

**precious**1. ['preʃəs] *n*

любимый, дорогой

my precious - мой любимый, мой дорогой, мой драгоценный, мой ненаглядный

2. ['preʃəs] *a*

## 1. драгоценный

precious stones - драгоценные камни

precious metals - благородные металлы

precious time - драгоценное время

precious knowledge - ценные знания

## 2. дорогой, любимый

precious recollections - дорогие воспоминания

my precious darling - мой любимый, мой драгоценный, мой ненаглядный

his devotion is very precious to me - я очень ценю его преданность

this ring is precious to me because of its associations - это кольцо дорого мне из-за связанных с ним воспоминаний

## 3. манерный, изощрённый; изысканный (о языке, слоге)

4. **эмоц.-усил.** совершенный, абсолютный

a precious rascal - настоящий мошенник

a precious funk - отъявленный трус

to make a precious mess of things - здорово запутать дела

what a precious friend! - хорош друг!

a precious sight of - очень много

he thinks a precious sight of himself - он слишком высокого мнения о себе

a precious pair - ничего себе /та ещё/ парочка

do not be in such a precious hurry! - не летите сломя голову!

a precious fool I should look! - я бы выглядел настоящим дураком!

5. **разг.** прекрасный, замечательный

her little house is just precious! - её домик так мил!

3. ['preʃəs] *adv разг. эмоц.-усил.*

очень, весьма, здорово

precious few - очень мало

he took precious good care of that - он очень заботился об этом

it is precious cold - здорово холодно

there is precious little hope - надежды почти нет

**precious**

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

**pre-cious** adjective, adverb *BrE* ['preʃəs] <sup>ⓘ</sup> *NAmE* ['preʃəs] <sup>ⓘ</sup>

adjective

## 1. rare and worth a lot of money

• a precious vase

• The crown was set with precious jewels— diamonds, rubies and emeralds.

**see also** ↑precious metal, ↑precious stone

## 2. valuable or important and not to be wasted

• Clean water is a precious commodity in that part of the world.

• You're wasting precious time!

## 3. loved or valued very much

**Syn:** treasured• **precious memories/possessions**4. **only before noun** (informal) used to show you are angry that another person thinks sth is very important

• I didn't touch your precious car!

## 5. (disapproving) (especially of people and their behaviour) very formal, exaggerated and not natural in what you say and do

**Syn:** ↑affectedWord Origin:Middle English: from Old French **precios**, from Latin **pretiosus** 'of great value', from **pretium** 'price'.Synonyms:**valuable**

precious • priceless • irreplaceable

These words all describe sth that is worth a lot of money or very important to sb.

**valuable** • worth a lot of money: ▫ The thieves took three pieces of valuable jewellery.**precious** • rare and worth a lot of money; loved or valued very much: ▫ a precious Chinese vase, valued at half a million pounds ◇▫

precious memories of our time together

**priceless** • extremely valuable; loved or valued very much: ▫ a priceless collection of antiques**irreplaceable** • too valuable or special to be replacedvaluable/precious/priceless/irreplaceable **possessions**valuable/precious/priceless **antiques/jewels/jewellery**Example Bank:

- You are infinitely precious to me.
- My family is the most precious thing I have in my life.
- The crown was set with precious stones — diamonds, rubies and emeralds.
- They found a precious Chinese vase, valued at half a million pounds.
- They managed to salvage a few precious possessions from the fire.
- precious metals

Derived Word ↑preciousness

**adverb (informal) ~ little/few** used to emphasize the fact that there is very little of sth or that there are very few of sth

- There's precious little to do in this town.
- Precious few people can afford those prices.

Word Origin:

[precious preciousness] Middle English: from Old French *precios*, from Latin *pretiosus* 'of great value', from *pretium* 'price'.

## precious

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **pre**ci<sup>1</sup> /'preʃəs/ BrE <sup>ˈ</sup> AmE <sup>ˈ</sup> adjective

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: *precios*, from Latin *pretiosus*, from *pretium*; ⇒ ↑price<sup>1</sup>]

1. something that is precious is valuable and important and should not be wasted or used without care

**precious seconds/minutes/hours/time**

- We cannot afford to waste precious time.
- planes delivering precious supplies of medicine and food
- our planet's precious resources

2. rare and worth a lot of money

**precious gem/stone/jewel**

- a statue covered with precious jewels

3. precious memories or possessions are important to you because they remind you of people you like or events in your life

**precious to**

- The doll is cracked and worn, but it's precious to me because it was my mother's.

4. [only before noun] **spoken** used to show that you are annoyed that someone seems to care too much about something:

- I never touched your precious car!

5. **spoken** used to speak to someone you love, especially a baby or small child:

- Come sit by me, precious.

6. **American English spoken** used in order to describe someone or something that is small and pretty **SYN** cute:

- The kids gave me that ornament. Isn't it precious?

7. **formal** too concerned about style or detail in your writing or speech, so that it does not seem natural:

- His early work is rather precious and juvenile.

—**preciously** *adverb*

—**preciousness** *noun* [uncountable]

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## COLLOCATIONS

### nouns

- **time** My time is precious, and I don't want to waste it.
- **seconds/moments/minutes/hours** We knew we only had a few more precious hours together.
- **resources** The government has squandered the country's precious resources.
- **commodity** Water is a precious commodity.
- **asset** The organization's most precious asset is its staff.
- **gift** Her illness made her appreciate more the precious gift of life.

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## THESAURUS

### very special and important

- **precious** very special and important to someone - used about people or things: My family have always been precious to me. | His free time was very precious to him. | the place where I kept my most precious things
- **prized** very special and important to someone, so that they want very much to keep them or obtain them: The book was one of his most prized possessions. | The shells are prized for their beauty (=are considered to be very special).
- **treasured** very special and important to someone, especially because it is connected with someone they love: the case in which she kept her most treasured possessions | The holiday was now a treasured memory. | a treasured gift from her grandmother
- **irreplaceable** extremely special and important, especially because it is the only one of its kind: The manuscripts are said to be irreplaceable.

II. **pre**ci<sup>2</sup> BrE <sup>ˈ</sup> AmE <sup>ˈ</sup> *adverb informal*

**precious little/few** very little or very few:

- I had precious little time for reading.

## precious

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3860** MCW

15000 **3184** COCA

RANGE: **4k PRECIOUS** 7590

precious 7504

preciousness 86

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

5595 **5347**<sup>7085</sup> *jj*

405 **35277**<sup>419</sup> *rg*

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