

Need another word that means the same as “shocking”? Find 48 synonyms and 30 related words for “shocking” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Shocking” are: disgraceful, scandalous, shameful, lurid, appalling, horrifying, horrific, dreadful, awful, frightful, terrible, horrible, outrageous, vile, abominable, ghastly, foul, monstrous, unspeakable, abhorrent, hideous, atrocious, repellent, revolting, odious, repulsive, repugnant, disgusting, nauseating, sickening, grisly, loathsome, offensive, distressing, upsetting, perturbing, disturbing, disquieting, unsettling, agitating, severe, serious, grave, critical, grievous, acute, dire, grim**

## Shocking as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Shocking" as an adjective

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

- *Giving offense to moral sensibilities and injurious to reputation- Thackeray.*
- *Very bad.*
- *Giving offense to moral sensibilities and injurious to reputation.*
- *Glaringly vivid and graphic; marked by sensationalism.*
- *Causing indignation or disgust; offensive.*
- *Causing a feeling of surprise and dismay.*



## Synonyms of "Shocking" as an adjective (48 Words)

- abhorrent** Offensive to the mind.  
*Racism was **abhorrent** to us all.*
- abominable** Exceptionally bad or displeasing.  
*What an **abominable** mess.*
- acute** Denoting or designed for patients with an acute form of a disease.  
*An **acute** sense of smell.*
- agitating** Causing or tending to cause anger or resentment.
- appalling** Causing consternation.  
*His conduct was **appalling**.*
- atrocious** Provoking horror.  
*He attempted an **atrocious** imitation of my English accent.*
- awful** Inspiring reverential wonder or fear.  
*The **awful** war.*

<b>critical</b>	Characterized by careful evaluation and judgment. <i>A <b>critical</b> analysis of Melville's writings.</i>
<b><u>dire</u></b>	Of a very poor quality. <i>He was in <b>dire</b> need of help.</i>
<b><u>disgraceful</u></b>	Giving offense to moral sensibilities and injurious to reputation- Thackeray. <i>It is <b>disgraceful</b> that they should be denied unemployment benefits.</i>
<b>disgusting</b>	Highly offensive; arousing aversion or disgust. <i>He had the most <b>disgusting</b> rotten teeth.</i>
<b>disquieting</b>	Causing mental discomfort. <i>The <b>disquieting</b> sounds of nearby gunfire.</i>
<b>distressing</b>	Causing anxiety, sorrow or pain; upsetting. <i>Some very <b>distressing</b> news.</i>
<b>disturbing</b>	Causing anxiety; worrying. <i>A <b>disturbing</b> amount of crime.</i>
<b><u>dreadful</u></b>	Extremely disagreeable and unpleasant. <i>There's been a <b>dreadful</b> accident.</i>
<b>foul</b>	Of a baseball not hit between the foul lines. <i><b>Foul</b> language.</i>
<b>frightful</b>	Extreme in degree or extent or amount or impact. <i>In a <b>frightful</b> hurry.</i>
<b><u>ghastly</u></b>	Very objectionable, bad, or unpleasant. <i>One of the most <b>ghastly</b> crimes ever committed.</i>
<b><u>grave</u></b>	Dignified and somber in manner or character and committed to keeping promises. <i>A <b>grave</b> situation.</i>
<b>grievous</b>	Causing or marked by grief or anguish. <i>His death was a <b>grievous</b> blow.</i>
<b><u>grim</u></b>	Harshly ironic or sinister. <i><b>Grim</b> necessity.</i>
<b>grisly</b>	Shockingly repellent; inspiring horror. <i>The town was shaken by a series of <b>grisly</b> crimes.</i>
<b>hideous</b>	Extremely ugly. <i>A <b>hideous</b> pattern of injustice.</i>
<b>horrible</b>	Very unpleasant. <i>A <b>horrible</b> massacre.</i>
<b><u>horrific</u></b>	Causing horror. <i><b>Horrific</b> injuries.</i>

<b>horrifying</b>	Provoking horror- Winston Churchill. <i>An alarming even <b>horrifying</b> picture.</i>
<b>loathsome</b>	Highly offensive; arousing aversion or disgust. <i>This <b>loathsome</b> little swine.</i>
<b>lurid</b>	Unpleasantly bright in colour, especially so as to create a harsh or unnatural effect. <i><b>Lurid</b> flames.</i>
<b>monstrous</b>	Inhumanly or outrageously evil or wrong. <i>The <b>monstrous</b> tidal wave swamped the surrounding countryside.</i>
<b>nauseating</b>	Causing or liable to cause a feeling of nausea or disgust; disgusting. <i>A <b>nauseating</b> smell.</i>
<b>odious</b>	Unequivocally detestable- Edmund Burke. <i>Consequences <b>odious</b> to those you govern.</i>
<b>offensive</b>	Morally offensive. <i><b>Offensive</b> operations against the insurgents.</i>
<b>outrageous</b>	Very bold and unusual and rather shocking. <i>Spends an <b>outrageous</b> amount on entertainment.</i>
<b>perturbing</b>	Causing distress or worry or anxiety. <i>There were two scenes that I think would be <b>perturbing</b> to small children.</i>
<b>repellent</b>	Able to repel a particular thing; impervious to a particular substance. <i>A water <b>repellent</b> fabric.</i>
<b>repugnant</b>	Extremely distasteful; unacceptable. <i>Cannibalism seems <b>repugnant</b> to us.</i>
<b>repulsive</b>	Arousing intense distaste or disgust. <i><b>Repulsive</b> behavior.</i>
<b>revolting</b>	Highly offensive; arousing aversion or disgust. <i><b>Revolting</b> food.</i>
<b>scandalous</b>	Giving offense to moral sensibilities and injurious to reputation- Thackeray. <i>A <b>scandalous</b> allegation.</i>
<b>serious</b>	Requiring effort or concentration; complex and not easy to answer or solve. <i>Raised <b>serious</b> objections to the proposal.</i>
<b>severe</b>	Severely simple. <i>A <b>severe</b> blow.</i>
<b>shameful</b>	Giving offense to moral sensibilities and injurious to reputation. <i>A <b>shameful</b> accusation.</i>
<b>sickening</b>	Causing or liable to cause a feeling of nausea or disgust. <i>She hit the ground with a <b>sickening</b> thud.</i>

