

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

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**The synonyms of “Relapse” are: get worse, fall back, lapse, recidivate, regress, retrogress, get ill again, get worse again, have a relapse, suffer a relapse, worsen, deteriorate, degenerate, take a turn for the worse, sicken, weaken, fail, sink, revert, backsliding, lapsing, relapsing, reversion, reverting, deterioration, worsening of someone's condition, turn for the worse, setback, weakening**

## Relapse as a Noun

### Definitions of "Relapse" as a noun

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

- *A deterioration in someone's state of health after a temporary improvement.*
- *A failure to maintain a higher state.*

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

#### **backsliding**

The action of relapsing into bad ways or error.

*There would be no **backsliding** from the government's sound policies.*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>deterioration</b>                    | Process of changing to an inferior state.<br><i>A <b>deterioration</b> in the condition of the patient.</i>   |
| <b>lapse</b>                            | The termination of a right or privilege through disuse or failure to follow appropriate procedures.<br><i>A <b>lapse</b> of concentration in the second set cost her the match.</i> |
| <b>lapsing</b>                          | A break or intermission in the occurrence of something.   |
| <b>relapsing</b>                        | A failure to maintain a higher state.   |
| <b>reversion</b>                        | A property to which someone has the right of reversion.<br><i>A problem applicable to most variegated plants is that of <b>reversion</b>.</i>                                       |
| <b>reverting</b>                        | A failure to maintain a higher state.   |
| <b>setback</b>                          | The distance by which a building or part of a building is set back from the property line.<br><i>A serious <b>setback</b> for the peace process.</i>                                |
| <b>turn for the worse</b>               | A division during which one team is on the offensive.   |
| <b>weakening</b>                        | The act of reducing the strength of something.  |
| <b>worsening of someone's condition</b> | A state at a particular time.   |

## Usage Examples of "Relapse" as a noun

- *He responded well to treatment, but then suffered a relapse.*

## Relapse as a Verb

### Definitions of "Relapse" as a verb

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

- *Return to (a less active or a worse state).*
- *Go back to bad behavior.*
- *Deteriorate in health.*
- *(of a sick or injured person) deteriorate after a period of improvement.*

### Synonyms of "Relapse" as a verb (19 Words)

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>degenerate</b>                | Grow worse.<br><i>The debate <b>degenerated</b> into a brawl.</i>  |
| <b>deteriorate</b>               | Grow worse.<br><i>His mind <b>deteriorated</b>.</i>  |
| <b>fail</b>                      | Fail to get a passing grade.<br><i>A lorry whose brakes had <b>failed</b>.</i>   |
| <b>fall back</b>                 | Touch or seem as if touching visually or audibly.  |
| <b>get ill again</b>             | Go or come after and bring or take back.   |
| <b>get worse</b>                 | Overcome or destroy.   |
| <b>get worse again</b>           | Reach with a blow or hit in a particular spot.   |
| <b>have a relapse</b>            | Have ownership or possession of.   |
| <b>lapse</b>                     | Revert to (a previous or more familiar style of speaking or behaviour).<br><i>The girls <b>lapsed</b> into French.</i>   |
| <b>recidivate</b>                | (of a convicted criminal) reoffend.<br><i>Offenders involved with drugs were more likely to <b>recidivate</b>.</i>   |
| <b><u>regress</u></b>            | Calculate the coefficient or coefficients of regression of a variable against or on another variable.<br><i>I <b>regressed</b> Sylvia to early childhood.</i>  |
| <b>retrogress</b>                | Go back to an earlier state, typically a worse one.<br><i>She <b>retrogressed</b> to the starting point of her rehabilitation.</i>                             |
| <b><u>revert</u></b>             | (of property) return to (the original owner) by reversion.<br><i>It is impossible that a fishlike mammal will actually <b>revert</b> to being a true fish.</i> |
| <b>sicken</b>                    | Upset and make nauseated.<br><i>He <b>sickened</b> at the thought.</i>   |
| <b>sink</b>                      | Fall or sink heavily.<br><i>The players were <b>sinking</b> a few post match lagers.</i>   |
| <b>suffer a relapse</b>          | Put up with something or somebody unpleasant.  |
| <b>take a turn for the worse</b> | Take somebody somewhere.   |
| <b><u>weaken</u></b>             | Make or become weaker in power, resolve, or physical strength.<br><i>Fault lines had <b>weakened</b> and shattered the rocks.</i>                              |
| <b><u>worsen</u></b>             | Make or become worse.<br><i>Conditions in the slum <b>worsened</b>.</i>  |

## Usage Examples of "Relapse" as a verb

- *He relapsed into silence.*
- *He relapsed.*
- *Two of the patients in remission relapsed after 48 months.*

