

Need another word that means the same as “pilot”? Find 63 synonyms and 30 related words for “pilot” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Pilot” are:** archetype, original, pilot film, pilot program, airplane pilot, buffer, cowcatcher, fender, pilot burner, pilot light, airman, airwoman, flyer, aeronaut, navigator, helmsman, guide, steersman, coxswain, trial episode, pilot episode, pilot programme, experimental, exploratory, model, tentative, speculative, preliminary, aviate, fly, navigate, be at the controls of, control, handle, manoeuvre, drive, operate, steer, regulate, monitor, direct, captain, sail, usher, shepherd, show the way to, lead, conduct, escort, convoy, test, trial, put to the test, try out, carry out trials on, experiment with, assess, investigate, examine, appraise, evaluate, check out

## Pilot as a Noun

### Definitions of "Pilot" as a noun

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

- *A program exemplifying a contemplated series; intended to attract sponsors.*

- *Small auxiliary gas burner that provides a flame to ignite a larger gas burner.*
- *A navigational handbook for use at sea.*
- *An inclined metal frame at the front of a locomotive to clear the track.*
- *Someone who is licensed to operate an aircraft in flight.*
- *A jockey.*
- *A person who operates the flying controls of an aircraft.*
- *A guide or leader.*
- *An unmodulated reference signal transmitted with another signal for the purposes of control or synchronization.*
- *A person qualified to guide ships through difficult waters going into or out of a harbor.*
- *A person with expert local knowledge qualified to take charge of a ship entering or leaving a harbour.*
- *A television or radio programme made to test audience reaction with a view to the production of a series.*
- *Something that serves as a model or a basis for making copies.*



## Synonyms of "Pilot" as a noun (22 Words)

<b>aeronaut</b>	Someone who operates an aircraft.
<b>airman</b>	A member of the US air force of the lowest rank, below staff sergeant.
<b>airplane pilot</b>	An aircraft that has a fixed wing and is powered by propellers or jets.
<b>airwoman</b>	A woman aviator.
<b><u>archetype</u></b>	An original which has been imitated; a prototype. <i>He was the <b>archetype</b> of the old style football club chairman.</i>
<b><u>buffer</u></b>	A person or thing that reduces a shock or that forms a barrier between incompatible or antagonistic people or things. <i>Family and friends can provide a <b>buffer</b> against stress.</i>
<b>cowcatcher</b>	An inclined metal frame at the front of a locomotive to clear the track.
<b>coxswain</b>	The senior petty officer in a small ship or submarine in the Royal Navy.
<b>fender</b>	A low frame bordering a fireplace to prevent burning coals from falling out. <i>In Britain they call a <b>fender</b> a wing.</i>
<b>flyer</b>	A person or thing that flies, especially in a particular way. <i>His free kick was a real <b>flyer</b>.</i>
<b>guide</b>	Someone who shows the way by leading or advising. <i>A comprehensive <b>guide</b> to British hotels and restaurants.</i>
<b>helmsman</b>	The person who steers a ship.
<b><u>navigator</u></b>	A person who navigates a ship, aircraft, etc. <i>New Zealand was discovered by Dutch <b>navigator</b> Abel Tasman.</i>
<b><u>original</u></b>	An original creation i.e. an audio recording from which copies can be made. <i>The designer has donated one of her amazing <b>originals</b> a frothy pink evening dress.</i>
<b>pilot burner</b>	An inclined metal frame at the front of a locomotive to clear the track.
<b>pilot episode</b>	Someone who is licensed to operate an aircraft in flight.
<b>pilot film</b>	A program exemplifying a contemplated series; intended to attract sponsors.
<b>pilot light</b>	A program exemplifying a contemplated series; intended to attract sponsors.
<b>pilot program</b>	Small auxiliary gas burner that provides a flame to ignite a larger gas burner.
<b>pilot programme</b>	Someone who is licensed to operate an aircraft in flight.

**steersman**

A person who is steering a boat or ship.

**trial episode**

An annoying or frustrating or catastrophic event.



