

Need another word that means the same as “sting”? Find 89 synonyms and 30 related words for “sting” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Sting” are: bite, insect bite, pang, sting operation, stinging, bunco, bunco game, bunko, bunko game, con, con game, confidence game, confidence trick, flimflam, hustle, prick, wound, injury, smarting, smart, tingling, tingle, pricking, heartache, heartbreak, agony, torture, torment, hurt, pain, anguish, distress, desolation, misery, sharpness, severity, edge, pointedness, asperity, pungency, acerbity, acidity, tartness, swindle, fraud, piece of deception, trickery, cheat, bit of sharp practice, twinge, burn, stick, injure, be painful, be irritated, be sore, ache, upset, make miserable, cut to the quick, sear, grieve, mortify, provoke, goad, incite, spur, prod, rouse, stir up, drive, move, motivate, galvanize, stimulate, defraud, fleece, gull**

## Sting as a Noun

### Definitions of "Sting" as a noun

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

- *A carefully planned operation, typically one involving deception.*
- *A swindle in which you cheat at gambling or persuade a person to buy worthless property.*
- *A painful wound caused by the thrust of an insect's stinger into skin.*

- *A small sharp-pointed organ at the end of the abdomen of bees, wasps, ants, and scorpions, capable of inflicting a painful or dangerous wound by injecting poison.*
- *Operation designed to catch a person committing a criminal act.*
- *A wound from a sting.*
- *A mental pain or distress.*
- *A kind of pain; something as sudden and painful as being stung.*
- *A sharp tingling or burning pain or sensation.*
- *A hurtful quality or effect.*
- *Any of a number of minute hairs or other organs of plants, jellyfishes, etc., which inject a poisonous or irritating fluid when touched.*



## Synonyms of "Sting" as a noun (49 Words)

### **acerbity**

A rough and bitter manner.

*Their relationship was built on a certain mutual **acerbity**.*

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>acidity</b>               | Street name for lysergic acid diethylamide.<br><i>The increased <b>acidity</b> of rainfall.</i>   |
| <b><u>agony</u></b>          | Extreme physical or mental suffering.<br><i>His last <b>agony</b>.</i>  |
| <b><u>anguish</u></b>        | Extreme mental distress.<br><i>Philip gave a cry of <b>anguish</b>.</i>   |
| <b>asperity</b>              | Harshness of manner.<br><i>The <b>asperity</b> of northern winters.</i>   |
| <b>bit of sharp practice</b> | A unit of measurement of information (from binary + digit); the amount of information in a system having two equiprobable states.   |
| <b>bite</b>                  | An instance of a fish taking the bait.<br><i>Percy's dog had given her a nasty <b>bite</b>.</i>   |
| <b>bunco</b>                 | A swindle in which you cheat at gambling or persuade a person to buy worthless property.<br><i>A <b>bunco</b> artist.</i>   |
| <b>bunco game</b>            | Your occupation or line of work.  |
| <b>bunko</b>                 | A swindle in which you cheat at gambling or persuade a person to buy worthless property.  |
| <b>bunko game</b>            | The game equipment needed in order to play a particular game.   |
| <b>cheat</b>                 | An act of cheating a fraud or deception.  |
| <b><u>con</u></b>            | A swindle in which you cheat at gambling or persuade a person to buy worthless property.<br><i>The Charter is a glossy public relations <b>con</b>.</i>                   |
| <b>con game</b>              | A swindle in which you cheat at gambling or persuade a person to buy worthless property.  |
| <b>confidence game</b>       | A feeling of trust (in someone or something).   |
| <b>confidence trick</b>      | A feeling of trust (in someone or something).   |
| <b><u>desolation</u></b>     | A state of complete emptiness or destruction.<br><i>In choked <b>desolation</b> she watched him leave.</i>  |
| <b>distress</b>              | A state of physical strain, especially difficulty in breathing.<br><i>To his <b>distress</b> he saw that she was trembling.</i>   |
| <b>edge</b>                  | The outside limit of an object or area or surface; a place farthest away from the center of something.<br><i>They pushed themselves to the <b>edge</b> of exhaustion.</i> |
| <b>flimflam</b>              | A confidence trick.<br><i>Pseudo intellectual <b>flimflam</b>.</i>  |

