

Need another word that means the same as “punishing”? Find 9 synonyms and 30 related words for “punishing” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Punishing” are: arduous, backbreaking, grueling, gruelling, hard, heavy, laborious, operose, toilsome

Punishing as an Adjective

Definitions of "Punishing" as an adjective

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

- *Severe and debilitating.*
- *Characterized by effort to the point of exhaustion; especially physical effort.*
- *Physically and mentally demanding; arduous.*



Synonyms of "Punishing" as an adjective (9 Words)

- arduous** Taxing to the utmost; testing powers of endurance- F.D.Roosevelt.
*The **arduous** work of preparing a dictionary.*
- backbreaking** Characterized by effort to the point of exhaustion; especially physical effort.
- grueling** Characterized by effort to the point of exhaustion; especially physical effort.
*A **grueling** campaign.*
- gruelling** Extremely tiring and demanding.
*A **gruelling** schedule.*
- hard** Unfortunate or hard to bear.
*He d had a **hard** life.*
- heavy** Large and powerful especially designed for heavy loads or rough work.
***Heavy** casualties.*

laborious	Requiring considerable time and effort. <i>Spent many laborious hours on the project.</i>
operose	Characterized by effort to the point of exhaustion; especially physical effort.
toilsome	Involving hard or tedious work. <i>Toilsome chores.</i>



Usage Examples of "Punishing" as an adjective

- *Set a punishing pace.*
- *The recession was having a punishing effect on our business.*
- *The band's punishing tour schedule.*



Associations of "Punishing" (30 Words)

accuse	Charge (someone) with an offence or crime. <i>He was accused of murdering his wife s lover.</i>
angrily	In a manner resulting from or betraying anger. <i>Workers reacted angrily to the announcement.</i>
arraign	Call before a court to answer an indictment. <i>Social workers were relieved it was not they who were arraigned in the tabloids.</i>
berate	Scold or criticize (someone) angrily. <i>She berated herself for being fickle.</i>
bluntly	In a blunt direct manner. <i>He spoke bluntly.</i>
castigate	Censure severely. <i>He was castigated for not setting a good example.</i>
castigation	A severe scolding.
chasten	Restrain. <i>The director was somewhat chastened by his recent flops.</i>

chastise	Punish, especially by beating. <i>The General cruelly chastised them with a whip.</i>
chide	Censure severely or angrily. <i>Now now he chided.</i>
demotion	Act of lowering in rank or position. <i>Too many demotions would weaken morale.</i>
errant	Erring or straying from the accepted course or standards. <i>That same lady errant.</i>
impeach	(especially in the US) charge (the holder of a public office) with misconduct. <i>The President was impeached.</i>
indict	Accuse formally of a crime. <i>His former manager was indicted for fraud.</i>
indiscretion	The trait of being injudicious. <i>He knew himself all too prone to indiscretion.</i>
misdeed	A wicked or illegal act. <i>His past misdeeds were forgiven.</i>
offence	A feeling of anger caused by being offended. <i>He made it clear he d taken offence.</i>
penal	Subject to punishment by law. <i>Penal institutions.</i>
penalize	Subject to a penalty or punishment. <i>The students were penalized for showing up late for class.</i>
penalty	Points won by the defenders when a declarer fails to make the contract. <i>Neglected his health and paid the penalty.</i>
rebuke	An act or expression of criticism and censure. <i>She had rebuked him for drinking too much.</i>
reproof	An act or expression of criticism and censure. <i>A look of reproof.</i>
reprove	Take to task. <i>Don't be childish Hilary he reproved mildly.</i>
retribution	Punishment inflicted on someone as vengeance for a wrong or criminal act. <i>The swiftness of divine retribution.</i>
scold	A person who nags or grumbles constantly (typically used of a woman). <i>The mother scolded the child for entering a stranger's car.</i>
spank	Give a spanking to subject to a spanking. <i>When his father caught him he got a spank.</i>

subdue	Get on top of; deal with successfully. <i>Charles went on a campaign to subdue the Saxons.</i>
trespass	Commit an offence against (a person or a set of rules). <i>She really must not trespass on his hospitality.</i>
upbraid	Express criticism towards. <i>He was upbraided for his slovenly appearance.</i>
violator	Someone who violates the law. <i>A violator of nature.</i>

