

Need another word that means the same as “pitiful”? Find 45 synonyms and 30 related words for “pitiful” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Pitiful” are: deplorable, distressing, lamentable, sad, sorry, pathetic, pitiable, hapless, miserable, misfortunate, piteous, poor, wretched, disturbing, heartbreaking, moving, affecting, touching, plaintive, poignant, forlorn, abject, tragic, woeful, grievous, paltry, meagre, beggarly, insufficient, insignificant, trifling, negligible, derisory, dreadful, awful, terrible, hopeless, bad, feeble, well below par, inadequate, contemptible, despicable, laughable, worthless**

## Pitiful as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Pitiful" as an adjective

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

- *Compassionate.*
- *Very small or poor; inadequate.*
- *Deserving or inciting pity.*
- *Deserving or arousing pity.*
- *Bad; unfortunate.*
- *Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy.*
- *Inspiring mixed contempt and pity.*



## Synonyms of "Pitiful" as an adjective (45 Words)

<a href="#">abject</a>	Most unfortunate or miserable. <i>The <b>abject</b> condition of the peasants.</i>
affecting	Touching the emotions; moving. <i>A highly <b>affecting</b> account of her experiences in prison.</i>
awful	Extreme in degree or extent or amount or impact. <i>An <b>awful</b> risk.</i>
bad	Feeling physical discomfort or pain though is occasionally used colloquially for bad. <i>A <b>bad</b> cut.</i>
beggarly	Marked by poverty befitting a beggar. <i>The stipend in 1522 was a <b>beggarly</b> 26 shillings.</i>
contemptible	Deserving contempt; despicable. <i>A display of <b>contemptible</b> cowardice.</i>
deplorable	Bringing or deserving severe rebuke or censure. <i>A <b>deplorable</b> act of violence.</i>
derisory	Ridiculously small or inadequate. <i>His <b>derisory</b> gaze swept over her.</i>
despicable	Deserving hatred and contempt. <i>A <b>despicable</b> crime.</i>
distressing	Bad; unfortunate. <i>Some very <b>distressing</b> news.</i>
disturbing	Causing anxiety; worrying. <i>Distressing or <b>disturbing</b> news.</i>
<a href="#">dreadful</a>	Very unpleasant. <i>You re a <b>dreadful</b> flirt.</i>
<a href="#">feeble</a>	Lacking strength of character. <i><b>Feeble</b> efforts.</i>
<a href="#">forlorn</a>	Pitifully sad and abandoned or lonely. <i>The last <b>forlorn</b> attempt.</i>
grievous	Of great gravity or crucial import; requiring serious thought. <i><b>Grievous</b> bodily harm.</i>
hapless	(especially of a person) unfortunate. <i>The <b>hapless</b> victims of the disaster.</i>
<a href="#">heartbreaking</a>	Causing or marked by grief or anguish. <i>Her sigh was <b>heartbreaking</b>.</i>

<b>hopeless</b>	Very bad or incompetent. <i>Jess looked at him in mute <b>hopeless</b> appeal.</i>
<b><u>inadequate</u></b>	Not sufficient to meet a need. <i><b>Inadequate</b> funding.</i>
<b><u>insignificant</u></b>	Meaningless. <i>A minor <b>insignificant</b> bureaucrat.</i>
<b><u>insufficient</u></b>	Of a quantity not able to fulfill a need or requirement. <i>There was <b>insufficient</b> evidence to convict him.</i>
<b>lamentable</b>	(of circumstances or conditions) very bad; deplorable. <i>The industry is in a <b>lamentable</b> state.</i>
<b><u>laughable</u></b>	Arousing or provoking laughter. <i>A contribution so small as to be <b>laughable</b>.</i>
<b>meagre</b>	Deficient in amount or quality or extent. <i>A tall <b>meagre</b> man.</i>
<b><u>miserable</u></b>	Of very poor quality or condition. <i>Horribly wet and <b>miserable</b> conditions.</i>
<b>misfortunate</b>	Deserving or inciting pity.
<b>moving</b>	Used of a series of photographs presented so as to create the illusion of motion. <i>The <b>moving</b> parts of the machine.</i>
<b><u>negligible</u></b>	Not worth considering. <i>The effect was <b>negligible</b>.</i>
<b>paltry</b>	Petty; trivial. <i>A <b>paltry</b> wage.</i>
<b><u>pathetic</u></b>	Inspiring scornful pity- Dashiell Hammett. <i>He s a <b>pathetic</b> excuse for a man.</i>
<b>piteous</b>	Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy. <i><b>Piteous</b> appeals for help.</i>
<b>pitiable</b>	Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy. <i><b>Pitiable</b> lack of character.</i>
<b><u>plaintive</u></b>	Expressing sorrow. <i>A <b>plaintive</b> cry.</i>
<b><u>poignant</u></b>	Keenly distressing to the mind or feelings. <i><b>Poignant</b> anxiety.</i>
<b>poor</b>	(of a person) deserving of pity or sympathy. <i>The proverbial <b>poor</b> artist living in a garret.</i>

