped and oppressed by acting in an overly protective manner towards them. <i><b>Smother</b> fires.</i>
<b>stifle</b>	Be asphyxiated; die from lack of oxygen. <i>She <b>stifled</b> a giggle.</i>

<b>subdue</b>	Bring under control by force or authority. <i>She managed to <b>subdue</b> an instinct to applaud.</i>
<b>subjugate</b>	Put down by force or intimidation. <i>The rich landowners <b>subjugated</b> the peasants working the land.</i>
<b>suffocate</b>	Deprive of oxygen and prevent from breathing. <i>The child <b>suffocated</b> herself with a plastic bag that the parents had left on the floor.</i>
<b>suppress</b>	Bring under control by force or authority. <i><b>Suppress</b> a nascent uprising.</i>
<b>suppression</b>	The conscious inhibition of unacceptable memories, impulses, or desires. <i>The heavy handed <b>suppression</b> of political dissent.</i>
<b>tyrannize</b>	Rule a country as a tyrant. <i>She <b>tyrannized</b> her family.</i>
<b>vex</b>	Cause annoyance in; disturb, especially by minor irritations. <i>A <b>vexing</b> problem.</i>

