

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

mournful	Expressing sorrow. <i>Stared with mournful eyes.</i>
moving	Used of a series of photographs presented so as to create the illusion of motion. <i>She laid her case of destitution before him in a very moving letter.</i>
<u>painful</u>	Very bad. <i>Her ankle was very painful.</i>
<u>pathetic</u>	Relating to the emotions. <i>The shabby room struck her as extraordinarily pathetic.</i>
piteous	Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy. <i>A piteous cry.</i>
pitiable	Inspiring mixed contempt and pity. <i>The men were in a pitiable condition.</i>
<u>pitiful</u>	Deserving or arousing pity. <i>Pitiful exhibition of cowardice.</i>
<u>plaintive</u>	Expressing sorrow. <i>A plaintive cry.</i>
sad	Of things that make you feel sad. <i>Her clothes were in sad shape.</i>
<u>sorrowful</u>	Experiencing or marked by or expressing sorrow especially that associated with irreparable loss. <i>A sorrowful tale of death and despair.</i>
tearful	Crying or inclined to cry. <i>Tearful entreaties.</i>
touching	Arousing affect. <i>Your loyalty is very touching.</i>
<u>tragic</u>	Relating to tragedy in a literary work. <i>A tragic accident.</i>
upsetting	Causing unhappiness, disappointment, or worry. <i>An upsetting experience.</i>
wretched	Characterized by physical misery. <i>Wretched 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. <i>Its humour is cutting and bitterly sarcastic.</i>
cry	Utter a sudden loud cry. <i>This situation is crying for attention.</i>
disappointed	Disappointingly unsuccessful. <i>The rising was a revolution of disappointed hopes.</i>
disastrous	(of events) having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin. <i>The battle was a disastrous end to a disastrous campaign.</i>
disillusioned	Disappointed in someone or something that one discovers to be less good than one had believed. <i>The minority groups were completely disillusioned with the party.</i>
distressing	Causing distress or worry or anxiety. <i>Some very distressing news.</i>

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