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| <b>fraud</b>              | Something intended to deceive; deliberate trickery intended to gain an advantage.<br><i>Mediums exposed as tricksters and <b>frauds</b>.</i>                           |
| <b>heartache</b>          | Emotional anguish or grief, typically caused by the loss or absence of someone loved.<br><i>A good friend understands your <b>heartaches</b> as well as your joys.</i> |
| <b><u>heartbreak</u></b>  | Intense sorrow caused by loss of a loved one (especially by death).<br><i>An unforgettable tale of joy and <b>heartbreak</b>.</i>                                      |
| <b>hurt</b>               | Feelings of mental or physical pain.<br><i>Rolling properly into a fall minimizes <b>hurt</b>.</i>   |
| <b><u>hustle</u></b>      | A state of great activity.<br><i>The <b>hustle</b> and bustle of the big cities.</i>   |
| <b>injury</b>             | An instance of being injured.<br><i>Compensation for <b>injury</b> to feelings.</i>  |
| <b>insect bite</b>        | Small air-breathing arthropod.   |
| <b><u>misery</u></b>      | A feeling of intense unhappiness.<br><i>She was exhausted by her <b>misery</b> and grief.</i>  |
| <b>pain</b>               | A somatic sensation of acute discomfort.<br><i>She s a <b>pain</b>.</i>  |
| <b>pang</b>               | A mental pain or distress.<br><i>A <b>pang</b> of conscience.</i>  |
| <b>piece of deception</b> | An artistic or literary composition.   |
| <b>pointedness</b>        | The property of a shape that tapers to a sharp tip.<br><i>The <b>pointedness</b> of his sarcasm was unmistakable.</i>  |
| <b>pricking</b>           | The act of puncturing with a small point.  |
| <b>pungency</b>           | Wit having a sharp and caustic quality.<br><i>He commented with typical <b>pungency</b>.</i>   |
| <b>severity</b>           | Extreme plainness.<br><i>Sentences should reflect the <b>severity</b> of the crime.</i>  |
| <b>sharpness</b>          | A strong odor or taste property.<br><i>The <b>sharpness</b> of strange spices.</i>   |
| <b>smart</b>              | Intelligence; acumen.<br><i>Sorrow is the effect of <b>smart</b> and <b>smart</b> the effect of faith.</i>   |
| <b>smarting</b>           | The fact or sensation of feeling a sharp stinging pain.<br><i>Ammonia can cause <b>smarting</b> of the eyes and breathing difficulties.</i>                            |
| <b>sting operation</b>    | A kind of pain; something as sudden and painful as being stung.  |



|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>stinging</b>                 | A kind of pain; something as sudden and painful as being stung.<br><i>He felt the <b>stinging</b> of nettles.</i>         |
| <b>swindle</b>                  | The act of swindling by some fraudulent scheme.<br><i>He is mixed up in a 10 million insurance <b>swindle</b>.</i>        |
| <b>tartness</b>                 | The taste experience when vinegar or lemon juice is taken into the mouth.   |
| <u><a href="#">tingle</a></u>   | A somatic sensation as from many tiny prickles.<br><i>A <b>tingle</b> of anticipation.</i>                                |
| <u><a href="#">tingling</a></u> | A somatic sensation as from many tiny stings.   |
| <b>torment</b>                  | A feeling of intense annoyance caused by being tormented.<br><i>The journey must have been a <b>torment</b> for them.</i> |
| <u><a href="#">torture</a></u>  | Intense feelings of suffering; acute mental or physical pain.<br><i>The <b>torture</b> of political prisoners.</i>        |
| <u><a href="#">trickery</a></u> | Verbal misrepresentation intended to take advantage of you in some way.<br><i>The dealer resorted to <b>trickery</b>.</i> |
| <u><a href="#">wound</a></u>    | The act of inflicting a wound.<br><i>The new crisis has opened old <b>wounds</b>.</i>                                     |



## Usage Examples of "Sting" as a noun

- *She felt the sharp sting of tears behind her eyelids.*
- *A nettle-like plant with no sting.*
- *A wasp or bee sting.*
- *He felt the stinging of nettles.*
- *She smiled to take the sting out of her words.*
- *The police conducted a sting operation.*
- *Five blackmailers were jailed last week after they were snared in a police sting.*
- *I recalled the sting of his betrayal.*
- *The sting of death.*



## Sting as a Verb

### Definitions of "Sting" as a verb

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

- *Saddle with something disagreeable or disadvantageous.*
- *Swindle or exorbitantly overcharge (someone).*
- *Deliver a sting to.*
- *Cause a sharp or stinging pain or discomfort.*
- *Provoke someone to do (something) by causing annoyance or offence.*
- *Cause a stinging pain.*
- *Feel or cause to feel a sharp tingling or burning pain or sensation.*
- *Cause an emotional pain, as if by stinging.*
- *Wound or pierce with a sting.*



- (typically of something said) hurt or upset (someone).