## Usage Examples of "Pilot" as a noun

- *He returns to our TV screens in a pilot for a Channel 4 sitcom.*
- *A strike by local airline pilots.*
- *The crash had been due to pilot error.*
- *Many expected him to get the job as Desert Orchid's pilot.*





## Pilot as a Verb

### Definitions of "Pilot" as a verb

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), "pilot" as a verb can have the following definitions:

- *Act as the navigator in a car, plane, or vessel and plan, direct, plot the path and position of the conveyance.*
- *Guide or steer.*
- *Operate an airplane.*
- *Test (a scheme, project, etc.) before introducing it more widely.*
- *Be the pilot of (an aircraft or ship).*



## Synonyms of "Pilot" as a verb (35 Words)

<b>appraise</b>	Evaluate or estimate the nature, quality, ability, extent, or significance of. <i>There is a need to <b>appraise</b> existing techniques.</i>
<b><u>assess</u></b>	Calculate or estimate the price or value of. <i>It is difficult to <b>assess</b> whether this is a new trend.</i>
<b>aviate</b>	Pilot or fly in an aircraft. <i>An aircraft that can be <b>aviated</b> without effort.</i>
<b>be at the controls of</b>	Work in a specific place, with a specific subject, or in a specific function.
<b><u>captain</u></b>	Be the captain of a sports team. <i>All the boats are <b>captained</b> by professional sailors.</i>
<b>carry out trials on</b>	Have on hand.
<b>check out</b>	Block or impede (a player from the opposing team) in ice hockey.

<b>conduct</b>	Transmit a form of energy such as heat or electricity by conduction. <i>He <b>conducted</b> us to the palace.</i>
<b>control</b>	Exercise authoritative control or power over. <i>Are you <b>controlling</b> for the temperature.</i>
<b>convoy</b>	Escort in transit. <i>American destroyers helped to <b>convoy</b> much needed supplies to Britain in 1917 18.</i>
<b>direct</b>	Plan and direct a complex undertaking. <i>He <b>directed</b> that no picture from his collection could be sold.</i>
<a href="#"><u>drive</u></a>	Of a motor vehicle travel under the control of a driver. <i>We need to allow market forces to <b>drive</b> growth in the telecommunications sector.</i>
<b>evaluate</b>	Evaluate or estimate the nature quality ability extent or significance of. <i>Substitute numbers in a simple formula and <b>evaluate</b> the answer.</i>
<b>examine</b>	Question or examine thoroughly and closely. <i>The customs agent <b>examined</b> the baggage.</i>
<b>experiment with</b>	To conduct a test or investigation.
<a href="#"><u>fly</u></a>	Release a bird to fly especially a hawk for hunting or a pigeon for racing. <i>You must <b>fly</b> the country for a while.</i>
<b>guide</b>	Use as a guide. <i>The groove in the needle <b>guides</b> the thread.</i>
<b>handle</b>	Handle effectively. <i>The first penalty came as Brown <b>handled</b>.</i>
<b>investigate</b>	Investigate scientifically. <i>Everyone with a possible interest in your brother's death must be thoroughly <b>investigated</b>.</i>
<b>lead</b>	Cause something to pass or lead somewhere. <i>They are waiting for an expansion of world trade to <b>lead</b> a recovery.</i>
<b>manoeuvre</b>	Perform a movement in military or naval tactics in order to secure an advantage in attack or defense. <i>She tried to <b>manoeuvre</b> her trolley round people.</i>
<b>monitor</b>	Listen to and report on (a foreign radio broadcast or a phone conversation). <i>It was not easy to discover exactly how many calls were <b>monitored</b>.</i>



<b>navigate</b>	Act as the navigator in a car, plane, or vessel and plan, direct, plot the path and position of the conveyance. <i>She <b>navigated</b> the car safely through the traffic.</i>
<b>operate</b>	Perform a surgical operation. <i>The doctors <b>operated</b> on the patient but failed to save his life.</i>
<b>put to the test</b>	Adapt.
<b>regulate</b>	Control or maintain the rate or speed of (a machine or process) so that it operates properly. <i>The standard time by which other clocks were <b>regulated</b>.</i>
<b>sail</b>	Travel in a ship or boat using sails or engine power. <i>The QE2 will <b>sail</b> to Southampton tomorrow.</i>
<u><b>shepherd</b></u>	Watch over like a shepherd as a teacher of her pupils. <i>Although the sheep are <b>shepherded</b> they re generally only counted when we bring them in.</i>
<b>show the way to</b>	Give an exhibition of to an interested audience.
<u><b>steer</b></u>	Direct the course; determine the direction of travelling. <i>The teacher <b>steered</b> the gifted students towards the more challenging courses.</i>
<b>test</b>	Carry out a medical test on a person a part of the body or a body fluid. <i>The teacher <b>tests</b> us every week.</i>
<u><b>trial</b></u>	Of a horse dog or other animal compete in trials. <i>Teachers all over the UK are <b>trailing</b> the materials.</i>
<b>try out</b>	Take a sample of.
<u><b>usher</b></u>	Cause or mark the start of something new. <i>A waiter <b>ushered</b> me to a table.</i>





## Usage Examples of "Pilot" as a verb

- *He piloted the helicopter from Paris to Deauville.*
- *Melissa piloted her through the booking hall.*
- *The pilot flew to Cuba.*
- *One-day workshops for part-time staff were piloted in June.*





## Pilot as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Pilot" as an adjective

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

- *Done as an experiment or test before being introduced more widely.*



### Synonyms of "Pilot" as an adjective (6 Words)

<b>experimental</b>	Based on experience as opposed to authority or conjecture. <b>Experimental</b> results.
<b>exploratory</b>	Serving in or intended for exploration or discovery. <b>Exploratory</b> talks.
<b>model</b>	Worthy of imitation. <b>Model</b> citizens.

