

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)

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

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

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

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

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