

Need another word that means the same as “provoke”? Find 101 synonyms and 30 related words for “provoke” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Provoke” are: arouse, elicit, enkindle, evoke, fire, kindle, raise, call forth, kick up, stimulate, beset, chevy, chivy, harass, harry, hassle, molest, plague, produce, cause, give rise to, occasion, draw forth, induce, inspire, excite, spark off, touch off, generate, engender, instigate, result in, lead to, bring on, contribute to, make for, foster, promote, breed, precipitate, prompt, trigger, goad, spur, prick, sting, prod, egg on, hound, badger, incite, rouse, stir, move, motivate, inflame, fire up, work up, impel, pressure, pressurize, encourage, urge, annoy, make angry, anger, incense, enrage, send into a rage, irritate, infuriate, exasperate, exacerbate, madden, pique, nettle, get a rise out of, take a rise out of, bother, upset, agitate, vex, irk, gall, get someone's back up, put someone's back up, get on someone's nerves, ruffle, ruffle someone's feathers, make someone's hackles rise, raise someone's hackles, make someone's blood boil, rub up the wrong way, put someone out, exasperating, infuriating, maddening, goading, affronting**

## Provoke as a Verb

### Definitions of "Provoke" as a verb

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

- *Stimulate or incite (someone) to do or feel something, especially by arousing anger in them.*
- *Evoke or provoke to appear or occur.*
- *Provide the needed stimulus for.*

- *Stimulate or give rise to (a reaction or emotion, typically a strong or unwelcome one) in someone.*
- *Call forth (emotions, feelings, and responses).*
- *Deliberately make (someone) annoyed or angry.*
- *Annoy continually or chronically.*



## Synonyms of "Provoke" as a verb (101 Words)

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>affronting</b>   | Treat, mention, or speak to rudely.  |
| <b>agitate</b>      | Cause to be agitated excited or roused.<br><i>The thought of questioning Toby <b>agitated</b> him extremely.</i>             |
| <b>anger</b>        | Fill someone with anger provoke anger in.<br><i>I was <b>angered</b> to receive a further letter from them.</i>              |
| <b><u>annoy</u></b> | Cause annoyance in disturb especially by minor irritations.<br><i>Your damned cheerfulness has always <b>annoyed</b> me.</i> |

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| <b>arouse</b>        | Summon into action or bring into existence, often as if by magic.<br><i>An ability to influence the audience and to <b>arouse</b> the masses.</i> |
| <b>badger</b>        | Repeatedly ask (someone) to do something; pester.<br><i>Journalists <b>badgered</b> him about the deals.</i>                                      |
| <b>beset</b>         | Assail or attack on all sides.<br><i>Springy grass all <b>beset</b> with tiny jewel like flowers.</i>   |
| <b>bother</b>        | Make nervous or agitated.<br><i>He wasn't to <b>bother</b> himself with day to day things.</i>  |
| <b>breed</b>         | Develop (a variety of animal or plant) for a particular purpose or quality.<br><i>She <b>breeds</b> dogs.</i>                                     |
| <b>bring on</b>      | Bring into a different state.   |
| <b>call forth</b>    | Give the calls (to the dancers) for a square dance.   |
| <b>cause</b>         | Give rise to cause to happen or occur not always intentionally.<br><i><b>Cause</b> an accident.</i>   |
| <b>chevvy</b>        | Annoy continually or chronically.   |
| <b>chevy</b>         | Annoy continually or chronically.   |
| <b>chivvy</b>        | Tell (someone) repeatedly to do something.<br><i>An association which <b>chivvies</b> government into action.</i>                                 |
| <b>chivy</b>         | Annoy continually or chronically.   |
| <b>contribute to</b> | Contribute to some cause.   |
| <b>draw forth</b>    | Move or go steadily or gradually.   |
| <b>egg on</b>        | Coat with beaten egg.   |
| <b>elicit</b>        | Draw forth (something that is latent or potential) into existence.<br><i>I tried to <b>elicit</b> a smile from Joanna.</i>                        |
| <b>encourage</b>     | Stimulate the development of (an activity, state, or belief).<br><i>The intention is to <b>encourage</b> new writing talent.</i>                  |
| <b>engender</b>      | Call forth.<br><i>The issue <b>engendered</b> continuing controversy.</i>   |
| <b>enkindle</b>      | Set on fire.<br><i>Fresh remembrance of vexation must still <b>enkindle</b> rage.</i>   |
| <b>enrage</b>        | Put into a rage; make violently angry.<br><i>The students were <b>enraged</b> at these new rules.</i>   |
| <b>evoke</b>         | Evoke or provoke to appear or occur.<br><i>This remark <b>evoked</b> sadness.</i>   |

