

Need another word that means the same as “petulant”? Find 50 synonyms and 30 related words for “petulant” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Petulant” are: cranky, fractious, irritable, nettlesome, peckish, peevish, pettish, scratchy, techy, testy, tetchy, complaining, touchy, waspish, prickly, crusty, peppery, fretful, cross, crabbed, crabby, crotchety, cantankerous, curmudgeonly, disagreeable, miserable, morose, edgy, impatient, bitter, moody, in a bad mood, grumpy, huffy, out of sorts, out of temper, ill-tempered, bad-tempered, ill-natured, ill-humoured, sullen, surly, sulky, sour, churlish, bilious, liverish, dyspeptic, splenetic, choleric

Petulant as an Adjective

Definitions of "Petulant" as an adjective

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

- *(of a person or their manner) childishly sulky or bad-tempered.*
- *Easily irritated or annoyed.*

Synonyms of "Petulant" as an adjective (50 Words)

bad-tempered Annoyed and irritable.

bilious Spiteful; bad-tempered.
*His **bilious** temperament.*

bitter Feeling or showing anger, hurt, or resentment because of bad experiences or a sense of unjust treatment.
*Shed **bitter** tears.*

<u>cantankerous</u>	Bad-tempered, argumentative, and uncooperative. <i>He can be a cantankerous old fossil at times.</i>
choleric	Characterized by anger. <i>A choleric disposition.</i>
churlish	Rude in a mean-spirited and surly way. <i>Churlish as a bear.</i>
complaining	Expressing dissatisfaction or annoyance about something. <i>She apologized to the complaining crowd.</i>
crabbed	(of style) contorted and difficult to understand. <i>Crabbed legal language.</i>
crabby	Irritable. <i>He was crabby at having his siesta interrupted.</i>
cranky	Inclined to heel over easily under sail. <i>He was cranky after eight hours of working.</i>
<u>cross</u>	Extending or lying across in a crosswise direction at right angles to the long axis. <i>He seemed to be very cross about something.</i>
crotchety	Irritable. <i>He was tired and crotchety.</i>
crusty	(especially of an old person) easily irritated. <i>A crusty old man.</i>
curmudgeonly	Brusque and surly and forbidding. <i>His curmudgeonly temper.</i>
<u>disagreeable</u>	Not to your liking. <i>A disagreeable situation.</i>
dyspeptic	Suffering from dyspepsia.
<u>edgy</u>	Tense, nervous, or irritable. <i>He became edgy and defensive.</i>
fractious	(typically of children) irritable and quarrelsome. <i>They fight and squabble like fractious children.</i>
<u>fretful</u>	Nervous and unable to relax. <i>The baby was crying with a fretful whimper.</i>
<u>grumpy</u>	Annoyed and irritable. <i>His performance as the grumpy gateman.</i>
huffy	Annoyed or irritated and quick to take offence at petty things. <i>The old ladies made a huffy pretence of being uninterested.</i>
ill-humoured	Brusque and surly and forbidding.

ill-natured	Having an irritable and unpleasant disposition.
ill-tempered	Annoyed and irritable.
impatient	Restlessly eager. <i>Impatient of criticism.</i>
in a bad mood	Directed or bound inward.
irritable	Capable of responding to stimuli. <i>She was tired and irritable.</i>
liverish	Unhappy and bad-tempered. <i>A liverish red.</i>
miserable	Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy. <i>Horribly wet and miserable conditions.</i>
moody	Showing a brooding ill humor. <i>Grainy film which gives a soft moody effect.</i>
morose	Showing a brooding ill humor. <i>She was morose and silent when she got home.</i>
nettlesome	Causing annoyance or difficulty. <i>Not the least nettlesome of his countrymen.</i>
out of sorts	Not allowed to continue to bat or run.
out of temper	No longer fashionable.
peckish	Easily irritated or annoyed. <i>I hadn't eaten and was quite peckish.</i>
peevish	Easily irritated or annoyed. <i>A thin peevish voice.</i>
peppery	(of a person) irritable and sharp-tongued. <i>Nasturtiums have a peppery taste.</i>
pettish	(of a person or their behaviour) childishly bad-tempered and petulant. <i>He comes across in his journal entries as spoiled and pettish.</i>
prickly	Resembling prickles. <i>Prickly velvet seats.</i>
scratchy	Bad-tempered or irritable. <i>She was a little abrupt and scratchy.</i>
sour	Showing a brooding ill humor- Bruce Bli. <i>She sampled the wine and found it was sour.</i>
splenetic	Very irritable. <i>A splenetic rant.</i>

