

Need another word that means the same as “sorry”? Find 63 synonyms and 30 related words for “sorry” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Sorry” are: deplorable, distressing, lamentable, pitiful, sad, blue, dark, dingy, disconsolate, dismal, drab, drear, dreary, gloomy, grim, meritless, no-account, no-count, no-good, bad, regretful, unhappy, sorrowful, distressed, upset, depressed, downcast, miserable, downhearted, disheartened, dejected, down, despondent, despairing, heartbroken, inconsolable, grief-stricken, full of pity, sympathetic, pitying, compassionate, moved, commiserative, consoling, empathetic, caring, concerned, understanding, remorseful, contrite, repentant, rueful, penitent, apologetic, abject, guilty, guilt-ridden, ashamed, shamefaced, sheepish, in sackcloth and ashes, afraid, pitiable**

## Sorry as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Sorry" as an adjective

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

- *Without merit.*
- *Used as a polite request that someone should repeat something that one has failed to hear or understand.*
- *Feeling sad or distressed through sympathy with someone else's misfortune.*
- *Causing dejection.*
- *Feeling regret or penitence.*
- *Bad; unfortunate.*
- *Without merit; of little or no value or use.*
- *Feeling or expressing regret or sorrow or a sense of loss over something done or*

*undone.*

- *Filled with compassion for.*
- *In a poor or pitiful state.*
- *Unpleasant and regrettable, especially on account of incompetence or misbehaviour.*
- *Used to express apology.*



## Synonyms of "Sorry" as an adjective (63 Words)

### [abject](#)

Showing humiliation or submissiveness.  
**Abject** cowardice.

### [afraid](#)

Filled with regret or concern; used often to soften an unpleasant statement.  
*She was **afraid** that he would be angry.*

### [apologetic](#)

Constituting a formal defence or justification of a theory or doctrine.  
*An **apologetic** smile.*

<b><u>ashamed</u></b>	Embarrassed or guilty because of one's actions, characteristics, or associations. <i>I m <b>ashamed</b> to say I followed him home.</i>
<b>bad</b>	Feeling physical discomfort or pain though is occasionally used colloquially for bad. <i>A <b>bad</b> cut.</i>
<b>blue</b>	Of a ski run of the second lowest level of difficulty as indicated by blue markers positioned along it. <i>He s feeling <b>blue</b>.</i>
<b>caring</b>	Displaying kindness and concern for others. <i>A <b>caring</b> and invaluable friend.</i>
<b>commiserative</b>	Feeling or expressing sympathy. <i>Made <b>commiserative</b> clicking sounds with his tongue.</i>
<b>compassionate</b>	Feeling or showing sympathy and concern for others. <i>She tried to sound <b>compassionate</b>.</i>
<b>concerned</b>	Involved in or affected by or having a claim to or share in. <i>A memorandum to those <b>concerned</b>.</i>
<b>consoling</b>	Affording comfort or solace. <i>His sister gave him a <b>consoling</b> pat on the back.</i>
<b>contrite</b>	Feeling or expressing remorse at the recognition that one has done wrong. <i>A <b>contrite</b> tone.</i>
<b>dark</b>	Having a dark hue. <i><b>Dark</b> colors like wine red or navy blue.</i>
<b>dejected</b>	Affected or marked by low spirits. <i>Is <b>dejected</b> but trying to look cheerful.</i>
<b>deplorable</b>	Deserving strong condemnation; completely unacceptable. <i><b>Deplorable</b> housing conditions in the inner city.</i>
<b>depressed</b>	Filled with melancholy and despondency. <i>The market is <b>depressed</b>.</i>
<b>despairing</b>	Showing the loss of all hope. <i>The last <b>despairing</b> plea of the condemned criminal.</i>
<b>despondent</b>	In low spirits from loss of hope or courage. <i><b>Despondent</b> about his failure.</i>
<b><u>dingy</u></b>	Discolored by impurities; not bright and clear is often used in combination. <i>A dirty or <b>dingy</b> white.</i>