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| <b>exacerbate</b>              | Exasperate or irritate.<br><i>The strong pound has <b>exacerbated</b> the situation by making it much harder for UK companies to compete on price.</i>    |
| <b>exasperate</b>              | Exasperate or irritate.<br><i>This futile process <b>exasperates</b> prison officers.</i>   |
| <b>exasperating</b>            | Make worse.   |
| <b><u>excite</u></b>           | Cause to be agitated excited or roused.<br><i><b>Excite</b> the neurons.</i>  |
| <b>fire</b>                    | Drive out or away by or as if by fire.<br><i>Another gang <b>fired</b> a pistol through the window of a hostel.</i>                                       |
| <b>fire up</b>                 | Terminate the employment of; discharge from an office or position.  |
| <b><u>foster</u></b>           | Bring up under fosterage of children.<br><i>The teacher s task is to <b>foster</b> learning.</i>  |
| <b><u>gall</u></b>             | Become or make sore by or as if by rubbing.<br><i>It <b>galls</b> me that we lost the suit.</i>   |
| <b>generate</b>                | Form (a line, surface, or solid) by notionally moving a point, line, or surface.<br><i>We can t <b>generate</b> enough power for the entire city.</i>     |
| <b>get a rise out of</b>       | Purchase.   |
| <b>get on someone's nerves</b> | Acquire as a result of some effort or action.   |
| <b>get someone's back up</b>   | Suffer from the receipt of.   |
| <b>give rise to</b>            | Allow to have or take.  |
| <b><u>goad</u></b>             | Urge with or as if with a goad.<br><i>The cowboys <b>goaded</b> their cattle across the meadows.</i>  |
| <b>goading</b>                 | Goad or provoke,as by constant criticism.   |
| <b><u>harass</u></b>           | Exhaust by attacking repeatedly.<br><i>This man <b>harasses</b> his female co workers.</i>  |
| <b>harry</b>                   | Persistently carry out attacks on (an enemy or an enemy's territory).<br><i>The raiders then spent three months <b>harrying</b> and burning the area.</i> |
| <b><u>hassle</u></b>           | Harass; pester.<br><i>You want to sit and relax and not get <b>hassled</b>.</i>   |
| <b>hound</b>                   | Pursue or chase relentlessly.<br><i>She was <b>hounded</b> by the Italian press.</i>  |

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| <b>impel</b>                       | Urge or force (a person) to an action; constrain or motivate.<br><i>Vital energies <b>impel</b> him in unforeseen directions.</i>                         |
| <b>incense</b>                     | Perfume with incense or a similar fragrance.<br><i>The aroma of cannabis <b>incensed</b> the air.</i>   |
| <b><u>incite</u></b>               | Urge on; cause to act.<br><i>They conspired to <b>incite</b> riots.</i>   |
| <b><u>induce</u></b>               | Initiate or enhance (a biochemical process, especially the synthesis of an enzyme).<br><i>None of these measures <b>induced</b> a change of policy.</i>   |
| <b>inflamm</b>                     | Become inflamed get sore.<br><i>The repetitive motion <b>inflamed</b> her joint.</i>  |
| <b>infuriate</b>                   | Make furious.<br><i>I was <b>infuriated</b> by your article.</i>  |
| <b><u>infuriating</u></b>          | Make furious.   |
| <b>inspire</b>                     | Spur on or encourage especially by cheers and shouts.<br><i>They can expand their lungs and <b>inspire</b> enough gas to satisfy oxygen requirements.</i> |
| <b><u>instigate</u></b>            | Bring about or initiate (an action or event).<br><i>They <b>instigated</b> a reign of terror.</i>   |
| <b>irk</b>                         | Irritate; annoy.<br><i>It <b>irks</b> her to think of the runaround she received.</i>   |
| <b>irritate</b>                    | Make (someone) annoyed or a little angry.<br><i>It <b>irritates</b> me that she never closes the door after she leaves.</i>                               |
| <b>kick up</b>                     | Strike with the foot.   |
| <b><u>kindle</u></b>               | Catch fire.<br><i>The young man <b>kindled</b> at once.</i>   |
| <b>lead to</b>                     | Be in charge of.  |
| <b>madden</b>                      | Drive (someone or something) insane.<br><i>This is ridiculous she told him <b>maddened</b> by his reaction.</i>   |
| <b>maddening</b>                   | Make mad.   |
| <b>make angry</b>                  | Cause to be enjoyable or pleasurable.   |
| <b>make for</b>                    | Make formulate or derive in the mind.   |
| <b>make someone's blood boil</b>   | Constitute the essence of.  |
| <b>make someone's hackles rise</b> | Amount to.  |

