

Need another word that means the same as “punitive”? Find 20 synonyms and 30 related words for “punitive” in this overview.

Table Of Contents:

- [Punitive as an Adjective](#)
- [Definitions of "Punitive" as an adjective](#)
- [Synonyms of "Punitive" as an adjective \(20 Words\)](#)
- [Usage Examples of "Punitive" as an adjective](#)
- [Associations of "Punitive" \(30 Words\)](#)

**The synonyms of “Punitive” are: punitory, penal, disciplinary, corrective, correctional, retributive, harsh, severe, stiff, austere, cruel, savage, stringent, burdensome, demanding, draconian, drastic, swingeing, crushing, crippling**

## Punitive as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Punitive" as an adjective

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

- *Inflicting or intended as punishment.*
- *(of a tax or other charge) extremely high.*
- *Inflicting punishment.*

### Synonyms of "Punitive" as an adjective (20 Words)

<a href="#">austere</a>	Severe or strict in manner or attitude. <i>The cathedral is impressive in its <b>austere</b> simplicity.</i>
<b>burdensome</b>	Not easily borne; wearing. <i>The <b>burdensome</b> task of preparing the income tax return.</i>
<b>correctional</b>	Relating to the punishment of criminals in a way intended to rectify their behaviour. <i>A <b>correctional</b> institution.</i>
<a href="#">corrective</a>	Designed to correct or counteract something harmful or undesirable. <i>The teacher's action was <b>corrective</b> rather than instructional.</i>

<b>crippling</b>	Causing a severe and almost insuperable problem. <i>A <b>crippling</b> injury.</i>
<b>cruel</b>	Causing pain or suffering. <i>People who are <b>cruel</b> to animals.</i>
<b>crushing</b>	Physically or spiritually devastating; often used in combination. <i>Bone <b>crushing</b>.</i>
<b>demanding</b>	(of a person) making others work hard or meet high standards; not easily satisfied. <i>He was a <b>demanding</b> baby and rarely slept through the night.</i>
<b>disciplinary</b>	Relating to a specific field of academic study. <i>A soldier will face <b>disciplinary</b> action after going absent without leave.</i>
<b>draconian</b>	(of laws or their application) excessively harsh and severe. <i>The Nazis destroyed the independence of the press by a series of <b>draconian</b> laws.</i>
<b>drastic</b>	Forceful and extreme and rigorous. <i>A <b>drastic</b> reduction of staffing levels.</i>
<b>harsh</b>	Of textures that are rough to the touch or substances consisting of relatively large particles. <i>The <b>harsh</b> white light makes you screw up your eyes.</i>
<b>penal</b>	Subject to punishment by law. <i>The juvenile was sentenced to six months in a <b>penal</b> institution.</i>
<b>punitory</b>	Inflicting punishment.
<b>retributive</b>	Given or inflicted in requital according to merits or deserts. <i><b>Retributive</b> justice.</i>
<b>savage</b>	Able or disposed to inflict pain or suffering. <i>The decision was a <b>savage</b> blow for the town.</i>
<b>severe</b>	Severely simple. <i>A hefty six footer with a rather <b>severe</b> mien.</i>
<b>stiff</b>	(of a person or their manner) not relaxed or friendly; constrained. <i>A <b>stiff</b> neck.</i>
<b>stringent</b>	(of regulations, requirements, or conditions) strict, precise, and exacting. <i><b>Stringent</b> safety measures.</i>
<b>swingeing</b>	Severe or extreme in size, amount, or effect. <i><b>Swingeing</b> damages awarded by the judge.</i>

## Usage Examples of "Punitive" as an adjective

- A current punitive interest rate of 31.3 per cent.
- He called for punitive measures against the Eastern bloc.
- Punitive damages.
- Punitive justice.

## Associations of "Punitive" (30 Words)

<b>allegation</b>	A formal accusation against somebody (often in a court of law). <i>An <b>allegation</b> of malpractice.</i>
<b>arraign</b>	Accuse of a wrong or an inadequacy. <i>Her sister was <b>arraigned</b> on charges of attempted murder.</i>
<b>castigation</b>	Verbal punishment.
<b>commit</b>	Refer a parliamentary or legislative bill to a committee. <i>After the second episode she had to be <b>committed</b>.</i>
<b>complicity</b>	The fact or condition of being involved with others in an activity that is unlawful or morally wrong. <i>They were accused of <b>complicity</b> in the attempt to overthrow the government.</i>
<b>confession</b>	The religious body or Church sharing a confession of faith. <i>His words are a political <b>confession</b> of faith.</i>
<b>conspiracy</b>	A group of conspirators banded together to achieve some harmful or illegal purpose. <i>A <b>conspiracy</b> to destroy the government.</i>
<b>conviction</b>	A formal declaration by the verdict of a jury or the decision of a judge in a court of law that someone is guilty of a criminal offence. <i>The <b>conviction</b> came as no surprise.</i>
<b>execution</b>	Putting a condemned person to death. <i>The film is entirely professional in its <b>execution</b>.</i>
<b>felony</b>	A serious crime (such as murder or arson). <i>An accusation of <b>felony</b>.</i>
<b>illicit</b>	Forbidden by law, rules, or custom. <i><b>Illicit</b> sex.</i>
<b>indict</b>	Accuse formally of a crime. <i>His former manager was <b>indicted</b> for fraud.</i>

<b>justice</b>	A public official authorized to decide questions brought before a court of justice. <i>The <b>justice</b> of his case.</i>
<b>law</b>	The branch of philosophy concerned with the law and the principles that lead courts to make the decisions they do. <i>A new <b>law</b> was passed to make divorce easier and simpler.</i>
<b>malfeasance</b>	Wrongful conduct by a public official.
<b>malpractice</b>	Professional wrongdoing that results in injury or damage. <i>Victims of medical <b>malpractice</b>.</i>
<b>misdemeanor</b>	A crime less serious than a felony.
<b>offence</b>	A feeling of anger caused by being offended. <i>The new <b>offence</b> of obtaining property by deception.</i>
<b>penal</b>	Subject to punishment by law. <i>Avoid borrowing at <b>penal</b> rates of interest.</i>
<b>penalize</b>	Subject to a penalty or punishment. <i>Section twenty <b>penalizes</b> possession of a firearm when trespassing.</i>
<b>penalty</b>	A payment required for not fulfilling a contract. <i>The charge carries a maximum <b>penalty</b> of ten years imprisonment.</i>
<b>perjury</b>	Criminal offense of making false statements under oath. <i>He claimed two witnesses at his trial had committed <b>perjury</b>.</i>
<b>punish</b>	Impose a penalty on inflict punishment on. <i>Fraudulent acts would be <b>punished</b> by up to two years in prison.</i>
<b>punishment</b>	The act of punishing. <i>Crime demands just <b>punishment</b>.</i>
<b>retributive</b>	Given or inflicted in requital according to merits or deserts. <i><b>Retributive</b> justice.</i>
<b>suspicion</b>	Doubt about someone's honesty. <i>He tried to shield me from <b>suspicion</b>.</i>
<b>threat</b>	Declaration of an intention or a determination to inflict harm on another. <i>His <b>threat</b> to kill me was quite explicit.</i>
<b>trial</b>	Of a horse dog or other animal compete in trials. <i>His mother in law s visits were a great <b>trial</b> for him.</i>
<b>turpitude</b>	A corrupt or depraved or degenerate act or practice. <i>The various <b>turpitudes</b> of modern society.</i>
<b>violator</b>	Someone who assaults others sexually. <i>A curse pronounced over the <b>violators</b> of children.</i>