<b>terrible</b>	Very unskilful. <i>What a <b>terrible</b> mess.</i>
<b>unsettling</b>	Causing anxiety or uneasiness; disturbing. <i>The finale may come as an <b>unsettling</b> shock.</i>
<b>unspeakable</b>	Too sacred to be uttered. <i><b>Unspeakable</b> happiness.</i>
<b>upsetting</b>	Causing an emotional disturbance. <i>An <b>upsetting</b> experience.</i>
<b>vile</b>	Extremely unpleasant. <i>All the feasts that thou hast shared erewhile to mine shall be but <b>vile</b>.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Shocking" as an adjective

- *She brought shocking news.*
- *Shocking behaviour.*

- *I've got a shocking cold.*
- *The most shocking book of its time.*



## Associations of "Shocking" (30 Words)

<b><u>amaze</u></b>	Affect with wonder. <i>He has been <b>amazed</b> by the quality of the employees at the bank.</i>
<b>amazing</b>	Inspiring awe or admiration or wonder. <i>An <b>amazing</b> number of people registered.</i>
<b>astonish</b>	Surprise or impress (someone) greatly. <i>You never fail to <b>astonish</b> me.</i>
<b><u>astonishing</u></b>	Surprising greatly. <i>An <b>astonishing</b> achievement.</i>
<b><u>astounding</u></b>	Bewildering or striking dumb with wonder. <i>The summit offers <b>astounding</b> views.</i>

<b>awesome</b>	Extremely well; excellently. <i>The <b>awesome</b> complexity of the universe.</i>
<b>disturbing</b>	Causing distress or worry or anxiety. <i>A <b>disturbing</b> amount of crime.</i>
<b>flabbergasted</b>	Greatly surprised or astonished. <i><b>Flabbergasted</b> fans took to the streets to celebrate the team's big win.</i>
<b>haunting</b>	The action of haunting a place. <i>From two handsome and talented young men to two <b>haunting</b> horrors of disintegration.</i>
<b>impressive</b>	Making a strong or vivid impression. <i><b>Impressive</b> achievements in science.</i>
<b>incredible</b>	Beyond belief or understanding. <i>An almost <b>incredible</b> tale of triumph and tragedy.</i>
<b>marvelous</b>	Being or having the character of a miracle. <i>A <b>marvelous</b> collection of rare books.</i>
<b>outrageous</b>	Wildly exaggerated or improbable. <i>Her <b>outrageous</b> leotards and sexy routines.</i>
<b>prodigious</b>	Remarkably or impressively great in extent, size, or degree. <i>The young Mozart's <b>prodigious</b> talents.</i>
<b>puzzled</b>	Unable to understand; perplexed. <i>The questioners were met with <b>puzzled</b> looks.</i>
<b>raunchy</b>	Energetically earthy and sexually explicit. <i>His <b>raunchy</b> new novel.</i>
<b>redoubtable</b>	Inspiring fear- G.H. Johnston. <i>He was a <b>redoubtable</b> debater.</i>
<b>revelation</b>	The last book of the New Testament recounting a divine revelation of the future to St John. <i>Seeing them play at international level was a <b>revelation</b>.</i>
<b>saintliness</b>	The quality of resembling a saint. <i>Her selfless behaviour borders on <b>saintliness</b>.</i>
<b>sensational</b>	Causing great public interest and excitement. <i>A <b>sensational</b> view.</i>
<b>shattering</b>	The act of breaking something into small pieces. <i>The <b>shattering</b> peal of artillery.</i>
<b>shock</b>	Collect or gather into shocks. <i>They were deeply <b>shocked</b> by the murder.</i>

<b><u>spectacular</u></b>	Characteristic of spectacles or drama. <i>French history was represented in a <b>spectacular</b> for tourists.</i>
<b><u>staggering</u></b>	Deeply shocking; astonishing. <i>Suffered a <b>staggering</b> defeat.</i>
<b><u>startling</u></b>	So remarkably different or sudden as to cause momentary shock or alarm. <i><b>Startling</b> news.</i>
<b>surprised</b>	Taken unawares or suddenly and feeling wonder or astonishment. <i>There was a <b>surprised</b> silence.</i>
<b><u>surprising</u></b>	Causing surprise; unexpected. <i>Leaped up with <b>surprising</b> agility.</i>
<b>unexpectedly</b>	In a way that was not expected or regarded as likely. <i>Tourist chiefs reported <b>unexpectedly</b> high visitor numbers.</i>
<b>wonderful</b>	Extraordinarily good or great; used especially as intensifiers. <i>The climate was <b>wonderful</b> all the year round.</i>
<b><u>wondering</u></b>	Characterized by or expressive of admiration and amazement. <i>Peter listened with an air of <b>wondering</b> astonishment.</i>



