

Need another word that means the same as “tenuous”? Find 18 synonyms and 30 related words for “tenuous” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Tenuous” are: flimsy, fragile, slight, thin, insubstantial, negligible, weak, shaky, sketchy, doubtful, dubious, questionable, suspect, fine, slender, attenuated, delicate, gossamer

## Tenuous as an Adjective

### Definitions of "Tenuous" as an adjective

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

- *Very thin in gauge or diameter.*
- *Lacking substance or significance.*
- *Very slender or fine; insubstantial.*
- *Very weak or slight.*
- *Having thin consistency.*

### Synonyms of "Tenuous" as an adjective (18 Words)

<a href="#"><b>attenuated</b></a>	Reduced in strength. <i>It appears likely that the courts will be given an <b>attenuated</b> role in the enforcement of these decisions.</i>
<b>delicate</b>	Requiring sensitive or careful handling. <i>His <b>delicate</b> health.</i>
<b>doubtful</b>	Improbable. <i>They were <b>doubtful</b> that the cord would hold.</i>

<b>dubious</b>	Not convinced. <i>What one found uncertain the other found <b>dubious</b> or downright false.</i>
<b>fine</b>	Characterized by elegance or refinement or accomplishment. <i>What a <b>fine</b> human being he is.</i>
<b>flimsy</b>	Lacking substance or significance. <i>A pretty <b>flimsy</b> excuse.</i>
<b>fragile</b>	Lacking substance or significance. <i>You have a <b>fragile</b> grip on reality.</i>
<b>gossamer</b>	So thin as to transmit light. <i><b>Gossamer</b> shading through his playing.</i>
<b>insubstantial</b>	Lacking in nutritive value. <i>As <b>insubstantial</b> as a dream.</i>
<b>negligible</b>	So small or unimportant as to be not worth considering; insignificant. <i>The effect was <b>negligible</b>.</i>
<b>questionable</b>	Able to be refuted. <i>A <b>questionable</b> reputation.</i>
<b>shaky</b>	Not secure; beset with difficulties. <i>Thoroughly <b>shaky</b> evidence.</i>
<b>sketchy</b>	Dishonest or disreputable. <i>A <b>sketchy</b> pencil drawing by Toulouse Lautrec.</i>
<b>slender</b>	Being of delicate or slender build. <i>Her <b>slender</b> neck.</i>
<b>slight</b>	(especially of a creative work) not profound or substantial; rather trivial or superficial. <i>A <b>slight</b> increase.</i>
<b>suspect</b>	Not as expected. <i>Her motives were <b>suspect</b>.</i>
<b>thin</b>	Relatively thin in consistency or low in density not viscous. <i>A <b>thin</b> chiffon blouse.</i>
<b>weak</b>	Relating to or denoting the weakest of the known kinds of force between particles which acts only at distances less than about 10 cm is very much weaker than the electromagnetic and the strong interactions and conserves neither strangeness parity nor isospin. <i>Their commitment to the project is <b>weak</b>.</i>

## Usage Examples of "Tenuous" as an adjective

- A *tenuous* argument.

- A *tenuous thread*.
- A *tenuous cloud*.
- A *tenuous fluid*.
- The *tenuous link* between interest rates and investment.

## Associations of "Tenuous" (30 Words)

<b>bauble</b>	Cheap showy jewelry or ornament on clothing. <i>Once stripped of their tinsel and <b>baubles</b> most Christmas trees end up in landfill.</i>
<b>drizzle</b>	(in cooking) trickle a thin stream of (a liquid ingredient) over food. <i>When it <b>drizzles</b> in summer hiking can be pleasant.</i>
<b>flimsy</b>	(of clothing) very light and thin. <i>A <b>flimsy</b> argument.</i>
<b>frivolous</b>	(of a person) carefree and superficial. <i>The <b>frivolous</b> fun loving flappers of the twenties.</i>
<b><u>inconsequential</u></b>	Not important or significant. <i>They talked about <b>inconsequential</b> things.</i>
<b>inconsiderable</b>	Of small size, amount, or extent. <i>A not <b>inconsiderable</b> amount of money.</i>
<b><u>insignificant</u></b>	Signifying nothing. <i>A minor <b>insignificant</b> bureaucrat.</i>
<b>insubstantial</b>	Lacking strength and solidity. <i>An <b>insubstantial</b> mirage on the horizon.</i>
<b><u>less</u></b>	Fewer. <i><b>Less</b> than three years old.</i>
<b>meanness</b>	Lack of quality or attractiveness; shabbiness. <i>He is also callous with a streak of <b>meanness</b>.</i>
<b>mini</b>	Denoting a miniature version of something. <i>A <b>mini</b> dress.</i>
<b><u>minimal</u></b>	Characterized by simplicity and lack of adornment or decoration. <i>P and b are a <b>minimal</b> pair distinguished by the feature of voicing.</i>
<b><u>minor</u></b>	The minor leagues in baseball or American football. <i>A <b>minor</b> official.</i>
<b><u>negligible</u></b>	So small or unimportant as to be not worth considering; insignificant. <i>The effect was <b>negligible</b>.</i>

<b>nominal</b>	Relating to or constituting or bearing or giving a name. <i>They charge a <b>nominal</b> fee for the service.</i>
<b>paltry</b>	Contemptibly small in amount. <i>She would earn a <b>paltry</b> 33 more a month.</i>
<b>peccadillo</b>	A petty misdeed. <i>The sexual <b>peccadilloes</b> of celebrities aren't necessarily news.</i>
<b>pettiness</b>	Lack of generosity in trifling matters. <i>Try to overlook insults and <b>pettinesses</b>.</i>
<b>petty</b>	Inferior in rank or status. <i>The <b>petty</b> divisions of party politics.</i>
<b>picayune</b>	An insignificant person or thing. <i>Giving a police officer a free meal may be against the law but it seems to be a <b>picayune</b> infraction.</i>
<b>piddling</b>	Pathetically trivial; trifling. <i><b>Piddling</b> little questions.</i>
<b>quaver</b>	A note having the time value of an eighth of a semibreve or half a crotchet, represented by a large dot with a hooked stem. <i>It was impossible to hide the slight <b>quaver</b> in her voice.</i>
<b>slight</b>	(quantifier used with mass nouns) small in quantity or degree; not much or almost none or (with 'a') at least some. <i>There's <b>slight</b> chance that it will work.</i>
<b>stickle</b>	Especially of a hill or path: steep, sloping; set at a sharp angle; high.
<b>stickler</b>	A person who insists on a certain quality or type of behaviour. <i>I'm a <b>stickler</b> when it comes to timekeeping.</i>
<b>trifling</b>	The deliberate act of delaying and playing instead of working. <i>A <b>trifling</b> sum.</i>
<b>trivial</b>	Concerned with trivialities. <i><b>Trivial</b> details.</i>
<b>undersized</b>	Smaller than normal for its kind. <i>The <b>undersized</b> cubs may not survive the winter.</i>
<b>unimportant</b>	Lacking in importance or significance. <i>A relatively <b>unimportant</b> feature of the system.</i>
<b>vain</b>	Characteristic of false pride; having an exaggerated sense of self-importance. <i>A <b>vain</b> attempt to tidy up the room.</i>