<b>disconsolate</b>	Causing dejection. <i>A <b>disconsolate</b> winter landscape.</i>
<b><u>disheartened</u></b>	Having lost determination or confidence; dispirited. <i>The <b>disheartened</b> instructor tried vainly to arouse their interest.</i>
<b>dismal</b>	(of a person or their mood) gloomy. <i>His <b>dismal</b> mood was not dispelled by finding the house empty.</i>
<b>distressed</b>	Impoverished. <i>He dropped out of the race clearly <b>distressed</b> and having difficulty breathing.</i>
<b>distressing</b>	Causing anxiety, sorrow or pain; upsetting. <i><b>Distressing</b> or disturbing news.</i>
<b><u>down</u></b>	Denoting a flavour variety of stable quark having relatively low mass and an electric charge of $-\frac{1}{3}$ . In the Standard Model protons and neutrons are composed of up and down quarks. <i>The <b>down</b> escalator.</i>
<b>downcast</b>	(of a person's eyes) looking downwards. <i>A <b>downcast</b> glance.</i>
<b>downhearted</b>	Filled with melancholy and despondency. <i>Fans must not be <b>downhearted</b> even though we lost.</i>
<b><u>drab</u></b>	Lacking brightness or color; dull. <i>Life was <b>drab</b> compared with the more exciting life style overseas.</i>
<b>drear</b>	Causing dejection.
<b>dreary</b>	Lacking in liveliness or charm or surprise. <i>A series of <b>dreary</b> dinner parties.</i>
<b><u>empathetic</u></b>	Showing empathy or ready comprehension of others' states. <i>I have been touched by the <b>empathetic</b> response to my bad luck.</i>
<b>full of pity</b>	Complete in extent or degree and in every particular.
<b><u>gloomy</u></b>	Dark or poorly lit, especially so as to appear depressing or frightening. <i>A <b>gloomy</b> corridor badly lit by oil lamps.</i>
<b>grief-stricken</b>	Sorrowful through loss or deprivation.
<b><u>grim</u></b>	Harshly uninviting or formidable in manner or appearance- J.M.Barrie. <i>Took a <b>grim</b> view of the economy.</i>
<b>guilt-ridden</b>	Feeling or revealing a sense of guilt.

<b>guilty</b>	Conscious of, affected by, or revealing a feeling of guilt. <i>Secret <b>guilty</b> deeds.</i>
<b><u>heartbroken</u></b>	Suffering from overwhelming distress. <i>He was <b>heartbroken</b> at the thought of leaving the house.</i>
<b>in sackcloth and ashes</b>	Currently fashionable.
<b>inconsolable</b>	(of a person or their grief) not able to be comforted or alleviated. <i>His widow Jane was <b>inconsolable</b>.</i>
<b>lamentable</b>	(of circumstances or conditions) very bad; deplorable. <i>The industry is in a <b>lamentable</b> state.</i>
<b>meritless</b>	Without merit. <i>It is not an entirely <b>meritless</b> idea.</i>
<b><u>miserable</u></b>	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>Their happiness made Anne feel even more <b>miserable</b>.</i>
<b>moved</b>	Being excited or provoked to the expression of an emotion. <i>Too <b>moved</b> to speak.</i>
<b>no-account</b>	Without merit.
<b>no-count</b>	Without merit.
<b>no-good</b>	Without merit.
<b>penitent</b>	Feeling or showing sorrow and regret for having done wrong; repentant. <i>A <b>penitent</b> expression.</i>
<b>pitiable</b>	Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy. <i><b>Pitiable</b> homeless children.</i>
<b><u>pitiful</u></b>	Deserving or arousing pity. <i>A <b>pitiful</b> attempt to impress her.</i>
<b>pitying</b>	Feeling or showing sorrow for someone's misfortunes, often with an implication of disdain or mild contempt. <i>He gave her a <b>pitying</b> look.</i>
<b>regretful</b>	Feeling or showing regret. <i>Felt <b>regretful</b> over his vanished youth.</i>
<b>remorseful</b>	Feeling or expressing pain or sorrow for sins or offenses. <i>The defendant was <b>remorseful</b> for what he had done.</i>
<b>repentant</b>	Expressing or feeling sincere regret and remorse; remorseful. <i>He is truly <b>repentant</b> for his incredible naivety and stupidity.</i>
<b><u>rueful</u></b>	Expressing sorrow or regret, especially in a wry or humorous way. <i>She gave a <b>rueful</b> grin.</i>



<b>sad</b>	Of things that make you feel sad. <i>She doesn't like <b>sad</b> movies.</i>
<b>shamefaced</b>	Showing a sense of guilt- Eric Linklater. <i>The hangdog and <b>shamefaced</b> air of the retreating enemy.</i>
<b>sheepish</b>	Like or suggestive of a sheep in docility or stupidity or meekness or timidity. <i>A <b>sheepish</b> grin.</i>
<u>sorrowful</u>	Feeling or showing grief. <i>The <b>sorrowful</b> news of his father's death.</i>
<u>sympathetic</u>	Relating to or denoting the part of the autonomic nervous system consisting of nerves arising from ganglia near the middle part of the spinal cord supplying the internal organs blood vessels and glands and balancing the action of the parasympathetic nerves. <i>Buildings that were <b>sympathetic</b> to their surroundings.</i>
<b>understanding</b>	Characterized by understanding based on comprehension and discernment and empathy. <i>A kind and <b>understanding</b> man.</i>
<b>unhappy</b>	Generalized feeling of distress. <i>The <b>unhappy</b> truth.</i>
<b>upset</b>	Thrown into a state of disarray or confusion. <i>The Bills <b>upset</b> victory over the Houston Oilers.</i>



