

Need another word that means the same as “passive”? Find 25 synonyms and 30 related words for “passive” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Passive” are: inactive, peaceful, submissive, acquiescent, unresisting, yielding, unassertive, compliant, complaisant, pliant, resigned, obedient, docile, tractable, malleable, pliable, meek, subdued, deferential, forbearing, long-suffering, patient, lamblike, supine, passive voice**

## Passive as a Noun

### Definitions of "Passive" as a noun

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

- *A passive form of a verb.*
- *The passive voice.*
- *The voice used to indicate that the grammatical subject of the verb is the recipient (not the source) of the action denoted by the verb.*



## Synonyms of "Passive" as a noun (1 Word)

**passive voice** The voice used to indicate that the grammatical subject of the verb is the recipient (not the source) of the action denoted by the verb.



## Usage Examples of "Passive" as a noun

- *'The ball was thrown by the boy' uses the passive voice.*
- *'The ball was thrown' is an abbreviated passive.*



## Passive as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Passive" as an adjective

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), "passive" as an adjective can have the

following definitions:

- *Lacking in energy or will- George Meredith.*
- *Accepting or allowing what happens or what others do, without active response or resistance.*
- *(of radar or a satellite) receiving or reflecting radiation from a transmitter or target rather than generating its own signal.*
- *(of a heating system) making use of incident sunlight as an energy source.*
- *Expressing that the subject of the sentence is the patient of the action denoted by the verb.*
- *(of a circuit or device) containing no source of electromotive force.*
- *Peacefully resistant in response to injustice.*
- *Lacking in energy or will.*
- *Denoting a voice of verbs in which the subject undergoes the action of the verb (e.g. they were killed as opposed to the active form he killed them).*
- *(of a metal) made unreactive by a thin inert surface layer of oxide.*



## Synonyms of "Passive" as an adjective (24 Words)

<b>acquiescent</b>	Ready to accept something without protest, or to do what someone else wants. <i>His <b>acquiescent</b> mood.</i>
<b>complaisant</b>	Willing to please others or to accept what they do or say without protest. <i>To close one's eyes like a <b>complaisant</b> husband whose wife has taken a lover.</i>
<b>compliant</b>	Inclined to comply. <i>The conversion of the gel to a much less <b>compliant</b> rigid glass.</i>
<b>deferential</b>	Showing deference. <i>People were always <b>deferential</b> to him.</i>
<b><u>docile</u></b>	Easily handled or managed. <i><b>Docile</b> pupils eager for instruction.</i>
<b>forbearing</b>	Showing patient and unruffled self-control and restraint under adversity; slow to retaliate or express resentment. <i>Seemly and <b>forbearing</b> yet strong enough to resist aggression.</i>
<b>inactive</b>	Not in physical motion. <i><b>Inactive</b> machinery.</i>
<b>lamblike</b>	Like a lamb in meekness and gentleness.
<b>long-suffering</b>	Patiently bearing continual wrongs or trouble.
<b><u>malleable</u></b>	Easily influenced; pliable. <i><b>Malleable</b> metals such as gold.</i>
<b><u>meek</u></b>	Evidencing little spirit or courage; overly submissive or compliant- Orville Prescott. <i><b>Meek</b> as a mouse.</i>
<b><u>obedient</u></b>	Complying or willing to comply with an order or request; submissive to another's authority. <i>A docile and <b>obedient</b> dog.</i>
<b>patient</b>	Enduring trying circumstances with even temper or characterized by such endurance. <i>A <b>patient</b> smile.</i>
<b>peaceful</b>	Peacefully resistant in response to injustice. <i>Everything was so quiet and <b>peaceful</b> in the early morning.</i>
<b><u>pliable</u></b>	Susceptible to being led or directed. <i><b>Pliable</b> teenage minds.</i>
<b>pliant</b>	Capable of being bent or flexed or twisted without breaking. <i><b>Pliant</b> willow stems.</i>

<b>resigned</b>	Having accepted something unpleasant that one cannot do anything about. <i>My response is a <b>resigned</b> shrug of the shoulders.</i>
<b>subdued</b>	(of a person or their manner) quiet and rather reflective or depressed. <i>A <b>subdued</b> whisper.</i>
<b>submissive</b>	Abjectly submissive characteristic of a slave or servant. <i>Replacing troublemakers with more <b>submissive</b> people.</i>
<b>supine</b>	Passive as a result of indolence or indifference. <i>The government was <b>supine</b> in the face of racial injustice.</i>
<b><u>tractable</u></b>	Readily reacting to suggestions and influences. <i>The natives being of an intelligent <b>tractable</b> disposition.</i>
<b>unassertive</b>	Inclined to timidity or lack of self-confidence. <i>A shy <b>unassertive</b> person.</i>
<b>unresisting</b>	Offering no resistance. <i>She took the box from his <b>unresisting</b> hand.</i>
<b>yielding</b>	Tending to give in or surrender or agree. <i>A deep <b>yielding</b> layer of foam rubber.</i>





