

Need another word that means the same as “predecessor”? Find 6 synonyms and 30 related words for “predecessor” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Predecessor” are: forerunner, harbinger, herald, precursor, former holder of the post, antecedent

Predecessor as a Noun

Definitions of "Predecessor" as a noun

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

- *One who precedes you in time (as in holding a position or office).*
- *Something that precedes and indicates the approach of something or someone.*
- *A thing that has been followed or replaced by another.*
- *A person who held a job or office before the current holder.*



Synonyms of "Predecessor" as a noun (6 Words)

antecedent

Someone from whom you are descended (but usually more remote than a grandparent).

*Some **antecedents** to the African novel might exist in Africa's oral traditions.*

forerunner

Anything that precedes something similar in time.

*The ice safe was a **forerunner** of today's refrigerator.*

former holder of the post

The first of two or the first mentioned of two.

harbinger

A person or thing that announces or signals the approach of another.

*Witch hazels are the **harbingers** of spring.*

herald

A brown moth with dull orange markings, often hibernating in houses and old buildings.

*The chieftain had a **herald** who announced his arrival with a trumpet.*

precursor

A substance from which another is formed, especially by metabolic reaction.

*A three stringed **precursor** of the violin.*



Usage Examples of "Predecessor" as a noun

- *The chapel was built in 1864 on the site of its predecessor.*
- *The new President's foreign policy is very similar to that of his predecessor.*



Associations of "Predecessor" (30 Words)

- above** In or to a place that is higher.
*The two cases described **above**.*
- antecedence** Preceding in time.
- antecedent** Denoting or counting as an antecedent.
*Phrenology was an **antecedent** of modern neuroscience.*
- antedate** Indicate or discover that (a document, event, or word) should be assigned to an earlier date.
*A civilization that **antedated** the Roman Empire.*
- anterior** A tooth situated at the front of the mouth.
*His malocclusion was caused by malposed **anterior**s.*

before	At or in the front. <i>As I said before.</i>
first	The first or highest in an ordering or series. <i>The first violin section.</i>
forego	Do without or cease to hold or adhere to.
forerunner	A person or thing that precedes the coming or development of someone or something else. <i>The ice safe was a forerunner of today's refrigerator.</i>
former	Having previously been a particular thing. <i>The seafarers of former times.</i>
formerly	At a previous time. <i>The building formerly housed the National Assembly.</i>
front	Of a building or piece of land have the front facing or directed towards. <i>She is set to front a new BBC show.</i>
harbinger	A person or thing that announces or signals the approach of another. <i>Witch hazels are the harbingers of spring.</i>
herald	An official employed to oversee state ceremonial, precedence, and the use of armorial bearings, and (historically) to make proclamations, carry official messages, and oversee tournaments. <i>The chieftain had a herald who announced his arrival with a trumpet.</i>
omen	Indicate as with a sign or an omen. <i>The ghost's appearance was an ill omen.</i>
precede	Be the predecessor of. <i>She always precedes her lectures with a joke.</i>
precedent	A previous case or legal decision that may be or binding precedent must be followed in subsequent similar cases. <i>We hope to set a legal precedent to protect hundreds of miles of green lanes.</i>
preceding	Existing or coming before. <i>A growth in sales above those of the preceding year.</i>
precursor	A person or thing that comes before another of the same kind; a forerunner. <i>Pepsinogen is the inactive precursor of pepsin.</i>
predate	Establish something as being earlier relative to something else. <i>Here parish boundaries seem clearly to predate Roman roads.</i>
preemptive	Designed or having the power to deter or prevent an anticipated situation or occurrence. <i>A preemptive business offer.</i>

prefatory	Serving as an introduction or preface. <i>In his prefatory remarks the author claims that.</i>
prematurely	Too soon; in a premature manner. <i>His son died prematurely.</i>
prerequisite	A thing that is required as a prior condition for something else to happen or exist. <i>Latin was a prerequisite for admission.</i>
previous	Previous convictions a criminal record. <i>The boat s previous owner.</i>
prior	The head of a religious order in an abbey the prior is next below the abbot. <i>He had no juvenile record no priors.</i>
priority	The fact or condition of being regarded or treated as more important than others. <i>The safety of the country takes priority over any other matter.</i>
superior	A superior letter figure or symbol. <i>Trust magnates who felt themselves superior to law.</i>
trailblazer	Someone who helps to open up a new line of research or technology or art. <i>He was a trailblazer for many ideas that are now standard fare.</i>
untimely	At a time that is unsuitable or premature. <i>His untimely death in military action.</i>