## Synonyms of "Sting" as a verb (40 Words)

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>ache</b>         | Suffer from a continuous dull pain.<br><i>She looked so tired that my heart <b>ached</b> for her.</i>  |
| <b>be irritated</b> | Represent, as of a character on stage.   |
| <b>be painful</b>   | Form or compose.   |
| <b>be sore</b>      | Be identical to; be someone or something.  |
| <b>bite</b>         | Be very bad, unpleasant, or unfortunate.<br><i>Gunny invariably tried to <b>bite</b> her.</i>  |
| <b>burn</b>         | Burn at the stake.<br><i>Her forehead was <b>burning</b> and her throat ached.</i>   |
| <b>cheat</b>        | Gain an advantage over or deprive of something by using unfair or deceitful methods; defraud.<br><i>She <b>cheated</b> death in a spectacular crash.</i> |



|                         |   |
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| <b>cut to the quick</b> | Be able to manage or manage successfully.   |
| <b>defraud</b>          | Illegally obtain money from (someone) by deception.<br><i>He used a second identity to <b>defraud</b> the bank of thousands of pounds.</i>                    |
| <b>distress</b>         | Bring into difficulties or distress especially financial hardship.<br><i>I didn't mean to <b>distress</b> you.</i>  |
| <b>drive</b>            | Be licensed or competent to drive a motor vehicle.<br><i>He <b>drives</b> a bread truck.</i>  |
| <b>fleece</b>           | Cover as if with a fleece.<br><i>The sky was half blue half <b>fleeced</b> with white clouds.</i>   |
| <b>galvanize</b>        | Shock or excite (someone) into taking action.<br><i><b>Galvanized</b> into action.</i>  |
| <b>goad</b>             | Goad or provoke as by constant criticism.<br><i>He was trying to <b>goad</b> her into a fight.</i>  |
| <b>grieve</b>           | Feel intense sorrow.<br><i>His behavior <b>grieves</b> his mother.</i>  |
| <b>gull</b>             | Make a fool or dupe of.   |
| <b>hurt</b>             | Hurt the feelings of.<br><i>She <b>hurt</b> me when she did not include me among her guests.</i>  |
| <b>incite</b>           | Urge on; cause to act.<br><i>They conspired to <b>incite</b> riots.</i>   |
| <b>injure</b>           | Hurt the feelings of.<br><i>He <b>injured</b> his back helping the girl.</i>  |
| <b>make miserable</b>   | Create or design, often in a certain way.   |
| <b>mortify</b>          | (of flesh) be affected by gangrene or necrosis.<br><i>They wish to return to heaven by <b>mortifying</b> the flesh.</i>                                       |
| <b>motivate</b>         | Request (something) and present facts and arguments in support of one's request.<br><i>He said he would <b>motivate</b> funds to upgrade the food stalls.</i> |
| <b>move</b>             | Have a turn make one's move in a game.<br><i>He justly <b>moves</b> one's derision.</i>   |
| <b>pain</b>             | Cause mental or physical pain to.<br><i>Her legs had been <b>paining</b> her.</i>   |
| <b>provoke</b>          | Evoke or provoke to appear or occur.<br><i>Rachel refused to be <b>provoked</b>.</i>  |
| <b>rouse</b>            | Cause to be agitated excited or roused.<br><i><b>Rouse</b> the beer as the hops are introduced.</i>   |

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| <b>sear</b>      | Burn or scorch the surface of (something) with a sudden, intense heat.<br><i>A sharp pang of disappointment <b>seared</b> her.</i>   |
| <b>smart</b>     | (of a wound or part of the body) feel or cause a sharp stinging pain.<br><i>Her legs were scratched and <b>smarting</b>.</i>   |
| <b>spur</b>      | Strike with a spur.<br><i>Governments cut interest rates to <b>spur</b> demand.</i>  |
| <b>stick</b>     | Come or be in close contact with stick or hold together and resist separation.<br><i><b>Stick</b> your thumb in the crack.</i>   |
| <b>stimulate</b> | Raise levels of physiological or nervous activity in (the body or any biological system).<br><i>The women are given fertility drugs to <b>stimulate</b> their ovaries.</i> |
| <b>stir up</b>   | Affect emotionally.  |
| <b>swindle</b>   | Use deception to deprive (someone) of money or possessions.<br><i>He was said to have <b>swindled</b> 62 5 million from the state owned cement industry.</i>               |
| <b>tingle</b>    | Cause a stinging or tingling sensation.<br><i>A standing ovation that <b>tingled</b> your spine.</i>   |
| <b>torment</b>   | Torment emotionally or mentally.<br><i>The children <b>tormented</b> the stuttering teacher.</i>   |
| <b>twinge</b>    | Squeeze tightly between the fingers.<br><i>Stop the exercises if the tummy <b>twinges</b>.</i>   |
| <b>upset</b>     | Form metals with a swage.<br><i>The dam will <b>upset</b> the ecological balance.</i>  |
| <b>wound</b>     | Inflict a wound on.<br><i>The sergeant was seriously <b>wounded</b>.</i>   |