<b>sad</b>	Of things that make you feel sad. <i><b>Sad</b> news.</i>
<b>sorry</b>	Feeling sad or distressed through sympathy with someone else's misfortune. <i>He looks a <b>sorry</b> sight with his broken jaw.</i>
<b>terrible</b>	Used to emphasize the extent of something unpleasant or bad. <i>The stranger gave a <b>terrible</b> smile.</i>
<b>touching</b>	Arousing affect. <i>His gratitude was simple and <b>touching</b>.</i>
<b>tragic</b>	Relating to tragedy in a literary work. <i>The <b>tragic</b> parents reached the end of their tether.</i>
<b>trifling</b>	Not worth considering. <i>A <b>trifling</b> sum.</i>
<b>well below par</b>	In good health especially after having suffered illness or injury.
<b>woeful</b>	Of very poor quality or condition. <i><b>Woeful</b> treatment of the accused.</i>
<b>worthless</b>	Having no real value or use. <i>Joan had been deserted by a <b>worthless</b> husband.</i>
<b>wretched</b>	Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy. <i><b>Wretched</b> prisoners huddled in stinking cages.</i>





### **Usage Examples of "Pitiful" as an adjective**

- *A pitiful attempt to impress her.*
- *Two children in a very pitiful state.*
- *Pitiful exhibition of cowardice.*
- *A pitiful fate.*





## Associations of "Pitiful" (30 Words)

<b>dejected</b>	Sad and depressed; dispirited. <i>He stood in the street looking <b>dejected</b>.</i>
<b>deplorable</b>	Deserving strong condemnation; completely unacceptable. <i>My finances were in a <b>deplorable</b> state.</i>
<b><u>disastrous</u></b>	Having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin. <i>United made a <b>disastrous</b> start to the season.</i>
<b>grieve</b>	Feel grief. <i>She <b>grieved</b> for her father.</i>
<b>hapless</b>	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>A <b>hapless</b> victim.</i>

<b>inauspicious</b>	Contrary to your interests or welfare. <i>My words with <b>inauspicious</b> thunderings shook heaven.</i>
<b><u>inferior</u></b>	Of low or inferior quality. <i><b>Inferior</b> goods.</i>
<b>lamentable</b>	Full of or expressing sorrow or grief. <i>A <b>lamentable</b> decision.</i>
<b><u>loser</u></b>	A contestant who loses the contest. <i>South appeared to have three <b>losers</b> a trump a diamond and a spade.</i>
<b><u>miserable</u></b>	(of a person) habitually morose. <i>A <b>miserable</b> man in his late sixties.</i>
<b>mournful</b>	Expressing sorrow. <i>Stared with <b>mournful</b> eyes.</i>
<b>moving</b>	Producing strong emotion, especially sadness or sympathy. <i>The <b>moving</b> parts of the machine.</i>
<b><u>pathetic</u></b>	Inspiring mixed contempt and pity. <i>He s a <b>pathetic</b> excuse for a man.</i>
<b><u>pathos</u></b>	A quality that evokes pity or sadness. <i>The actor injects his customary humour and <b>pathos</b> into the role.</i>
<b>piteous</b>	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>A <b>piteous</b> cry.</i>
<b>pitiable</b>	Deserving or inciting pity. <i><b>Pitiable</b> lack of character.</i>
<b><u>pity</u></b>	A feeling of sympathy and sorrow for the misfortunes of others. <i>It s a <b>pity</b> he couldn t do it.</i>
<b>regrettable</b>	(of conduct or an event) giving rise to regret; undesirable; unwelcome. <i>The loss of this number of jobs is <b>regrettable</b>.</i>
<b>ruth</b>	The great-grandmother of king David whose story is told in the Book of Ruth in the Old Testament.
<b>sad</b>	Of things that make you feel sad Christina Rossetti. <i>She doesn t like <b>sad</b> movies.</i>
<b>sadness</b>	The quality of excessive mournfulness and uncheerfulness. <i>It is one of life s <b>sadnesses</b>.</i>
<b><u>sorrow</u></b>	An event or circumstance that causes sorrow. <i>He tried to express his <b>sorrow</b> at her loss.</i>
<b><u>sorrowful</u></b>	Causing grief. <i><b>Sorrowful</b> news.</i>



- sorry** Feeling regret or penitence.  
*We feel so ashamed that we keep quiet about the whole **sorry** business.*
- touching** Arousing affect.  
*A **touching** reconciliation scene.*
- tragic** Causing or characterized by extreme distress or sorrow.  
*She wears **tragic** cardigans usually done up the wrong way.*
- unfortunate** A person who is considered immoral or lacking in religious faith or instruction, especially a prostitute.  
*Those **unfortunates** whose lives are marred by poverty.*
- unhappy** Not satisfied or pleased with (a situation).  
***Unhappy** over her departure.*
- unlucky** Marked by or promising bad fortune.  
*The visitors were **unlucky** to have a goal disallowed.*
- wretched** Of very poor quality or condition.  
*A **wretched** life.*

