

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

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The synonyms of “Unproductive” are: **sterile, barren, infertile, uncultivable, unfruitful, poor, lifeless, lean, arid, fruitless, futile, vain, idle, useless, worthless, valueless, pointless, ineffective, ineffectual, to no effect, impotent, inefficacious, unprofitable, unremunerative, unrewarding**

Unproductive as an Adjective

Definitions of "Unproductive" as an adjective

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

- *Not producing or capable of producing.*
- *Not producing desired results.*
- *Not producing or able to produce large amounts of goods, crops, or other commodities.*
- *(of an activity or period) not achieving much; not very useful.*

Synonyms of "Unproductive" as an adjective (25 Words)

arid	Lacking vitality or spirit; lifeless-C.J.Rolo. <i>A technically perfect but arid performance of the sonata.</i>
barren	Showing no results or achievements; unproductive. <i>The sports hall turned out to be a rather barren concrete building.</i>
fruitless	Unproductive of success. <i>A banana leaf from a fruitless palm.</i>

<u>futile</u>	Producing no result or effect. <i>Futile years after her artistic peak.</i>
idle	(especially of a threat or boast) without foundation. <i>Idle hands.</i>
impotent	Lacking power or ability- Freeman J.Dyson. <i>Felt impotent rage.</i>
<u>ineffective</u>	Lacking in power or forcefulness. <i>Ineffective legislation.</i>
<u>ineffectual</u>	Lacking in power or forcefulness. <i>She was neglectful and ineffectual as a parent.</i>
inefficacious	Lacking the power to produce a desired effect. <i>Laws that are inefficacious in stopping crime.</i>
infertile	Incapable of reproducing. <i>Barren and infertile soils.</i>
<u>lean</u>	Containing little excess. <i>A lean budget.</i>
<u>lifeless</u>	Lacking vigour, vitality, or excitement. <i>A lifeless planet.</i>
<u>pointless</u>	Not having a point especially a sharp point. <i>It s pointless to plan too far ahead.</i>
poor	(of a place) inhabited by people with little money. <i>A poor land.</i>
<u>sterile</u>	Deficient in originality or creativity; lacking powers of invention. <i>A sterile needle and syringes.</i>
to no effect	Quantifier; used with either mass nouns or plural count nouns for indicating a complete or almost complete lack or zero quantity of.
uncultivable	Not suitable for cultivation or tilling.
unfruitful	Not fruitful; not conducive to abundant production. <i>Single trees are often unfruitful and mixed planting is desirable.</i>
unprofitable	(of a business or activity) not yielding profit or financial gain. <i>The mines became increasingly unprofitable.</i>
unremunerative	Bringing little or no profit or income. <i>An unremunerative occupation.</i>
unrewarding	Not rewarding or satisfying. <i>It was dull unrewarding work.</i>
<u>useless</u>	Having no beneficial use or incapable of functioning usefully. <i>A piece of useless knowledge.</i>

vain	Characteristic of false pride; having an exaggerated sense of self-importance. <i>A vain woman with a streak of snobbery.</i>
valueless	Having no value; worthless. <i>Cherished but valueless heirlooms.</i>
worthless	Morally reprehensible. <i>Joan had been deserted by a worthless husband.</i>

Usage Examples of "Unproductive" as an adjective

- *The talks between labor and management were unproductive.*
- *Elimination of high-cost or unproductive industries.*
- *Unproductive land must be reforested.*
- *Unproductive meetings.*

Associations of "Unproductive" (30 Words)

abortive	Causing or resulting in abortion. <i>An abortive revolt.</i>
<u>arid</u>	Lacking sufficient water or rainfall. <i>The arid plains north of Cape Town.</i>
barren	A barren tract or tracts of land. <i>The flat feels too tidy almost barren.</i>
bootless	(of a task or undertaking) ineffectual; useless. <i>Remonstrating with him seems ever to have been a bootless task.</i>
<u>counterproductive</u>	Having the opposite of the desired effect. <i>Child experts fear the Executive's plans may prove counterproductive.</i>
desolate	Cause extensive destruction or ruin utterly. <i>A low desolate wail.</i>
<u>devoid</u>	Entirely lacking or free from. <i>Lisa kept her voice devoid of emotion.</i>
<u>expanse</u>	A wide continuous area of something. <i>The moth has a wing expanse of 20 to 24 mm.</i>
fruitless	Unproductive of success. <i>A fruitless search.</i>
<u>futile</u>	Unproductive of success. <i>Futile years after her artistic peak.</i>

impotence	Inability to take effective action; helplessness. <i>Few men suffering from impotence feel confident enough to ask their GP for advice.</i>
<u>ineffective</u>	Not producing any significant or desired effect. <i>Ineffective legislation.</i>
<u>ineffectual</u>	Lacking in power or forcefulness. <i>The therapy was ineffectual.</i>
infertile	(of a person, animal, or plant) unable to reproduce itself; unable to have young. <i>Barren and infertile soils.</i>
infertility	The state of being unable to produce offspring; in a woman it is an inability to conceive; in a man it is an inability to impregnate. <i>Chlamydia can cause infertility in women.</i>
interbreed	Breed animals or plants using parents of different races and varieties. <i>These species do not interbreed.</i>
miscarriage	An unsuccessful outcome of something planned. <i>The miscarriage of the project.</i>
powerless	Without ability, influence, or power. <i>Troops were powerless to stop last night's shooting.</i>
pregnant	Carrying developing offspring within the body or being about to produce new life. <i>A development pregnant with implications.</i>
<u>stark</u>	Severely simple. <i>The ridge formed a stark silhouette against the sky.</i>
<u>sterile</u>	Free from bacteria or other living microorganisms; totally clean. <i>A sterile ideology lacking in originality.</i>
sterility	(of non-living objects) the state of being free of pathogenic organisms. <i>The disease can cause sterility in males.</i>
stillborn	(of a proposal or plan) having failed to develop or be realized. <i>A stillborn baby.</i>
unavailable	Not available or accessible or at hand. <i>His secretary said he was unavailable for comment.</i>
unavailing	Producing no result or effect. <i>Their efforts were unavailing.</i>
unfruitful	Not producing fruit or crops; unfertile. <i>Single trees are often unfruitful and mixed planting is desirable.</i>

unsuccessful

Failing to accomplish an intended result.

An **unsuccessful** attempt to enter Parliament.

useless

Not fulfilling or not expected to achieve the intended purpose or desired outcome.

He was **useless** at football.

vain

Characteristic of false pride; having an exaggerated sense of self-importance.

Vain about her clothes.

windswept

(of a place) exposed to strong winds.

The **windswept** moors.