

Need another word that means the same as “subtlety”? Find 53 synonyms and 30 related words for “subtlety” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Subtlety” are: niceness, nicety, nuance, refinement, shade, delicacy, elusiveness, faintness, astuteness, keenness, acuteness, fineness, sharpness, shrewdness, perceptiveness, perception, discernment, sensitivity, discrimination, penetration, percipience, perspicacity, perspicuity, acuity, sagacity, wisdom, cleverness, intelligence, skill, artfulness, dexterity, brightness, finesse, ingenuity, expertise, adroitness, complexity, intricacy, cunning, guile, craftiness, wiliness, deviousness, precision, preciseness, detail, slightness, minuteness, narrowness, tenuousness, indistinctness, indefiniteness, lack of definition

Subtlety as a Noun

Definitions of "Subtlety" as a noun

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

- *The quality or state of being subtle.*
- *The quality of being difficult to detect or analyze.*
- *A subtle distinction, feature, or argument.*
- *A subtle difference in meaning or opinion or attitude.*



Synonyms of "Subtlety" as a noun (53 Words)

<u>acuity</u>	A quick and penetrating intelligence. <i>Visual acuity.</i>
acuteness	Very hard native crystalline carbon valued as a gem. <i>He argued with great acuteness.</i>
adroitness	Skillful performance or ability without difficulty. <i>He lacks political adroitness.</i>
artfulness	The quality of being adroit in taking unfair advantage.
astuteness	Intelligence manifested by being astute (as in business dealings).
<u>brightness</u>	The quality of being intelligent and quick-witted. <i>His mother called to him from the brightness of the kitchen.</i>
cleverness	The property of being ingenious. <i>The cleverness of her strategy.</i>

complexity	The state or quality of being intricate or complicated. <i>An issue of great complexity.</i>
craftiness	A steep rugged rock or cliff.
<u>cunning</u>	Skill in achieving one's ends by deceit. <i>What resources of energy and cunning it took just to survive.</i>
delicacy	Accuracy of perception; sensitiveness. <i>I have to treat this matter with the utmost delicacy.</i>
detail	Extended treatment of particulars. <i>A detail was sent to remove the fallen trees.</i>
deviousness	The quality of being oblique and rambling indirectly.
<u>dexterity</u>	Skill in performing tasks, especially with the hands. <i>Her dexterity with chopsticks.</i>
<u>discernment</u>	The ability to judge well. <i>A man of discernment.</i>
discrimination	The unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of ethnicity, age, sex, or disability. <i>Discrimination between right and wrong.</i>
<u>elusiveness</u>	The quality of being difficult to grasp or pin down. <i>The author's elusiveness may at times be construed as evasiveness.</i>
expertise	Skillfulness by virtue of possessing special knowledge. <i>Technical expertise.</i>
faintness	A feeling of faintness and of being ready to swoon. <i>Faintness of heart and infirmity of purpose.</i>
fineness	The property of being very narrow or thin. <i>The fineness of her features.</i>
finesse	Subtly skillful handling of a situation. <i>Orchestral playing of great finesse.</i>
guile	The use of tricks to deceive someone (usually to extract money from them). <i>He used all his guile and guts to free himself from the muddle he was in.</i>
indefiniteness	The quality of being vague and poorly defined.
indistinctness	The quality of being indistinct and without sharp outlines.
ingenuity	The quality of being clever, original, and inventive. <i>The ingenuity of Haydn's scoring.</i>

intelligence	A unit responsible for gathering and interpreting information about an enemy. <i>Extraterrestrial intelligences.</i>
intricacy	The quality of being intricate. <i>The intricacy of the procedure.</i>
keenness	A positive feeling of wanting to push ahead with something. <i>I admired the keenness of his mind.</i>
lack of definition	The state of needing something that is absent or unavailable.
minuteness	The property of being very small in size. <i>He examined the essay with the greatest minuteness.</i>
narrowness	A narrow strait connecting two bodies of water. <i>Narrowness of vision and understanding.</i>
<u>niceness</u>	The quality of being nice; pleasantness. <i>Her sheer niceness won her many friends.</i>
nicety	Accuracy or precision. <i>She prided herself on her nicety of pronunciation.</i>
nuance	A subtle difference in or shade of meaning, expression, or sound. <i>Without understanding the finer nuances you can't enjoy the humor.</i>
perception	The ability to see, hear, or become aware of something through the senses. <i>He wouldn't have accepted said my mother with unusual perception.</i>
perceptiveness	A feeling of understanding.
percipience	The quality of having sensitive insight or understanding; perceptiveness. <i>Age has not impaired his percipience.</i>
perspicacity	The capacity to assess situations or circumstances shrewdly and to draw sound conclusions. <i>The perspicacity of her remarks.</i>
perspicuity	Clarity as a consequence of being perspicuous.
preciseness	Clarity as a consequence of precision. <i>He handled it with the preciseness of an automaton.</i>
<u>precision</u>	Refinement in a measurement, calculation, or specification, especially as represented by the number of digits given. <i>A precision of six decimal figures.</i>
<u>refinement</u>	Cultured elegance in behaviour or manner. <i>I admired the exquisite refinement of his prose.</i>

