

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.*

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

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

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

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

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

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