sulky	Sullen or moody. <i>Disappointment was making her sulky.</i>
sullen	Showing a brooding ill humor. <i>A sullen crowd.</i>
surly	Bad-tempered and unfriendly. <i>The porter left with a surly expression.</i>
techy	Easily irritated or annoyed.
testy	Easily irritated; impatient and somewhat bad-tempered. <i>His testy disapproving father.</i>
tetchy	Irritable and bad-tempered. <i>She had always been tetchy and impatient with him.</i>
touchy	(of an issue or situation) requiring careful handling; delicate. <i>A touchy subject.</i>
waspish	Very irritable. <i>Witty and waspish about his colleagues.</i>

Usage Examples of "Petulant" as an adjective

- *He was moody and petulant.*
- *A petulant shake of the head.*

Associations of "Petulant" (30 Words)

aggravate	Make worse. <i>Military action would only aggravate the situation.</i>
anger	Fill someone with anger provoke anger in. <i>Venting his anger had calmed him a little.</i>
annoy	Cause annoyance in disturb especially by minor irritations. <i>The decision really annoyed him.</i>
annoyed	Aroused to impatience or anger. <i>I got very annoyed watching the film.</i>
bad	Badly. <i>Bad news.</i>
cantankerous	Having a difficult and contrary disposition. <i>A cantankerous and venomous tongued old lady.</i>
complaining	Expressing dissatisfaction or annoyance about something. <i>A complaining boss.</i>

cranky	Bad-tempered; irritable. <i>After a juddering landing the cranky plane eased up the runway.</i>
<u>crooked</u>	Having or marked by bends or angles; not straight or aligned. <i>A dress with a crooked hemline.</i>
<u>curmudgeon</u>	A crusty irascible cantankerous old person full of stubborn ideas.
defuse	Make (a situation) less tense or dangerous. <i>Explosives specialists tried to defuse the grenade.</i>
delicate	A delicate fabric or garment. <i>Delicate negotiations.</i>
fearful	Lacking courage; ignobly timid and faint-hearted- P.B.Shelley. <i>He was in a fearful hurry.</i>
fractious	Easily irritated or annoyed. <i>An incorrigibly fractious young man.</i>
<u>fret</u>	Provide a musical instrument with frets. <i>Fret a guitar.</i>
<u>fretful</u>	Habitually complaining. <i>The baby was crying with a fretful whimper.</i>
<u>harassment</u>	A feeling of intense annoyance caused by being tormented. <i>They face daily harassment and assault on the streets.</i>
inconvenient	Not conveniently timed. <i>She telephoned frequently usually at inconvenient times.</i>
irritable	(of a body part) abnormally sensitive. <i>She was tired and irritable.</i>
irritated	Showing or feeling slight anger; annoyed. <i>The irritated look on Alec's face.</i>
peevish	Having or showing an irritable disposition. <i>A thin peevish voice.</i>
querulous	Complaining in a rather petulant or whining manner. <i>She became querulous and demanding.</i>
<u>tense</u>	Cause to be tense and uneasy or nervous or anxious. <i>Tense piano strings.</i>
testy	Easily irritated or annoyed. <i>His testy disapproving father.</i>
<u>tickle</u>	Touch or stroke lightly. <i>I had a tickle between my shoulder blades.</i>

ticklish	(of a situation or problem) difficult or tricky and requiring careful handling. <i>They re rather ticklish on the subject.</i>
touchy	(of an issue or situation) requiring careful handling; delicate. <i>A touchy subject.</i>
<u>uncomfortable</u>	Causing or feeling slight pain or physical discomfort. <i>An uncomfortable way of surprising me just when I felt surest.</i>
<u>uneasy</u>	Causing or feeling anxiety; troubled or uncomfortable. <i>She lived in a state of uneasy truce with her strict father.</i>
vicious	(of an animal) wild and dangerous to people. <i>A vicious assault.</i>