

Need another word that means the same as “ruthless”? Find 21 synonyms and 30 related words for “ruthless” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Ruthless” are: pitiless, remorseless, unpitying, merciless, cruel, heartless, hard, stony, cold-blooded, harsh, callous, severe, unmerciful, unrelenting, unsparing, unforgiving, unfeeling, uncaring, unsympathetic, uncharitable, lacking compassion

Ruthless as an Adjective

Definitions of "Ruthless" as an adjective

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

- *Having or showing no pity or compassion for others.*
- *Without mercy or pity.*



Synonyms of "Ruthless" as an adjective (21 Words)

callous	Having calluses; having skin made tough and thick through wear. <i>A callous indifference to suffering.</i>
cold-blooded	Without compunction or human feeling.
cruel	Able or disposed to inflict pain or suffering. <i>A cruel remark.</i>
hard	Unfortunate or hard to bear. <i>Why is it so hard for you to keep a secret.</i>
harsh	Unkind or cruel or uncivil. <i>The harsh facts of court delays.</i>
<u>heartless</u>	Displaying a complete lack of feeling or consideration. <i>Heartless thieves stole the pushchair of a two year old boy.</i>
lacking compassion	Inadequate in amount or degree.

<u>merciless</u>	Having or showing no mercy. <i>Gave him a merciless beating.</i>
pitiless	Deficient in humane and kindly feelings. <i>A night of pitiless rain.</i>
remorseless	Without regret or guilt. <i>Remorseless poverty.</i>
<u>severe</u>	Severely simple. <i>A parent severe to the pitch of hostility.</i>
stony	Abounding in rocks or stones. <i>Stony ground.</i>
<u>uncaring</u>	Not feeling interest in or attaching importance to something. <i>An uncaring person.</i>
uncharitable	(of a person's behaviour or attitude towards others) unkind; unsympathetic. <i>All pious words and uncharitable deeds.</i>
unfeeling	Lacking physical sensation or sensitivity. <i>He lowered his numb unfeeling body into a seat and closed his eyes.</i>
<u>unforgiving</u>	Unwilling or unable to forgive or show mercy. <i>The moor can be a wild and unforgiving place in bad weather.</i>
unmerciful	Cruel or harsh; showing no mercy. <i>Deceptively inflated incomes expose many couples to unmerciful taxes.</i>
unpitying	Without mercy or pity. <i>A flat unpitying voice.</i>
<u>unrelenting</u>	Punishingly harsh. <i>The heat was unrelenting.</i>
unsparing	Given freely and generously. <i>She had won her mother's unsparing approval.</i>
unsympathetic	(of characters in literature or drama) tending to evoke antipathetic feelings. <i>A job temperamentally unsympathetic to him.</i>



Usage Examples of "Ruthless" as an adjective

- *A ruthless manipulator.*
- *An act of ruthless ferocity.*



Associations of "Ruthless" (30 Words)

abrasive

Tending to rub or graze the skin.
*The trees were **abrasive** to the touch.*

asperity

Something hard to endure.
*The **asperity** of northern winters.*

austere

Practicing great self-denial.
*The cathedral is impressive in its **austere** simplicity.*

biting

Capable of wounding.
*A **biting** wind.*

bloodthirsty

(of a story or film) containing or depicting much violence.
*A **bloodthirsty** dictator.*

brutal

Able or disposed to inflict pain or suffering.
*The **brutal** honesty of his observations.*

brutish	Resembling or characteristic of a brute. <i>He was coarse and brutish.</i>
corrosive	A corrosive substance. <i>Corrosive criticism.</i>
cruel	Wilfully causing pain or suffering to others, or feeling no concern about it. <i>People who are cruel to animals.</i>
draconian	Of or relating to Draco or his harsh code of laws. <i>The Nazis destroyed the independence of the press by a series of draconian laws.</i>
<u>ferocious</u>	Savagely fierce, cruel, or violent. <i>A ferocious headache.</i>
<u>gory</u>	Covered in blood. <i>A gory horror film.</i>
harsh	Unkind or cruel or uncivil. <i>The harsh facts of court delays.</i>
inexorable	Impervious to pleas, persuasion, requests, reason. <i>The seemingly inexorable march of new technology.</i>
inhumane	Without compassion for misery or suffering; cruel. <i>Biological weapons are considered too inhumane to be used.</i>
machiavellian	Of or relating to Machiavelli or the principles of conduct he recommended.
<u>merciless</u>	Having or showing no mercy. <i>A merciless attack with a blunt instrument.</i>
<u>notorious</u>	Known widely and usually unfavorably. <i>A notorious gangster.</i>
persecutor	Someone who torments. <i>He became known as a persecutor of dissidents.</i>
pitiless	Without mercy or pity. <i>A pitiless executioner.</i>
remorseless	Without regret or guilt. <i>A remorseless killer.</i>
<u>repression</u>	The restraint, prevention, or inhibition of a feeling, quality, etc. <i>His goal was the repression of insolence.</i>
<u>rigorous</u>	(of a person) adhering strictly to a belief or system. <i>Rigorous application of the law.</i>
sadistic	Deriving pleasure or sexual gratification from inflicting pain on another. <i>She took a sadistic pleasure in tormenting him.</i>

sanguinary	Marked by eagerness to resort to violence and bloodshed-G.W.Johnson. <i>They lost heavily in the sanguinary campaigns that followed.</i>
stringently	In a stringent manner. <i>The laws are stringently enforced.</i>
truculence	Obstreperous and defiant aggressiveness.
truculent	Defiantly aggressive. <i>The truculent attitude of farmers to cheaper imports.</i>
unkind	Deficient in humane and kindly feelings. <i>You were terribly unkind to her.</i>

