

Need another word that means the same as “unfortunate”? Find 25 synonyms and 30 related words for “unfortunate” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Unfortunate” are: inauspicious, unlucky, hapless, out of luck, down on one's luck, luckless, wretched, miserable, forlorn, unhappy, poor, pitiful, adverse, disadvantageous, unfavourable, untoward, unwelcome, regrettable, inappropriate, unsuitable, inapt, infelicitous, tactless, injudicious, unfortunate person

Unfortunate as a Noun

Definitions of "Unfortunate" as a noun

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

- *A person who suffers bad fortune.*
- *A person who suffers misfortune.*
- *A person who is considered immoral or lacking in religious faith or instruction, especially a prostitute.*



Synonyms of "Unfortunate" as a noun (1 Word)

unfortunate person A person who suffers misfortune.



Usage Examples of "Unfortunate" as a noun

- *Those unfortunates whose lives are marred by poverty.*



Unfortunate as an Adjective

Definitions of "Unfortunate" as an adjective

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

- *Having or marked by bad fortune; unlucky.*
- *Not auspicious; boding ill.*
- *Regrettable or inappropriate.*
- *Unsuitable or regrettable.*
- *Not indicating a good chance of success; inauspicious.*
- *Not favored by fortune; marked or accompanied by or resulting in ill fortune.*



Synonyms of "Unfortunate" as an adjective (24 Words)

adverse	Preventing success or development; harmful; unfavourable. <i>Taxes are having an adverse effect on production.</i>
disadvantageous	Involving or creating unfavourable circumstances that reduce the chances of success or effectiveness. <i>A disadvantageous outcome.</i>
down on one's luck	Understood perfectly.
forlorn	Marked by or showing hopelessness. <i>The last forlorn attempt.</i>
hapless	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>A hapless victim.</i>
inappropriate	Not suitable for a particular occasion etc. <i>Completely inappropriate behavior.</i>
inapt	Not suitable or appropriate in the circumstances. <i>A more inapt name I cannot imagine.</i>
inauspicious	Contrary to your interests or welfare. <i>Following this inauspicious start the British outnumbered withdrew.</i>
infelicitous	Unfortunate; inappropriate. <i>An infelicitous remark.</i>
injudicious	Showing very poor judgement; unwise. <i>I took a few injudicious swigs of potent cider.</i>
luckless	Having or bringing misfortune. <i>An osprey seized the luckless fish with its talons.</i>
miserable	Very unhappy; full of misery. <i>You miserable old creep.</i>
out of luck	Out of power; especially having been unsuccessful in an election.
pitiful	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>Pitiful exhibition of cowardice.</i>
poor	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>The jejune diets of the very poor.</i>
regrettable	(of conduct or an event) giving rise to regret; undesirable; unwelcome. <i>It s regrettable that she didn t go to college.</i>
tactless	Lacking or showing a lack of what is fitting and considerate in dealing with others. <i>It was tactless to bring up those disagreeable.</i>

unfavourable	Not favorable. <i>Single mothers are often the target of unfavourable press attention.</i>
unhappy	Not happy. <i>An unhappy coincidence.</i>
unlucky	Having, bringing, or resulting from bad luck. <i>An unlucky defeat.</i>
<u>unsuitable</u>	Not fitting or appropriate. <i>The display is unsuitable for young children.</i>
<u>untoward</u>	Unexpected and inappropriate or inconvenient. <i>Both tried to behave as if nothing untoward had happened.</i>
<u>unwelcome</u>	(of a guest or new arrival) not gladly received. <i>Unwelcome attentions from men.</i>
wretched	Of very poor quality or condition. <i>The wretched conditions of the slums.</i>



Usage Examples of "Unfortunate" as an adjective

- *His unfortunate remark silenced the gathering.*
- *An unfortunate speech.*
- *An unfortunate choice of words.*
- *Unfortunate investments.*
- *An unfortunate night for all concerned.*
- *An unfortunate decision.*
- *An unfortunate turn of events.*
- *The delay at the airport was an unfortunate start to our holiday.*
- *There'd been an unfortunate accident.*



Associations of "Unfortunate" (30 Words)

bereft

Unhappy in love; suffering from unrequited love.
Bereft of hope.

calamitous	(of events) having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin. <i>Such calamitous events as fires hurricanes and floods.</i>
defeated	People who are defeated. <i>She looked defeated quite unlike her normal self.</i>
disadvantaged	Marked by deprivation especially of the necessities of life or healthful environmental influences. <i>We began to help the disadvantaged.</i>
disastrous	Having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin. <i>The battle was a disastrous end to a disastrous campaign.</i>
fateful	Having extremely unfortunate or dire consequences; bringing ruin. <i>A fateful oversight.</i>
foreboding	A feeling that something bad will happen; fearful apprehension. <i>When the Doctor spoke his voice was dark and foreboding.</i>
frustrating	Discouraging by hindering. <i>It can be very frustrating to find that the size you want isn't there.</i>
hapless	Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy. <i>A hapless victim.</i>
inauspicious	Presaging ill fortune- P.B.Shelley. <i>My words with inauspicious thunderings shook heaven.</i>
infelicitous	Marked by or producing unhappiness. <i>The infelicitous typesetting was due to illegible copy.</i>
misadventure	An unfortunate incident; a mishap. <i>The petty misdemeanours and misadventures of childhood.</i>
mischance	An instance of misfortune. <i>By pure mischance the secret was revealed.</i>
miserable	Causing unhappiness or discomfort. <i>Almost depleted his miserable store of dried beans.</i>
mournful	Expressing sorrow. <i>Stared with mournful eyes.</i>
ominous	Presaging ill fortune. <i>There were ominous dark clouds gathering overhead.</i>
pathetic	Miserably inadequate; of very low standard. <i>The shabby room struck her as extraordinarily pathetic.</i>
piteous	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>Piteous appeals for help.</i>

pitiable	Contemptibly poor or small. <i>The men were in a pitiable condition.</i>
<u>pitiful</u>	Deserving or inciting pity. <i>A pitiful fate.</i>
premonition	An early warning about a future event. <i>He had a premonition of imminent disaster.</i>
presentiment	An intuitive feeling about the future, especially one of foreboding. <i>A presentiment of disaster.</i>
<u>tragic</u>	Suffering extreme distress or sorrow. <i>A tragic accident.</i>
<u>underprivileged</u>	Lacking the rights and advantages of other members of society. <i>The plight of the underprivileged.</i>
unfulfilled	Of persons; marked by failure to realize full potentialities. <i>I was restless and unfulfilled.</i>
unhappy	Causing discomfort. <i>After the argument they lapsed into an unhappy silence.</i>
unlucky	Marked by or promising bad fortune- W.H.Prescott. <i>The visitors were unlucky to have a goal disallowed.</i>
unpropitious	(of a circumstance) not giving or indicating a good chance of success; unfavourable. <i>His reports were submitted at a financially unpropitious time.</i>
<u>unsuccessful</u>	Not successful. <i>An unsuccessful attempt to enter Parliament.</i>
wretched	Deserving or inciting pity- Galsworthy. <i>Spent a wretched night on the floor.</i>