## Usage Examples of "Sting" as a verb

- *Stung by her mockery, Frank hung his head.*
- *A nettle stings if you brush it lightly.*
- *Her eyes stung as if she might cry again.*
- *He was stung into action by an article in the paper.*
- *He was stung by a jellyfish.*
- *I had to buy some boxer shorts at the last minute and got stung for £42.50!*
- *The brandy stung his throat.*





## Associations of "Sting" (30 Words)

- adhere** Follow through or carry out a plan without deviation.  
*The account **adhered** firmly to fact.*
- bee** An insect of a large group to which the honeybee belongs including many solitary as well as social kinds.  
*A sewing **bee**.*
- excitation** The action of exciting or the state of being excited; excitement.  
*Two parallel coils with opposing **excitation** windings.*
- gadfly** A person who annoys or criticizes others in order to provoke them into action.  
*Always a **gadfly** he attacked intellectual orthodoxies.*
- hornet** Large stinging paper wasp.
- hurt** Hurt the feelings of.  
*Ow You re **hurting** me.*
- nag** A person who nags someone.  
*He s always **nagging** at her for staying out late.*
- nudge** Prod (someone) gently with one's elbow in order to attract attention.  
*She appreciated the **nudge** to her memory.*
- pang** A sudden sharp pain or painful emotion.  
*A **pang** of conscience.*

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>pest</b>        | A serious sometimes fatal infection of rodents caused by <i>Yersinia pestis</i> and accidentally transmitted to humans by the bite of a flea that has bitten an infected animal.<br><i>The tomato plant attracts a <b>pest</b> called whitefly.</i> |
| <b>pierce</b>      | Make a hole in (the ears or other part of the body) so as to wear jewellery in them.<br><i>They were seeking to <b>pierce</b> the anti ballistic missile defences.</i>  |
| <b>pin</b>         | An attack on a piece or pawn which is thereby pinned.<br><i>He <b>pinned</b> the badge on to his lapel.</i>   |
| <b>ping</b>        | Hit with a pinging noise.<br><i>The <b>ping</b> of the oven timer.</i>  |
| <b>poke</b>        | Poke or thrust abruptly.<br><i>She gave the fire a <b>poke</b>.</i>   |
| <b>slot</b>        | Be placed or able to be placed into a slot.<br><i>He followed the deer s <b>slot</b> over the soft turf to the edge of the trees.</i>   |
| <b>spiny</b>       | Having spines.<br><i>A <b>spiny</b> problem.</i>  |
| <b>stab</b>        | A wound made by stabbing.<br><i>A stitch <b>stabbed</b> at her side.</i>  |
| <b>stake</b>       | A pole or stake set up to mark something as the start or end of a race track.<br><i><b>Stake</b> out the path.</i>  |
| <b>stick</b>       | Stick to firmly.<br><i><b>Stick</b> drawings of a man and girl.</i>   |
| <b>stimulation</b> | Encouragement of something to make it develop or become more active.<br><i>Ovarian <b>stimulation</b> for in vitro fertilization.</i>   |
| <b>thatch</b>      | Cover with thatch.<br><i>The rain drummed noisily on the <b>thatch</b> above her head.</i>  |
| <b>thorn</b>       | A thorny bush shrub or tree especially a hawthorn.<br><i>He s a <b>thorn</b> in my flesh.</i>   |
| <b>thorny</b>      | Causing distress, difficulty, or trouble.<br><i>A <b>thorny</b> problem for our team to solve.</i>  |
| <b>titillate</b>   | Arouse (someone) to interest or mild excitement, especially through sexually suggestive images or words.<br><i>The press are paid to <b>titillate</b> the public.</i>   |
| <b>twinge</b>      | Feel a sudden sharp, local pain.<br><i><b>Twinges</b> of conscience.</i>  |

- wasp** A solitary winged insect with a narrow waist mostly distantly related to the social wasps and including many parasitic kinds.
- wattle** Make enclose or fill up with wattle.
- wedge** A shot made with a wedge.  
*The **wedge** of horsemen crashed forward.*



