

**precipitous**[pri'sipitəs] **a**

1. обрывистый, крутой; отвесный  
precipitous descent - крутой спуск  
precipitous cliffs - отвесные скалы
2. 1) стремительный безудержный  
2) поспешный, опрометчивый

**precipitous****pre·cipi·tous** *BrE* [prɪ'sɪpɪtəs] *NAmE* [prɪ'sɪpɪtəs] **adjective** (formal)

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

- 1.** very steep, high and often dangerous

**Syn:** ↑sheer

- precipitous cliffs
- a precipitous drop at the side of the road

- 2.** sudden and great

**Syn:** ↑abrupt

- a precipitous decline in exports

- 3.** done very quickly, without enough thought or care

**Syn:** ↑hasty

- a precipitous action

Derived Word ↑precipitouslyWord Origin:

[**precipitous** **precipitously**] mid 17th cent.: from obsolete French **précipiteux**, from Latin **praecip(s)e**s, **praecip(it)-** 'steep, headlong', from **prae** 'before' + **caput** 'head' .

**precipitous****pre·cipi·tous** /prɛ'sɪpɪtəs, prɪ'sɪpɪtəs/ *BrE* *AmE* **adjective**

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

- 1.** very sudden:

- a precipitous decline in stock prices

- 2.** dangerously high or steep:

- a precipitous path

- 3.** **formal** happening or done too quickly, and not thought about carefully:

- a precipitous marriage

**—precipitously adverb****precipitous**

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