

Need another word that means the same as “useless”? Find 31 synonyms and 30 related words for “useless” in this overview.

Table Of Contents:

- [Useless as an Adjective](#)
- [Definitions of "Useless" as an adjective](#)
- [Synonyms of "Useless" as an adjective \(31 Words\)](#)
- [Usage Examples of "Useless" as an adjective](#)
- [Associations of “Useless” \(30 Words\)](#)

The synonyms of “Useless” are: futile, pointless, purposeless, impractical, vain, in vain, to no purpose, to no avail, unavailing, bootless, nugatory, hopeless, unusable, ineffectual, inefficacious, impotent, fruitless, unprofitable, profitless, unproductive, unachievable, sisyphian, incompetent, ineffective, worthless, incapable, inept, inadequate, weak, bad, no good

Useless as an Adjective

Definitions of "Useless" as an adjective

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

- *Having no beneficial use or incapable of functioning usefully.*
- *Having no ability or skill in a specified activity or area.*
- *Not fulfilling or not expected to achieve the intended purpose or desired outcome.*



Synonyms of "Useless" as an adjective (31 Words)

bad	Feeling physical discomfort or pain though is occasionally used colloquially for bad. <i>A bad diet.</i>
bootless	Unproductive of success. <i>Remonstrating with him seems ever to have been a bootless task.</i>
fruitless	Failing to achieve the desired results; unproductive or useless. <i>A banana leaf from a fruitless palm.</i>
<u>futile</u>	Producing no result or effect. <i>A futile attempt to keep fans from mounting the stage.</i>
hopeless	(informal to emphasize how bad it is) beyond hope of management or reform. <i>The situation is hopeless.</i>
impotent	(of a man) abnormally unable to achieve an erection. <i>He was seized with an impotent anger.</i>

<u>impractical</u>	Not practical; not workable or not given to practical matters. <i>Impractical</i> high heels.
in vain	Currently fashionable.
<u>inadequate</u>	Lacking the quality or quantity required; insufficient for a purpose. <i>Inadequate</i> funding.
<u>incapable</u>	Unable to behave rationally or manage one's affairs. <i>Incapable</i> of carrying a tune.
incompetent	Showing lack of skill or aptitude. An <i>incompetent</i> secret service.
<u>ineffective</u>	Lacking the ability or skill to perform effectively; inadequate. An <i>ineffective</i> administration.
<u>ineffectual</u>	Lacking in power or forcefulness. An <i>ineffectual</i> campaign.
inefficacious	Not producing the desired effect. Laws that are <i>inefficacious</i> in stopping crime.
inept	Not elegant or graceful in expression. <i>Inept</i> handling of the account.
no good	Quantifier; used with either mass nouns or plural count nouns for indicating a complete or almost complete lack or zero quantity of.
nugatory	Useless or futile. A <i>nugatory</i> law.
<u>pointless</u>	Having little or no sense, use, or purpose. My pencils are all <i>pointless</i> .
profitless	Without profit or reward. A long and <i>profitless</i> public row.
purposeless	Having no aim or plan. A life essentially <i>purposeless</i> .
sisyphean	Both extremely effortful and futile.
to no avail	Quantifier; used with either mass nouns or plural count nouns for indicating a complete or almost complete lack or zero quantity of.
to no purpose	Quantifier; used with either mass nouns or plural count nouns for indicating a complete or almost complete lack or zero quantity of.
unachievable	(of an aim or objective) too difficult to be achieved. An <i>unachievable</i> political goal.
unavailing	Achieving little or nothing; ineffective. An <i>unavailing</i> attempt.

<u>unproductive</u>	Not producing desired results. <i>Unproductive meetings.</i>
unprofitable	(of a business or activity) not yielding profit or financial gain. <i>The mines became increasingly unprofitable.</i>
<u>unusable</u>	Not fit to be used. <i>The steps were overgrown and unusable.</i>
vain	Having no likelihood of fulfilment; empty. <i>A vain boast.</i>
<u>weak</u>	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 problems arose from fielding weak teams in league matches.</i>
worthless	Lacking in usefulness or value. <i>That promise is worthless.</i>



Usage Examples of "Useless" as an adjective

- *A piece of useless knowledge.*
- *He was useless at football.*
- *We tried to pacify him but it was useless.*
- *She is useless in an emergency.*
- *A kitchen full of useless gadgets.*



Associations of "Useless" (30 Words)

bootless

Unproductive of success.

*Remonstrating with him seems ever to have been a **bootless** task.*

breakage

The quantity broken.

*There had been three **breakages** in the overhead wires.*

Having the opposite of the desired effect.

counterproductive

*Child experts fear the Executive's plans may prove **counterproductive**.*

execrable

Extremely bad or unpleasant.

***Execrable** crimes.*

fruitless

(of a tree or plant) not producing fruit.

*A banana leaf from a **fruitless** palm.*

futile

Producing no result or effect.

*A **futile** effort.*

futilely

In a futile and unproductive manner.

garbage

Rubbish or waste, especially domestic refuse.

*A **garbage** dump.*

gratuitous

Unnecessary and unwarranted.

***Gratuitous** violence.*

ineffective

Lacking in power or forcefulness.

*A weak and **ineffective** president.*

ineffectual

(of a person) lacking the ability or qualities to fulfil a role or handle a situation.

*An **ineffectual** campaign.*

inefficiency

The state of not achieving maximum productivity; failure to make the best use of time or resources.

*The idea is to eliminate **inefficiency** creating a seamless manufacturing process.*

infertile

(of land) unable to sustain crops or vegetation.

*An **infertile** couple.*

invalid

No longer valid.

*An officer **invalided** by a chest wound.*

misfire

(of a nerve cell) fail to transmit an electrical impulse at an appropriate moment.

*He didn't know that his plan had **misfired**.*

nihilism

The doctrine of an extreme Russian revolutionary party c.1900 which found nothing to approve of in the established social order.

nugatory

Useless or futile.

*The teacher shortages will render **nugatory** the hopes of implementing the new curriculum.*

<u>obsolete</u>	Cause a product or idea to become obsolete by replacing it with something new. <i>The phrase was obsolete after 1625.</i>
paltry	Contemptibly small in amount. <i>A paltry wage.</i>
powerless	Without ability, influence, or power. <i>Troops were powerless to stop last night's shooting.</i>
superfluous	More than is needed, desired, or required. <i>The purchaser should avoid asking for superfluous information.</i>
<u>trivia</u>	Something of small importance. <i>We fill our days with meaningless trivia.</i>
<u>trivial</u>	Concerned with trivialities. <i>Trivial details.</i>
unavailing	Producing no result or effect. <i>An unavailing attempt.</i>
<u>unproductive</u>	Not producing or able to produce large amounts of goods, crops, or other commodities. <i>Unproductive land must be reforested.</i>
vain	Having no likelihood of fulfilment; empty. <i>A vain attempt.</i>
valueless	Of no value. <i>Cherished but valueless heirlooms.</i>
<u>void</u>	Declare that (something) is not valid or legally binding. <i>What were once the masterpieces of literature are now void of meaning.</i>
<u>wasted</u>	(of an action) not producing the desired result. <i>A wasted effort.</i>
worthless	Morally reprehensible. <i>A worthless idler.</i>