sagacity	The quality of being sagacious. <i>A man of great political sagacity.</i>
sensitivity	Sensitivity to emotional feelings of self and others. <i>A galvanometer of extreme sensitivity.</i>
shade	A lampshade. <i>Various shades of blue.</i>
sharpness	A strong odor or taste property. <i>The sharpness of her loss.</i>
shrewdness	The quality of having or showing good powers of judgement. <i>He is a man of some tactical shrewdness.</i>
skill	Ability to produce solutions in some problem domain. <i>The skills of cookery.</i>
slightness	Smallness of stature.
tenuousness	The right to hold property; part of an ancient hierarchical system of holding lands.
wiliness	A hypothetical subatomic particle of large mass that interacts weakly with ordinary matter through gravitation; postulated as a constituent of the dark matter of the universe.
wisdom	An Apocryphal book consisting mainly of a meditation on wisdom although ascribed to Solomon it was probably written in the first century BC. <i>Eastern wisdom.</i>



Usage Examples of "Subtlety" as a noun

- *The subtleties of English grammar.*
- *You had to admire the subtlety of the distinctions he drew.*
- *The textural subtlety of Degas.*



Associations of "Subtlety" (30 Words)

abstruse	Difficult to penetrate; incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge. <i>An abstruse philosophical inquiry.</i>
ambiguous	Having more than one possible meaning. <i>Ambiguous words.</i>
ambiguously	So as to be open to doubt or uncertainty. <i>This letter is worded ambiguously.</i>
<u>ambivalent</u>	Uncertain or unable to decide about what course to follow. <i>Was ambivalent about having children.</i>
<u>blur</u>	Make unclear indistinct or blurred. <i>In front of him the page blurred.</i>

blurred	Indistinct or hazy in outline. <i>Blurred vision.</i>
complexity	A factor involved in a complicated process or situation. <i>He enjoyed the complexity of modern computers.</i>
convoluted	Intricately folded, twisted, or coiled. <i>Convoluted legal language.</i>
esoteric	Confined to and understandable by only an enlightened inner circle. <i>A compilation of esoteric philosophical theories.</i>
<u>faint</u>	(of a sight, smell, or sound) barely perceptible. <i>The fires were fainting there.</i>
<u>hazy</u>	Indistinct or hazy in outline. <i>It was a beautiful day but quite hazy.</i>
illegibility	The quality of writing (print or handwriting) that cannot be deciphered.
imprecision	The quality of lacking precision. <i>All scientific measurements come with some degree of imprecision.</i>
<u>inconspicuous</u>	Not clearly visible or attracting attention. <i>He pushed the string through an inconspicuous hole.</i>
indefinite	Not clearly expressed or defined; vague. <i>Must you be so indefinite.</i>
indeterminate	Not exactly known, established, or defined. <i>An indeterminate stem.</i>
indistinct	Not clear or sharply defined. <i>His speech was slurred and indistinct.</i>
intricacy	The quality of being intricate. <i>The intricacy of the procedure.</i>
intricate	Very complicated or detailed. <i>An intricate network of canals.</i>
noncommittal	Refusing to bind oneself to a particular course of action or view or the like. <i>Her boyfriend was noncommittal about their future together.</i>
nuance	Give nuances to. <i>He was familiar with the nuances of the local dialect.</i>
<u>obscure</u>	Make obscure or unclear. <i>The debate has become obscured by conflicting ideological perspectives.</i>
<u>puzzling</u>	Not clear to the understanding. <i>A puzzling statement.</i>

recondite	Difficult to penetrate; incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge. <i>Some recondite problem in historiography.</i>
<u>subtle</u>	(of a mixture or effect) delicately complex and understated. <i>The subtle fiend dissembled.</i>
<u>trivia</u>	Details, considerations, or pieces of information of little importance or value. <i>We fill our days with meaningless trivia.</i>
<u>uncertain</u>	Not consistent or dependable. <i>She spoke in no uncertain terms.</i>
<u>unclear</u>	Not obvious or definite; ambiguous. <i>The reason for their actions is unclear to this day.</i>
<u>vague</u>	Thinking or communicating in an unfocused or imprecise way. <i>Vague forms of speech have so long passed for mysteries of science.</i>
wispy	Thin and weak. <i>A few wispy memories of childhood.</i>

