

Need another word that means the same as “optional”? Find 8 synonyms and 30 related words for “optional” in this overview.

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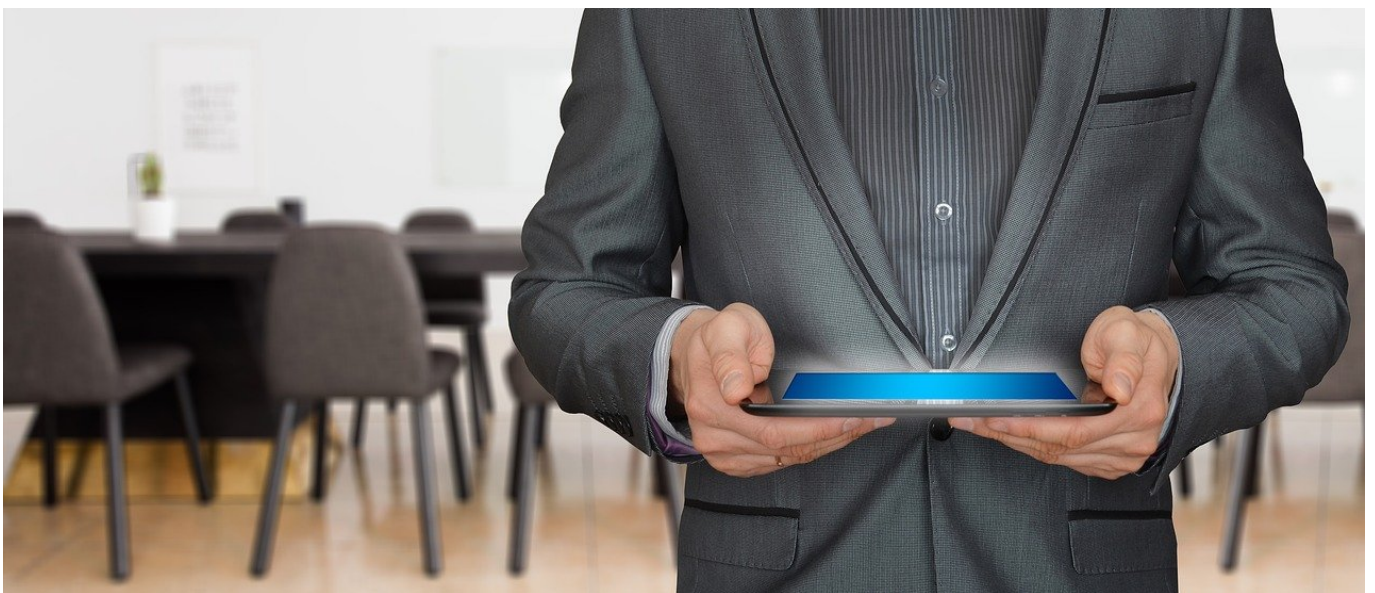
**The synonyms of “Optional” are: voluntary, discretionary, not required, up to the individual, elective, free, open, unforced**

## Optional as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Optional" as an adjective

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

- *Available to be chosen but not obligatory.*
- *Possible but not necessary; left to personal choice.*



## Synonyms of "Optional" as an adjective (8 Words)

<b>discretionary</b>	Available for use at the discretion of the user. <i><b>Discretionary</b> portfolios.</i>
<b><u>elective</u></b>	(of a body or position) possessing or giving the power to elect. <i><b>Elective</b> surgery.</i>
<b>free</b>	Using or expending something without restraint; lavish. A <i><b>free</b></i> country.
<b>not required</b>	Required by rule.
<b>open</b>	Of a vowel produced with a relatively wide opening of the mouth and the tongue kept low. <i>The party's commitment to <b>open</b> government.</i>
<b>unforced</b>	Not resulting from undue effort; not forced. An <i><b>unforced</b></i> cheerfulness.
<b>up to the individual</b>	Open.
<b><u>voluntary</u></b>	Controlled by individual volition. <i><b>Voluntary</b> manslaughter.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Optional" as an adjective

- *A wide range of optional excursions is offered.*



## Associations of "Optional" (30 Words)

**abstention**

Restraint in one's consumption; abstinence.  
*A resolution passed by 126 votes to none with six **abstentions**.*

**accessory**

Someone who helps another person commit a crime.  
*She was charged as an **accessory** to murder.*

**alternative**

Necessitating a choice between mutually exclusive possibilities.  
*An **alternative** lifestyle.*

**ballot**

Vote by ballot.  
*If the offer is oversubscribed acceptances will be **balloted**.*

**choice**

An act of choosing between two or more possibilities.  
*Your **choice** of colors was unfortunate.*

**choose**

Pick out select or choose from a number of alternatives.  
*I always **choose** the fish over the meat courses in this restaurant.*

**chosen**

Having been selected as the best or most appropriate.  
*She was Mama's **chosen**.*

<b>decide</b>	Cause to decide. <i>I ve <b>decided</b> to stay on a bit.</i>
<b><u>elect</u></b>	Selected as the best. <i>I <b>elected</b> to have my funds deposited automatically.</i>
<b>election</b>	The status or fact of being elected. <i>His <b>election</b> to the House of Representatives.</i>
<b><u>elective</u></b>	Not compulsory. <i>An <b>elective</b> course of study.</i>
<b>elector</b>	In the US a member of the electoral college. <i>Close to 60 per cent of the 60 000 registered <b>electors</b> voted.</i>
<b>hustings</b>	A meeting at which candidates in an election address potential voters. <i>I was out on the <b>hustings</b> talking to people.</i>
<b>incoming</b>	The act of entering. <i>Keep an account of your <b>incomings</b> and outgoings.</i>
<b>individually</b>	One by one; singly; separately. <i>Dublin people dress more <b>individually</b> than people in London.</i>
<b>menu</b>	(computer science) a list of options available to a computer user. <i>They worked rapidly down the <b>menu</b> of reports.</i>
<b>opt</b>	Make a choice from a range of possibilities. <i>Consumers will <b>opt</b> for low priced goods.</i>
<b>option</b>	Buy or sell an option on. <i>She was given the <b>option</b> of resigning or being dismissed.</i>
<b><u>pick</u></b>	Hit lightly with a picking motion. <i>He was my <b>pick</b> for mayor.</i>
<b>predetermine</b>	Predestine (an outcome or course of events). <i>A strong sense that life had been <b>predetermined</b>.</i>
<b><u>prefer</u></b>	Give preference to one creditor over another. <i>We <b>prefer</b> sleeping outside.</i>
<b>referendum</b>	A legislative act is referred for final approval to a popular vote by the electorate.
<b>scarify</b>	Make shallow incisions in (the skin), especially as a medical procedure or traditional cosmetic practice. <i><b>Scarify</b> soil.</i>
<b>select</b>	Selected or chosen for special qualifications. <i>Click Tools on the menu bar and <b>select</b> Settings.</i>
<b>selection</b>	A plot of land acquired by selection. <i>The publication of a <b>selection</b> of his poems.</i>

- selective** (of a process or agent) affecting some things and not others.  
*He is very **selective** in his reading.*
- selectively** By selection; in a selective manner.  
*He accused state officials of **selectively** enforcing the law.*
- singly** One by one; one at a time.  
*He talked to the players **singly** and in groups.*
- suffrage** (in the Book of Common Prayer) the intercessory petitions pronounced by a priest in the Litany.  
*The **suffrages** of the community.*
- vote** Cause someone to gain or lose a particular post or honour by means of a vote.  
*The referendum call was **voted** down.*