## Usage Examples of "Passive" as an adjective

- *A passive optical network is to be installed in 2000 homes.*
- *The women were portrayed as passive victims.*
- *Passive sensors detect the emissions from enemy radar.*
- *Passive resistance.*
- *Much benevolence of the passive order may be traced to a disinclination to inflict pain upon oneself.*
- *Academics seem to favor passive sentences.*
- *Bananas can be grown at the highest altitude using passive solar heating alone.*



## Associations of "Passive" (30 Words)

### **acquiescence**

The reluctant acceptance of something without protest.  
*In silent **acquiescence** she rose to her feet.*

<b>bashful</b>	Disposed to avoid notice blate is a Scottish term for bashful. <i>Don t be <b>bashful</b> about telling folk how you feel.</i>
<b>coy</b>	Showing marked and often playful or irritating evasiveness or reluctance to make a definite or committing statement. <i>Like a wild young colt very inquisitive but very <b>coy</b> and not to be easily cajoled.</i>
<b>demure</b>	Reserved, modest, and shy (typically used of a woman). <i>A <b>demure</b> knee length skirt.</i>
<b>diffident</b>	Lacking self-confidence. <i>A <b>diffident</b> youth.</i>
<b>disinclined</b>	Unwilling because of mild dislike or disapproval. <i>The rural community was <b>disinclined</b> to abandon the old ways.</i>
<b>eschew</b>	Deliberately avoid using; abstain from. <i>He appealed to the crowd to <b>eschew</b> violence.</i>
<b>inactive</b>	(of e.g. volcanos) not erupting and not extinct. <i><b>Inactive</b> Crohn s disease.</i>
<b>introvert</b>	(psychology) a person who tends to shrink from social contacts and to become preoccupied with their own thoughts. <i>He <b>introverted</b> his feelings.</i>
<b>introverted</b>	(of an organ or other body part) turned or pushed inward on itself.
<b>loath</b>	(usually followed by `to') strongly opposed. <i><b>Loath</b> to admit a mistake.</i>
<b>negatively</b>	In a negative way. <i>Traffic congestion had impacted <b>negatively</b> on their business.</i>
<b>passivity</b>	The trait of remaining inactive; a lack of initiative. <i>Nickel increases the overall <b>passivity</b> of the iron.</i>
<b>prissy</b>	Excessively fastidious and easily disgusted. <i>A middle class family with two <b>prissy</b> children.</i>
<b>prudish</b>	Exaggeratedly proper. <i>The <b>prudish</b> moral climate of the late 19th century.</i>
<b>quiet</b>	With little or no activity or no agitation quiet is a nonstandard variant for quietly. <i>We wanted a <b>quiet</b> wedding.</i>
<b>reserved</b>	Kept specially for a particular person. <i>Was habitually <b>reserved</b> in speech withholding her opinion.</i>
<b>reticent</b>	Not revealing one's thoughts or feelings readily. <i>She was extremely <b>reticent</b> about her personal affairs.</i>

<b><u>retired</u></b>	(of a place) quiet and secluded. A <b>retired</b> headmaster.
<b>retiring</b>	Of a person who has held and relinquished a position or office. A <b>retiring</b> member of the board.
<b>shy</b>	Slow or reluctant to do (something). The wealthy have become less <b>shy</b> of displaying their privilege.
<b>silence</b>	Stop or suppress (a sound or noise); cause to become silent. An eerie <b>silence</b> descended over the house.
<b><u>silent</u></b>	Implied by or inferred from actions or statements. A <b>silent</b> prayer.
<b><u>taciturn</u></b>	Habitually reserved and uncommunicative. After such gatherings she would be <b>taciturn</b> and morose.
<b><u>timid</u></b>	Showing fear and lack of confidence. I was too <b>timid</b> to ask for what I wanted.
<b>timorous</b>	Timid by nature or revealing timidity. A <b>timorous</b> voice.
<b>unassertive</b>	(of a person) not having or showing a confident and forceful personality. His bland and <b>unassertive</b> personal style.
<b>uncommunicative</b>	Unwilling to talk or impart information. He had always been quiet and <b>uncommunicative</b> having few friends.
<b><u>withdrawn</u></b>	Withdrawn from society seeking solitude. When her husband died she became very <b>withdrawn</b> .