**preliminary**

Denoting an action or event preceding or in preparation for something more important.

A ***preliminary*** draft.

**speculative**

Not based on fact or investigation.

***Speculative*** business enterprises.

**tentative**

Not certain or fixed; provisional.

Drew a few ***tentative*** conclusions.



## Usage Examples of "Pilot" as an adjective

- A *pilot* scheme for training workers.





## Associations of "Pilot" (30 Words)

<b>aeronaut</b>	Someone who operates an aircraft.
<b><u>airborne</u></b>	Moved or conveyed by or through air. <i><b>Airborne</b> pollutants.</i>
<b><u>aircraft</u></b>	A vehicle that can fly.
<b>airliner</b>	A large passenger aircraft.
<b>airman</b>	A pilot or member of the crew of an aircraft, especially in an air force.
<b><u>airplane</u></b>	A powered flying vehicle with fixed wings and a weight greater than that of the air it displaces; an aeroplane. <i>The flight was delayed due to trouble with the <b>airplane</b>.</i>
<b>aviator</b>	A pair of aviator sunglasses. <i>He has a short grey beard and wears a flannel shirt jeans and <b>aviator</b> glasses.</i>

<b><u>blimp</u></b>	A small nonrigid airship used for observation or as a barrage balloon. <i>I could work out four hours a day and still end up a <b>blimp</b>.</i>
<b>bombardier</b>	A member of a bomber crew in the US air force responsible for aiming and releasing bombs.
<b>butterfly</b>	Flutter like a butterfly. <i>A social <b>butterfly</b>.</i>
<b>cockpit</b>	A compartment for the pilot, and sometimes also the crew, in an aircraft or spacecraft. <i>Most conventional army training takes place on the <b>cockpit</b> of Salisbury Plain.</i>
<b>fighter</b>	Someone who fights (or is fighting). <i>World War II <b>fighter</b> planes.</i>
<b>fledged</b>	Equipped with feathers. <i>A newly <b>fledged</b> Detective Inspector.</i>
<b><u>fly</u></b>	Cause to fly or float. <i>Rumors and accusations are <b>flying</b>.</i>
<b>footloose</b>	(of a commercial, industrial, or financial operation) unrestricted in its location or field of operations and able to respond to fluctuations in the market. <i>A <b>footloose</b> young man eager to see the big city.</i>
<b>hangar</b>	House an aircraft in a hangar. <i>The army choppers that were <b>hangared</b> out at Springs.</i>
<b>hijacking</b>	An act of unlawfully seizing an aircraft, vehicle, or ship while in transit; a hijack. <i>He was involved in a <b>hijacking</b> in 1981.</i>
<b><u>hover</u></b>	Be suspended in the air, as if in defiance of gravity. <i>Her hand <b>hovered</b> over the console.</i>
<b>jet</b>	Fly a jet plane. <i>Blood <b>jett</b>ed from his nostrils.</i>
<b>kite</b>	Fly a kite. <i>The pilot <b>kited</b> for a long time over the mountains.</i>
<b>levitate</b>	Be suspended in the air, as if in defiance of gravity. <i>The guru claimed that he could <b>levitate</b>.</i>
<b>maneuverable</b>	Capable of maneuvering or changing position. <i>A highly <b>maneuverable</b> ship.</i>
<b>moth</b>	A clothes moth. <i>I store my sweaters in plastic bags to protect them from <b>moths</b>.</i>

<b>plane</b>	Cut or remove with or as if with a plane. <i>He lived on a worldly <b>plane</b>.</i>
<b>pterodactyl</b>	(in general use) any pterosaur.
<b>pterosaur</b>	A fossil flying reptile of the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods, with membranous wings supported by a greatly lengthened fourth finger.
<b>sortie</b>	A short trip or journey. <i>An early morning <b>sortie</b> into the garden of our hotel.</i>
<b>volant</b>	Relating to or characterized by flight. <i>Her sails caught a <b>volant</b> wind.</i>
<b>wing</b>	Travel on wings or by aircraft fly. <i>One bird was <b>winged</b> for every bird killed.</i>
<b>winged</b>	Having one or more lateral parts, appendages, or projections. <i>Her <b>winged</b> spectacles.</i>

