

Need another word that means the same as “penalty”? Find 14 synonyms and 30 related words for “penalty” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Penalty” are: penalisation, penalization, punishment, sanction, retribution, penance, disadvantage, difficulty, drawback, handicap, snag, downside, minus, detriment**

## Penalty as a Noun

### Definitions of "Penalty" as a noun

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

- *A punishment imposed for breaking a law, rule, or contract.*
- *The disadvantage or painful consequences of an action or condition.*
- *The act of punishing.*
- *(games) a handicap or disadvantage that is imposed on a competitor (or a team) for an infraction of the rules of the game.*
- *A payment required for not fulfilling a contract.*
- *A handicap or disadvantage that is imposed on a competitor (or a team) for an infraction of the rules of the game.*
- *A kick or shot awarded to a team because of an infringement of the rules by an opponent.*
- *(in sports and games) a handicap imposed on a player or team for infringement of rules.*
- *A disadvantage suffered as the result of an action or situation.*
- *Points won by the defenders when a declarer fails to make the contract.*



## Synonyms of "Penalty" as a noun (14 Words)

- detriment** A damage or loss.  
*Such tests are a **detriment** to good education.*
- difficulty** A thing that is hard to accomplish, deal with, or understand.  
*They agreed about the **difficulty** of the climb.*
- disadvantage** An unfavourable circumstance or condition that reduces the chances of success or effectiveness.  
*A major **disadvantage** is the limited nature of the data.*
- downside** A negative aspect of something that is generally positive.  
*There is a **downside** even to motherhood.*
- drawback** An amount of excise or import duty remitted on goods exported.  
*He pointed out all the **drawbacks** to my plan.*
- handicap** A race or contest in which a handicap is imposed.  
*He was born with a significant visual **handicap**.*

<b>minus</b>	A disadvantage. <i>Four <b>minus</b> three equals one.</i>
<b>penalisation</b>	The act of punishing.
<b>penalization</b>	The act of punishing.
<b>penance</b>	Voluntary self-punishment in order to atone for some wrongdoing. <i>He had done public <b>penance</b> for those hasty words.</i>
<b>punishment</b>	A penalty inflicted as retribution for an offence. <i>She assisted her husband to escape <b>punishment</b> for the crime.</i>
<b>retribution</b>	Punishment inflicted on someone as vengeance for a wrong or criminal act. <i>Divine <b>retribution</b>.</i>
<b>sanction</b>	Measures taken by a state to coerce another to conform to an international agreement or norms of conduct, typically in the form of restrictions on trade or official sporting participation. <i>The United States had agreed to lift economic <b>sanctions</b>.</i>
<b>snag</b>	A rent or tear in fabric caused by a snag. <i>Dozens of species of birds and mammals use standing <b>snags</b> for nesting.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Penalty" as a noun

- *A penalty corner.*
- *The charge carries a maximum penalty of ten years' imprisonment.*
- *The cold never leaves my bones these days—one of the penalties of age.*
- *She only incurred 6.40 penalties for time on cross-country.*
- *Neglected his health and paid the penalty.*



## Associations of "Penalty" (30 Words)

**abeyance**

Temporary cessation or suspension.

*Matters were held in **abeyance** pending further enquiries.*

<b>accuse</b>	Claim that (someone) has done something wrong. <i>He was <b>accused</b> of murdering his wife s lover.</i>
<b><u>berate</u></b>	Scold or criticize (someone) angrily. <i>She <b>berated</b> herself for being fickle.</i>
<b>castigate</b>	Inflict severe punishment on. <i>He was <b>castigated</b> for not setting a good example.</i>
<b>castigation</b>	A severe scolding.
<b>chasten</b>	Censure severely. <i>The director was somewhat <b>chastened</b> by his recent flops.</i>
<b><u>chastise</u></b>	Censure severely. <i>He <b>chastised</b> his colleagues for their laziness.</i>
<b>comeuppance</b>	An outcome (good or bad) that is well deserved and fitting. <i>He got his <b>comeuppance</b> in the end.</i>
<b>demotion</b>	Act of lowering in rank or position. <i>She could remain on the staff if she accepted <b>demotion</b> to ordinary lecturer.</i>
<b>disciplinary</b>	Concerning or enforcing discipline. <i>A soldier will face <b>disciplinary</b> action after going absent without leave.</i>
<b><u>errant</u></b>	Travelling in search of adventure. <i>That same lady <b>errant</b>.</i>
<b>felony</b>	A crime regarded in the US and many other judicial systems as more serious than a misdemeanour. <i>An accusation of <b>felony</b>.</i>
<b>gibbet</b>	Hang up a body on a gibbet. <i>Poor Melbourne is <b>gibbeted</b> in The Times.</i>
<b>misbehavior</b>	Improper or wicked or immoral behavior.
<b><u>misdeed</u></b>	Improper or wicked or immoral behavior. <i>His past <b>misdeeds</b> were forgiven.</i>
<b>penal</b>	(of an act or offence) punishable by law. <i>The campaign for <b>penal</b> reform.</i>
<b>penalize</b>	Impose a penalty on; inflict punishment on. <i>Section twenty <b>penalizes</b> possession of a firearm when trespassing.</i>
<b>punish</b>	Impose a penalty on inflict punishment on. <i>I have done wrong and I m being <b>punished</b> for it.</i>
<b><u>punitive</u></b>	Inflicting or intended as punishment. <i>A current <b>punitive</b> interest rate of 31 3 per cent.</i>

<b>rebuke</b>	An act or expression of criticism and censure. <i>The judge publicly <b>rebuked</b> the jury.</i>
<b>reprimand</b>	Address a reprimand to. <i>Officials were <b>reprimanded</b> for poor work.</i>
<b>reproof</b>	Censure severely or angrily. <i>She welcomed him with a mild <b>reproof</b> for leaving her alone.</i>
<b>retribution</b>	The act of taking revenge (harming someone in retaliation for something harmful that they have done) especially in the next life. <i>Minos threatened war against Athens in <b>retribution</b> for his son's death.</i>
<b>retributive</b>	Given or inflicted in requital according to merits or deserts. <i><b>Retributive</b> justice.</i>
<b>scold</b>	Someone (especially a woman) who annoys people by constantly finding fault. <i>His mother was the village <b>scold</b>.</i>
<b>spank</b>	Give a spanking to subject to a spanking. <i>She was <b>spanked</b> for spilling ink on the carpet.</i>
<b>subdue</b>	Bring under control by force or authority. <i>Charles went on a campaign to <b>subdue</b> the Saxons.</i>
<b>suspension</b>	Temporary cessation or suspension. <i>Modifications have been made to the car's rear <b>suspension</b>.</i>
<b>vindictory</b>	Given or inflicted in requital according to merits or deserts.
<b>violator</b>	Someone who assaults others sexually. <i>Monica is able to name the <b>violators</b> of her body.</i>



