

Need another word that means the same as “precursor”? Find 11 synonyms and 30 related words for “precursor” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Precursor” are: forerunner, harbinger, herald, predecessor, forefather, father, parent, antecedent, ancestor, forebear, progenitor**

## **Precursor as a Noun**

### **Definitions of "Precursor" as a noun**

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

- *Something that precedes and indicates the approach of something or someone.*
- *A substance from which another is formed, especially by metabolic reaction.*
- *A substance from which another substance is formed (especially by a metabolic reaction).*
- *A person who goes before or announces the coming of another.*
- *A person or thing that comes before another of the same kind; a forerunner.*



## Synonyms of "Precursor" as a noun (11 Words)

- ancestor** A person, typically one more remote than a grandparent, from whom one is descended.  
*The **ancestor** of most dolphins is not clear.*
- antecedent** The referent of an anaphor; a phrase or clause that is referred to by an anaphoric pronoun.  
*Some **antecedents** to the African novel might exist in Africa's oral traditions.*
- father** A male parent also used as a term of address to your father.  
*He is held to be the **father** of abstract art.*
- forebear** A person from whom you are descended.  
*Generations of his **forebears** had lived in London.*
- forefather** A precursor of a particular movement.  
*The **forefathers** of modern British socialism.*
- forerunner** A person who goes before or announces the coming of another.  
*Overcast mornings are the sure **forerunners** of steady rain.*

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| <b>harbinger</b>   | A person or thing that announces or signals the approach of another.<br><i>These works were not yet opera but they were the most important <b>harbinger</b> of opera.</i>     |
| <b>herald</b>      | (formal) a person who announces important news.<br><i>The chieftain had a <b>herald</b> who announced his arrival with a trumpet.</i>   |
| <b>parent</b>      | An organization or company which owns or controls a number of subsidiaries.<br><i>God's hand had written in the hearts of our first <b>parents</b> all the rules of good.</i> |
| <b>predecessor</b> | A thing that has been followed or replaced by another.<br><i>The chapel was built in 1864 on the site of its <b>predecessor</b>.</i>  |
| <b>progenitor</b>  | A person or thing from which a person, animal, or plant is descended or originates; an ancestor or parent.<br><i>The <b>progenitor</b> of modern jazz.</i>                    |

## Usage Examples of "Precursor" as a noun

- *Pepsinogen is the inactive precursor of pepsin.*
- *A three-stringed precursor of the violin.*

## Associations of "Precursor" (30 Words)

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|-------------------|--|
| <b>above</b>      | (in writing) at an earlier place.<br><i>Flaws in the <b>above</b> interpretation.</i>  |
| <b>antecedent</b> | Denoting or counting as an antecedent.<br><i>Her early life and <b>antecedents</b> have been traced.</i>                     |
| <b>anterior</b>   | Of or near the head end or toward the front plane of a body.<br><i>The veins <b>anterior</b> to the heart.</i>               |
| <b>before</b>     | During the period of time preceding a particular event or time.<br><i>With the cross of Jesus marching on <b>before</b>.</i> |
| <b>forego</b>     | Lose (s.th.) or lose the right to (s.th.) by some error, offense, or crime.  |
| <b>forerunner</b> | An advance messenger.<br><i>Overcast mornings are the sure <b>forerunners</b> of steady rain.</i>                            |
| <b>former</b>     | Denoting the first or first mentioned of two people or things.<br><i>The <b>former</b> president.</i>                        |
| <b>formerly</b>   | At a previous time.<br><i>The building <b>formerly</b> housed the National Assembly.</i>                                     |

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|--------------------|---|
| <b>front</b>       | Provide something with a front or facing of a particular type or material.<br><i>He walked to the <b>front</b> of the stage.</i>  |
| <b>harbinger</b>   | Foreshadow or presage.<br><i>These works were not yet opera but they were the most important <b>harbinger</b> of opera.</i>   |
| <b>herald</b>      | A brown moth with dull orange markings, often hibernating in houses and old buildings.<br><i>They considered the first primroses as the <b>herald</b> of spring.</i>  |
| <b>omen</b>        | Indicate as with a sign or an omen.<br><i>He looked for an <b>omen</b> before going into battle.</i>  |
| <b>portend</b>     | Be a sign or warning that (something, especially something momentous or calamitous) is likely to happen.<br><i>The eclipses <b>portend</b> some major events.</i>   |
| <b>precede</b>     | Preface or introduce something with.<br><i>He <b>preceded</b> the book with a collection of poems.</i>  |
| <b>precedent</b>   | A previous case or legal decision that may be or binding precedent must be followed in subsequent similar cases.<br><i>We hope to set a legal <b>precedent</b> to protect hundreds of miles of green lanes.</i> |
| <b>preceding</b>   | Existing or coming before.<br><i>A growth in sales above those of the <b>preceding</b> year.</i>  |
| <b>predate</b>     | Exist or occur at a date earlier than (something).<br><i>These mammals <b>predate</b> certain eggs.</i>   |
| <b>predecessor</b> | A thing that has been followed or replaced by another.<br><i>The new President's foreign policy is very similar to that of his <b>predecessor</b>.</i>  |
| <b>preemptive</b>  | Designed or having the power to deter or prevent an anticipated situation or occurrence.<br><i>A <b>preemptive</b> business offer.</i>  |
| <b>prefatory</b>   | Serving as an introduction or preface.<br><i>In his <b>prefatory</b> remarks the author claims that.</i>  |
| <b>prematurely</b> | Before the end of the normal period of gestation.<br><i>His son died <b>prematurely</b>.</i>  |
| <b>premonition</b> | A feeling of evil to come.<br><i>He had a <b>premonition</b> of imminent disaster.</i>  |
| <b>previous</b>    | Previous convictions a criminal record.<br><i>He's got <b>previous</b> theft and wounding.</i>  |
| <b>previously</b>  | At a previous or earlier time; before.<br><i>Museums and art galleries which had <b>previously</b> been open to the public.</i>   |

- prior** The head of a religious order in an abbey the prior is next below the abbot.  
*He had no juvenile record no **priors**.*
- priority** A thing that is regarded as more important than others.  
*The safety of the country takes **priority** over any other matter.*
- superior** A person superior to another in rank or status especially a colleague in a higher position.  
***Superior** wisdom derived from experience.*
- teacher** A person whose occupation is teaching.  
*Books were his **teachers**.*
- trailblazer** Someone who marks a trail by leaving blazes on trees.  
*He was a **trailblazer** for many ideas that are now standard fare.*
- untimely** At a time that is unsuitable or premature.  
*Alcohol brought him to an **untimely** end.*