



avoid

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Commonly Confused

- evade
- ovoid

Synonyms

- circumvent
- withdraw
- abstain
- deflect
- obviate
- bypass
- desist

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Nearby Words

- avogadros number
- avogadros-law
- avogadros-number
- avoid**
- avoid like the plague
- avoidable consequence...
- avoidably

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a-void

[*uh-void*] [Show IPA](#)

–verb (used with object)

1. to keep away from; keep clear of; shun: *to avoid a person; to avoid taxes; to avoid danger.*
2. to prevent from happening: *to avoid falling.*
3. *Law* . to make void or of no effect; invalidate.
4. *Obsolete* . to empty; eject or expel.

Use **avoid** in a Sentence

Origin:

1250–30; ME *avoiden* < AF *avoider*, equiv. to *a-* + *voider* to *void*

—Related forms

- a-void-a-ble*, *adjective*
- a-void-a-bly*, *adverb*
- a-void-er*, *noun*
- non-a-void-a-ble*, *adjective*
- non-a-void-a-ble-ness*, *noun*
- non-a-void-a-bly*, *adverb*
- un-a-void-ing*, *adjective*

—Can be confused: avoid, [evade](#), [ovoid](#) (see synonym note at this entry).

—Synonyms

1. elude. AVOID, ESCAPE mean to come through a potentially harmful or unpleasant experience, without suffering serious consequences. To AVOID is to succeed in keeping away from something dangerous or undesirable: *to avoid meeting an enemy.* ESCAPE suggests encountering peril but coming through it safely: *to escape drowning.*

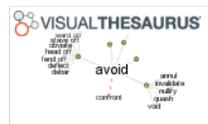
—Antonyms

1. confront, face, encounter.

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ebullient	tantamount

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