## Usage Examples of "Sorry" as an adjective

- *We feel so ashamed that we keep quiet about the whole sorry business.*
- *A sorry state of affairs.*
- *I'm sorry if I was a bit brusque.*
- *I'm sorry—you were saying?*
- *I was sorry to hear about what happened to your family.*
- *He looks a sorry sight with his broken jaw.*
- *A sorry horse.*
- *Sorry—I was trying not to make a noise.*
- *He said he was sorry he had upset me.*
- *A sorry excuse.*
- *I felt sorry for the poor boys working for him.*



## Associations of "Sorry" (30 Words)

- apologize** Express regret for something that one has done wrong.  
*He **apologized** for the many typos.*
- bemoan** Regret strongly.  
*It was no use **bemoaning** her lot.*
- deplorable** Bad; unfortunate.  
***Deplorable** housing conditions in the inner city.*
- deplore** Feel or express strong disapproval of (something).  
*We **deplore** all violence.*
- dirge** A lament for the dead, especially one forming part of a funeral rite.  
*After his ten minute **dirge** the audience booed.*



<b>doleful</b>	Expressing sorrow; mournful. <i>A <b>doleful</b> look.</i>
<b>elegy</b>	(in modern literature) a poem of serious reflection, typically a lament for the dead.
<b><u>grief</u></b>	Trouble or annoyance. <i>Her death was a great <b>grief</b> to John.</i>
<b>grieve</b>	Feel grief. <i>She <b>grieved</b> for her father.</i>
<b>jeremiad</b>	A long, mournful complaint or lamentation; a list of woes. <i>A <b>jeremiad</b> against any form of government.</i>
<b>lament</b>	A mournful poem a lament for the dead. <i>He was <b>lamenting</b> the death of his infant daughter.</i>
<b>lamentable</b>	(of circumstances or conditions) very bad; deplorable. <i>A <b>lamentable</b> decision.</i>
<b>lamentation</b>	A cry of sorrow and grief. <i>Scenes of <b>lamentation</b>.</i>
<b>maudlin</b>	(of a book, film, or song) highly sentimental. <i>A bout of <b>maudlin</b> self pity.</i>
<b><u>miserable</u></b>	(of a person) wretchedly unhappy or uncomfortable. <i>He felt depressed and <b>miserable</b>.</i>
<b><u>mourn</u></b>	Observe the customs of mourning after the death of a loved one. <i>She is <b>mourning</b> her dead child.</i>
<b>mourning</b>	Black clothes worn as an expression of sorrow when someone dies. <i>She s still in <b>mourning</b> after the death of her husband.</i>
<b><u>pathetic</u></b>	Arousing pity, especially through vulnerability or sadness. <i>His ball control was <b>pathetic</b>.</i>
<b><u>pitiful</u></b>	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>A <b>pitiful</b> fate.</i>
<b><u>pity</u></b>	An unfortunate development. <i>What a <b>pity</b> we can t be friends.</i>
<b>regret</b>	Express with regret. <i>I <b>regret</b> I can t come to the party.</i>
<b>regretful</b>	Feeling or showing regret. <i><b>Regretful</b> over mistakes she had made.</i>
<b>regrettable</b>	(of conduct or an event) giving rise to regret; undesirable; unwelcome. <i>Irresponsible and <b>regrettable</b> actions.</i>

<b>sad</b>	Of things that make you feel sad Christina Rossetti. <i>Better by far that you should forget and smile Than that you should remember and be <b>sad</b>.</i>
<b>sadness</b>	The quality of excessive mournfulness and uncheerfulness. <i>It is one of life s <b>sadnesses</b>.</i>
<b>sorrow</b>	An event or circumstance that causes sorrow. <i>He tried to express his <b>sorrow</b> at her loss.</i>
<b>sorrowful</b>	Feeling or showing grief. <i><b>Sorrowful</b> widows.</i>
<b>threnody</b>	A lament. <i>A brooding <b>threnody</b> to urban desolation.</i>
<b>unhappy</b>	Causing discomfort. <i>An <b>unhappy</b> marriage.</i>
<b>wretched</b>	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>A <b>wretched</b> life.</i>