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| <b><u>motivate</u></b>         | Provide (someone) with a reason for doing something.<br><i>He said he would <b>motivate</b> funds to upgrade the food stalls.</i>                           |
| <b>move</b>                    | Have a turn make one's move in a game.<br><i>He justly <b>moves</b> one's derision.</i>   |
| <b>nettle</b>                  | Sting with nettles.<br><i>I was only asking Jess said <b>nettled</b>.</i>   |
| <b>occasion</b>                | Give occasion to.<br><i>His death <b>occasioned</b> her much grief.</i>   |
| <b>pique</b>                   | Cause to feel resentment or indignation.<br><i>With his scientific curiosity <b>piqued</b> he was looking forward to being able to analyse his find.</i>    |
| <b><u>plague</u></b>           | Annoy continually or chronically.<br><i>He has been <b>plagued</b> by ill health.</i>   |
| <b><u>precipitate</u></b>      | Cause to move suddenly and with force.<br><i>The incident <b>precipitated</b> a political crisis.</i>   |
| <b>pressure</b>                | To cause to do through pressure or necessity by physical moral or intellectual means.<br><i>It might be possible to <b>pressure</b> him into resigning.</i> |
| <b>pressurize</b>              | Increase the pressure in or of.<br><i>A <b>pressurized</b> can.</i>   |
| <b>produce</b>                 | Bring onto the market or release.<br><i><b>Produce</b> a movie.</i>   |
| <b>promote</b>                 | Of an additive act as a promoter of a catalyst.<br><i>They are using famous personalities to <b>promote</b> the library nationally.</i>                     |
| <b>prompt</b>                  | Cause someone to take a course of action.<br><i>The violence <b>prompted</b> a wave of refugees to flee the country.</i>                                    |
| <b>put someone out</b>         | Attribute or give.  |
| <b>put someone's back up</b>   | Arrange thoughts, ideas, temporal events.   |
| <b>raise</b>                   | Multiply a number by itself a specified number of times 8 is 2 raised to the power 3.<br><i><b>Raise</b> a mutiny.</i>                                      |
| <b>raise someone's hackles</b> | Increase.   |
| <b>result in</b>               | Have as a result or residue.  |

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| <b>rouse</b>                     | Cause to be agitated excited or roused.<br><i>The crowds were <b>roused</b> to fever pitch by the drama of the race.</i>                                       |
| <b>rub up the wrong way</b>      | Move over something with pressure.   |
| <b>ruffle</b>                    | Pleat or gather into a ruffle.<br><i>This play is going to <b>ruffle</b> some people.</i>  |
| <b>ruffle someone's feathers</b> | Discompose.  |
| <b>send into a rage</b>          | Cause to go somewhere.   |
| <b>spark off</b>                 | Put in motion or move to act.  |
| <b>spur</b>                      | Urge a horse forward by digging one s spurs into its sides.<br><i>Her sons passion for computer games <b>spurred</b> her on to set up a software business.</i> |
| <b>stimulate</b>                 | Stir the feelings, emotions, or peace of.<br><i>The courses <b>stimulate</b> a passion for learning.</i>   |
| <b>sting</b>                     | Cause an emotional pain as if by stinging.<br><i>A nettle <b>stings</b> if you brush it lightly.</i>   |
| <b>stir</b>                      | Stir feelings in.<br><i>Nothing <b>stirred</b> except the wind.</i>  |
| <b>take a rise out of</b>        | Head into a specified direction.   |
| <b>touch off</b>                 | Be in direct physical contact with; make contact.  |
| <b>trigger</b>                   | Release or pull the trigger on.<br><i><b>Trigger</b> a reaction.</i>   |
| <b>upset</b>                     | Disturb the digestion of (a person's stomach).<br><i>This book <b>upset</b> me.</i>  |
| <b>urge</b>                      | Force or impel in an indicated direction.<br><i>Do try to relax she <b>urged</b>.</i>  |
| <b>vex</b>                       | Cause distress to.<br><i>A <b>vexing</b> problem.</i>  |
| <b>work up</b>                   | Use or manipulate to one's advantage.  |



## Usage Examples of "Provoke" as a verb

- *The decision provoked a storm of protest from civil rights organizations.*
- *A teacher can provoke you into working harder.*
- *Rachel refused to be provoked.*
- *Her behavior provoked a quarrel between the couple.*