## Associations of "Relapse" (30 Words)

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>alcoholism</b>         | An intense persistent desire to drink alcoholic beverages to excess.<br><i>He had a long history of depression drug abuse and <b>alcoholism</b>.</i>                                       |
| <b><u>anachronism</u></b> | The action of attributing something to a period to which it does not belong.<br><i>It is <b>anachronism</b> to suppose that the official morality of the age was mere window dressing.</i> |
| <b>atavism</b>            | A reappearance of an earlier characteristic.<br><i>The more civilized a society seems to be the more susceptible it is to its buried <b>atavism</b>.</i>                                   |
| <b><u>back</u></b>        | Walk or drive backwards.<br><i>At the <b>back</b> of the hotel is a secluded garden.</i>   |
| <b>backslide</b>          | Drop to a lower level, as in one's morals or standards.<br><i>There are many things that can cause slimmers to <b>backslide</b>.</i>   |
| <b>backward</b>           | Having made less than normal progress.<br><i>The child put her jersey on <b>backward</b>.</i>  |
| <b>backwards</b>          | (of an object's motion) back towards the starting point.<br><i>The songs look <b>backwards</b> to long ago battles.</i>  |
| <b>chronic</b>            | Of a person having a chronic illness.<br><i>The film was absolutely <b>chronic</b>.</i>  |
| <b>degeneration</b>       | Deterioration and loss of function in the cells of a tissue or organ.<br><i>Overgrazing has caused serious <b>degeneration</b> of grassland.</i>   |
| <b><u>degraded</u></b>    | Lowered in value.<br><i>She had felt cheap and <b>degraded</b>.</i>  |
| <b>dilution</b>           | The degree to which a solution has been diluted.<br><i>The milk factor is greatly reduced by <b>dilution</b>.</i>  |
| <b>discontinuity</b>      | A break in or lack of continuity.<br><i>There is no significant <b>discontinuity</b> between modern and primitive societies.</i>   |

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| <b>inversion</b>     | <p>A transformation in which each point of a given figure is replaced by another point on the same straight line from a fixed point especially in such a way that the product of the distances of the two points from the centre of inversion is constant.</p> <p><i>The <b>inversion</b> of the normal domestic arrangement.</i></p> |
| <b>rate</b>          | <p>(in the UK) a tax on commercial land and buildings paid to a local authority; (in Northern Ireland and formerly in the UK) a tax levied on private property.</p> <p><i>Your heart <b>rate</b>.</i></p>   |
| <u>recession</u>     | <p>A small concavity.</p> <p><i>Measures to pull the economy out of <b>recession</b>.</i></p>   |
| <b>recrudescence</b> | <p>The recurrence of an undesirable condition.</p> <p><i><b>Recrudescence</b> of the disease is a real possibility.</i></p>   |
| <u>recurrence</u>    | <p>Happening again (especially at regular intervals).</p> <p><i>A drug used to prevent the <b>recurrence</b> of breast cancer.</i></p>  |
| <u>recurrent</u>     | <p>(of a nerve or blood vessel) turning back so as to reverse direction.</p> <p><i>She had a <b>recurrent</b> dream about falling.</i></p>  |
| <u>regress</u>       | <p>Calculate the coefficient or coefficients of regression of a variable against or on another variable.</p> <p><i>A <b>regress</b> to the nursery.</i></p>   |
| <u>regression</u>    | <p>The relation between selected values of x and observed values of y (from which the most probable value of y can be predicted for any value of x).</p> <p><i>It is easy to blame unrest on economic <b>regression</b>.</i></p>  |
| <b>regressive</b>    | <p>Proceeding from effect to cause or from particular to universal.</p> <p><i>A <b>regressive</b> personality.</i></p>  |
| <b>retreat</b>       | <p>Make a retreat from an earlier commitment or activity.</p> <p><i>His proposals were clearly unreasonable and he was forced to <b>retreat</b>.</i></p>  |
| <b>retrograde</b>    | <p>Show retrograde motion.</p> <p><i>To go back on the progress that has been made would be a <b>retrograde</b> step.</i></p>   |
| <b>retrogression</b> | <p>Passing from a more complex to a simpler biological form.</p> <p><i>A <b>retrogression</b> to 19th century attitudes.</i></p>  |
| <u>retrospect</u>    | <p>Look back upon (a period of time, sequence of events); remember.</p> <p><i>A full <b>retrospect</b> of the battle.</i></p>   |
| <b>retrospective</b> | <p>(of a statute or legal decision) taking effect from a date in the past.</p> <p><i>Our survey was <b>retrospective</b>.</i></p>   |

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|-------------------------|---|
| <b>return</b>           | A mechanism or key on a typewriter that returns the carriage to a fixed position at the start of a new line.<br><i>The company <b>returned</b> a profit of 4 3 million.</i> |
| <b>reversion</b>        | A property to which someone has the right of reversion.<br><i>The <b>reversion</b> of property.</i>   |
| <u><b>revert</b></u>    | Return to (a former or ancestral type).<br><i>On <b>reverting</b> our eyes every step presented some new and admirable scene.</i>   |
| <u><b>throwback</b></u> | Characteristic of an atavist.<br><i>A lot of his work is a <b>throwback</b> to the fifties.</i>   |