

Need another word that means the same as “poignant”? Find 21 synonyms and 30 related words for “poignant” in this overview.

Table Of Contents:

- [Poignant as an Adjective](#)
- [Definitions of "Poignant" as an adjective](#)
- [Synonyms of "Poignant" as an adjective \(21 Words\)](#)
- [Usage Examples of "Poignant" as an adjective](#)
- [Associations of "Poignant" \(30 Words\)](#)

**The synonyms of “Poignant” are: affecting, touching, moving, sad, pitiful, piteous, pitiable, pathetic, sorrowful, mournful, tearful, wretched, miserable, bitter, painful, distressing, disturbing, heartbreaking, plaintive, upsetting, tragic**

## Poignant as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Poignant" as an adjective

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

- *Sharp or pungent in taste or smell.*
- *Keenly distressing to the mind or feelings.*
- *Evoking a keen sense of sadness or regret.*
- *Arousing affect.*



## Synonyms of "Poignant" as an adjective (21 Words)

- affecting** Touching the emotions; moving.  
*The homecoming of the released hostages was an **affecting** scene.*
- bitter** Proceeding from or exhibiting great hostility or animosity.  
*Raw berries have an intensely **bitter** flavour.*
- distressing** Bad; unfortunate.  
***Distressing** or disturbing news.*
- disturbing** Causing distress or worry or anxiety.  
*A **disturbing** amount of crime.*
- heartbreaking** Causing or marked by grief or anguish.  
*It would be **heartbreaking** to see it all collapse.*
- miserable** Contemptibly small in amount.  
*A lousy dollar a day could any government be more **miserable**.*

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>mournful</b>  | Expressing sorrow.<br><i>Stared with <b>mournful</b> eyes.</i>  |
| <b>moving</b>    | Used of a series of photographs presented so as to create the illusion of motion.<br><i>She laid her case of destitution before him in a very <b>moving</b> letter.</i> |
| <b>painful</b>   | Very bad.<br><i>Her ankle was very <b>painful</b>.</i>  |
| <b>pathetic</b>  | Relating to the emotions.<br><i>The shabby room struck her as extraordinarily <b>pathetic</b>.</i>  |
| <b>piteous</b>   | Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy.<br><i>A <b>piteous</b> cry.</i>   |
| <b>pitiable</b>  | Inspiring mixed contempt and pity.<br><i>The men were in a <b>pitiable</b> condition.</i>   |
| <b>pitiful</b>   | Deserving or arousing pity.<br><i><b>Pitiful</b> exhibition of cowardice.</i>   |
| <b>plaintive</b> | Expressing sorrow.<br><i>A <b>plaintive</b> cry.</i>  |
| <b>sad</b>       | Of things that make you feel sad.<br><i>Her clothes were in <b>sad</b> shape.</i>   |
| <b>sorrowful</b> | Experiencing or marked by or expressing sorrow especially that associated with irreparable loss.<br><i>A <b>sorrowful</b> tale of death and despair.</i>                |
| <b>tearful</b>   | Crying or inclined to cry.<br><i><b>Tearful</b> entreaties.</i>   |
| <b>touching</b>  | Arousing affect.<br><i>Your loyalty is very <b>touching</b>.</i>  |
| <b>tragic</b>    | Relating to tragedy in a literary work.<br><i>A <b>tragic</b> accident.</i>   |
| <b>upsetting</b> | Causing unhappiness, disappointment, or worry.<br><i>An <b>upsetting</b> experience.</i>  |
| <b>wretched</b>  | Characterized by physical misery.<br><i><b>Wretched</b> prisoners huddled in stinking cages.</i>  |



## Usage Examples of "Poignant" as an adjective

- *Poignant grief cannot endure forever.*
- *Poignant anxiety.*
- *A poignant reminder of the passing of time.*
- *The poignant scent of her powder.*



## Associations of "Poignant" (30 Words)

- bitterly** In an angry, hurt, or resentful way.  
*Its humour is cutting and **bitterly** sarcastic.*
- cry** Utter a sudden loud cry.  
*This situation is **crying** for attention.*
- disappointed** Disappointingly unsuccessful.  
*The rising was a revolution of **disappointed** hopes.*
- disastrous** (of events) having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin.  
*The battle was a **disastrous** end to a **disastrous** campaign.*
- disillusioned** Disappointed in someone or something that one discovers to be less good than one had believed.  
*The minority groups were completely **disillusioned** with the party.*
- distressing** Causing distress or worry or anxiety.  
*Some very **distressing** news.*

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>doleful</b>            | Causing grief or misfortune.<br><i>The child s <b>doleful</b> expression.</i>   |
| <b><u>frustrated</u></b>  | Feeling or expressing distress and annoyance resulting from an inability to change or achieve something.<br><i>Years of <b>frustrated</b> attempts to regain control of the site.</i> |
| <b><u>frustrating</u></b> | Discouraging by hindering.<br><i>It can be very <b>frustrating</b> to find that the size you want isn t there.</i>  |
| <b><u>haunting</u></b>    | The action of haunting a place.<br><i>From two handsome and talented young men to two <b>haunting</b> horrors of disintegration.</i>  |
| <b>lament</b>             | A mournful poem a lament for the dead.<br><i>Their pitiful <b>laments</b> could be heard throughout the ward.</i>   |
| <b>lamentable</b>         | Bad; unfortunate.<br><i>The <b>lamentable</b> friends trailing their long black garments.</i>   |
| <b>lamentation</b>        | The passionate expression of grief or sorrow; weeping.<br><i>Scenes of <b>lamentation</b>.</i>  |
| <b>maudlin</b>            | Self-pityingly or tearfully sentimental.<br><i>A <b>maudlin</b> jukebox tune.</i>   |
| <b>mood</b>               | A characteristic (habitual or relatively temporary) state of feeling.<br><i>He was obviously in a <b>mood</b>.</i>  |
| <b>mournful</b>           | Feeling, expressing, or inducing sadness, regret, or grief.<br><i>Stared with <b>mournful</b> eyes.</i>   |
| <b>moving</b>             | Producing strong emotion, especially sadness or sympathy.<br><i>The <b>moving</b> parts of the machine.</i>   |
| <b><u>painful</u></b>     | Causing distress or trouble.<br><i>The <b>painful</b> process of growing up.</i>  |
| <b><u>pathetic</u></b>    | Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy.<br><i>Their efforts were <b>pathetic</b>.</i>   |
| <b><u>pitiful</u></b>     | Compassionate.<br><i>A <b>pitiful</b> attempt to impress her.</i>   |
| <b><u>plaintive</u></b>   | Sounding sad and mournful.<br><i>A <b>plaintive</b> cry.</i>  |
| <b>sad</b>                | Of things that make you feel sad Christina Rossetti.<br><i>They looked at her with <b>sad</b> anxious faces.</i>  |
| <b><u>sorrowful</u></b>   | Experiencing or marked by or expressing sorrow especially that associated with irreparable loss.<br><i>The <b>sorrowful</b> news of his father s death.</i>                           |

- sorry** Feeling or expressing regret or sorrow or a sense of loss over something done or undone.  
*A **sorry** state of affairs.*
- stressful** Causing mental or emotional stress.  
*Corporate finance work can be **stressful**.*
- sulk** A period of sulking.  
*He was **sulking** over the break up of his band.*
- tragic** Of or relating to or characteristic of tragedy.  
*A **tragic** plight.*
- unhappy** Not happy.  
*An **unhappy** marriage.*
- wail** Utter a wail.  
***Wail** in self pity.*
- weep** A fit or period of weeping.  
*A young widow **weeping** her lost lord.*