## Associations of "Provoke" (30 Words)

**agitate**

Cause to be agitated excited or roused.  
*They **agitated** for a reversal of the decision.*

**annoy**

Cause annoyance in disturb especially by minor irritations.  
*The decision really **annoyed** him.*

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| <b>arouse</b>            | Awaken (someone) from sleep.<br><i>This movie usually <b>arouses</b> the male audience.</i>  |
| <b><u>backlash</u></b>   | A strong negative reaction by a large number of people, especially to a social or political development.<br><i>The political movie <b>backlashed</b> on the Democrats.</i> |
| <b>bounce</b>            | Hit something so that it bounces.<br><i>Economists agree that there could be a <b>bounce</b> in prices next year.</i>  |
| <b><u>cringe</u></b>     | Draw back, as with fear or pain.<br><i>I <b>cringed</b> at the fellow s stupidity.</i>   |
| <b>enkindle</b>          | Arouse or inspire (an emotion).<br><i>Fresh remembrance of vexation must still <b>enkindle</b> rage.</i>   |
| <b><u>excite</u></b>     | Cause to be agitated excited or roused.<br><i>The energy of an electron is sufficient to <b>excite</b> the atom.</i>   |
| <b><u>flinch</u></b>     | An act of flinching.<br><i>Don t call me that he said with a <b>flinch</b>.</i>  |
| <b>foment</b>            | Try to stir up public opinion.<br><i>They accused him of <b>fomenting</b> political unrest.</i>  |
| <b><u>incite</u></b>     | Provoke or stir up.<br><i><b>Incite</b> a riot.</i>  |
| <b>incitement</b>        | Needed encouragement.<br><i>This amounted to an <b>incitement</b> to commit murder.</i>  |
| <b>inflame</b>           | Become inflamed get sore.<br><i>Her sister was <b>inflamed</b> with jealousy.</i>  |
| <b>inspire</b>           | Breathe in (air); inhale.<br><i>He <b>inspired</b> his students with a vision of freedom.</i>  |
| <b><u>instigate</u></b>  | Bring about or initiate (an action or event).<br><i>They <b>instigated</b> a reign of terror.</i>  |
| <b><u>invoke</u></b>     | Cite as an authority; resort to.<br><i>She <b>invoked</b> an ancient law.</i>  |
| <b><u>irritation</u></b> | The neural or electrical arousal of an organ or muscle or gland.<br><i>Some chemicals cause a direct <b>irritation</b> to the skin leading to dermatitis.</i>              |
| <b><u>motivate</u></b>   | Provide (someone) with a reason for doing something.<br><i>He said he would <b>motivate</b> funds to upgrade the food stalls.</i>  |
| <b>offend</b>            | Break a commonly accepted rule or principle.<br><i>Her tactless remark <b>offended</b> me.</i>   |

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| <b>provocation</b> | Something that incites or provokes; a means of arousing or stirring to action.<br><i>Twenty patients had a high increase of serum gastrin after <b>provocation</b> with secretin.</i>                 |
| <b>rebound</b>     | The act of securing possession of the rebounding basketball after a missed shot.<br><i>They revealed a big <b>rebound</b> in profits for last year.</i>   |
| <b>recoil</b>      | The action of recoiling.<br><i>The rifle <b>recoiled</b>.</i>   |
| <b>shrink</b>      | Fit something tightly on or on to another object by expanding it with heat and then cooling it rapidly after positioning.<br><i>The metal is unsuitable for <b>shrinking</b> on to wooden staves.</i> |
| <b>spring</b>      | The ability to spring back strongly elasticity.<br><i>Madness and creativity could <b>spring</b> from the same source.</i>  |
| <b>spur</b>        | Strike with a spur.<br><i>Governments cut interest rates to <b>spur</b> demand.</i>   |
| <b>stimulate</b>   | Cause to occur rapidly.<br><i>The women are given fertility drugs to <b>stimulate</b> their ovaries.</i>  |
| <b>stir</b>        | Mix or add by stirring.<br><i>I stood straining eyes and ears for the faintest <b>stir</b>.</i>   |
| <b>unrest</b>      | A feeling of disturbance and dissatisfaction in a person.<br><i>Years of industrial <b>unrest</b>.</i>  |
| <b>vex</b>         | Subject to prolonged examination, discussion, or deliberation.<br><i>I ain t <b>vex</b> with you.</i>   |
| <b>wince</b>       | Make a slight involuntary grimace or shrinking movement of the body out of pain or distress.<br><i>He <b>winc</b>ed at the disgust in her voice.</i>  |

