I'm not a bot

English edit Etymology edit From un- + reliable. Pronunciation edit Adjective edit unreliable (comparative more unreliable, superlative most unreliable) Not reliable. Synonyms: flakey, sporadic, undependable Antonym: reliable 2020 May 6, Philip Haigh, “Just one more stop on the long journey to HS2 fulfillment [sic]”, in Rail, page 65:"Operating the WCML at this intensity makes it challenging to maintain acceptable performance levels, resulting in a frustratingly unreliable service for passengers. Minor disruption can escalate into significant delays because a train running only a few minutes late can miss its slot across a junction, resulting in a snowballing effect across the network." Derived terms edit unreliably unreliable narrator edit Translations edit Anagrams edit Also found in: Thesaurus, Medical, Legal, Financial, Acronyms, Encyclopedia, Wikipedia. (ŭn′rī-lī′ə-bəl)adj. Marked by or exhibiting a lack of reliability.un′re·li′a·bil′i·ty, un′re·li′a·ble·ness n.American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright © 2016 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. (ˌʌnrɪˈlaɪəbəl) adjnot reliable; untrustworthy: an unreliable witness. Collins English Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition 2014 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014 Adj.1.unreliable - liable to be erroneous or misleading; "an undependable generalization"fallible - likely to fail or make errors; "everyone is fallible to some degree"2.unreliable - not worthy of reliance or trust; "in the early 1950s computers were large and expensive and unreliable"; "an undependable assistant"dependable, reliable - worthy of reliance or trust; "a reliable source of information"; "a dependable worker"3.unreliable - dangerously unstable and unpredictable; "treacherous winding roads"; "an unreliable trestle"dangerous, unsafe - involving or causing danger or risk; liable to hurt or harm; "a dangerous criminal"; "a dangerous bridge"; "unemployment reached dangerous proportions"4.unreliable - lacking a sense of responsibility irresponsible - showing lack of care for consequences; "behaved like an irresponsible idiot"; "hasty and irresponsible action"Based on WordNet 3.0, Farlex clipart collection. © 2003-2012 Princeton University, Farlex Inc.adjective1. inaccurate, unconvincing, implausible, mistaken, false, uncertain, fake, deceptive, erroneous, unsound, fallible, specious, delusive The figures were unreliable because the sample sizes were too small. inaccurate accurate, infallible2. undependable, irresponsible, untrustworthy, unstable, treacherous, disreputable, not conscientious She had proved to be an unreliable witness and had lied to police. undependable reliable, dependable, trustworthy, responsible, stable, conscientiousCollins Thesaurus of the English Language – Complete and Unabridged 2nd Edition. 2002 © HarperCollins Publishers 1995, 2002adjective The American Heritage® Roget's Thesaurus. Copyright © 2013, 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved. لا يُمْكِنُ الاِعْتِمَادُ عَلَيْهِ alterabileinaffidabileinattendibilenon affidabileCollins Spanish Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged 8th Edition 2005 © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1971, 1988 © HarperCollins Publishers 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2005Collins English/French Electronic Resource. © HarperCollins Publishers 2005Collins German Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged 7th Edition 2005. © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1980 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1997, 1999, 2004, 2005, 2007Collins Italian Dictionary 1st Edition © HarperCollins Publishers 1995 → لا يُمْكِنُ الاِعْتِمَادُ عَلَيْهِ nespolehlivý upålidelig unzuverlässig αναξιόπιστος informal epäluotettava imprévisible nepouzdan inaffidabile らない □□□ □ □□ onbetrouwbaar upålitelig zawodny não confiável, não fiável ненадежный opålitlig □□□□□□□□□□□ güvenilmez không đáng tin cậy 不可靠的Multilingual Translator © HarperCollins Publishers 2009 Want to thank TFD for its existence? Tell a friend about us, add a link to this page, or visit the webmaster's page for free fun content. Link to this page: music consisted of the well-mixed strains of a melodeon which was a little asthmatic and apt to catch its breath where it ought to come out strong, a clarinet which was a little unreliable on the high keys and rather melancholy on the low ones, and a disreputable accordion that had a leak somewhere and breathed louder than it squawked--a more elegant term does not occur to me just now.For however eagerly and impetuously the savage crew had hailed the announcement of his quest; yet all sailors of all sorts are more or less capricious and unreliable --they live in the varying outer weather, and they inhale its fickleness --and when retained for any object remote and blank in the pursuit, however promissory of life and passion in the end, it is above all things requisite that temporary interests and employment should intervene and hold them healthily suspended for the final dash.MALAYAN ARCHIPELAGO--Lights unreliable owing eruptions.It will be remembered that the obstinate fellow had insisted on keeping his famous family watch at London time, and on regarding that of the countries he had passed through as quite false and unreliable. Now, on this day, though he had not changed the hands, he found that his watch exactly agreed with the ship's chronometers."I mean Man," said Father Brown, "the most unreliable machine I know of.All the friends of the family suddenly became unreliable people, for the first time in their lives.Well, she might have been twelve then: it was so long ago and the Vicar was always so unreliable. They said it was twenty years ago, but people used round figures, and it was just as likely to be eighteen years, or seventeen.The first sensation of rapid transit doubtless came with the sailing vessel; but it was the play-toy of the winds, and unreliable. When Columbus dared to set out on his famous voyage, he was five weeks in crossing from Spain to the West Indies, his best day's record two hundred miles.Beyond them stood the unreliable Signora, bowing good-evening to her guests, and supported by 'Enery, her little boy, and Victorier, her daughter.The color is hideous enough, and unreliable enough, and infuriating enough, but the pattern is torturing.He appealed to the Judges to say whether such loose and unreliable evidence as this was evidence which could be received by the Court.Indeed, with all his dignity of a man of the world, Prince Saradine radiated to such sensitive observers as the priest, a certain atmosphere of the restless and even the unreliable. His face was fastidious, but his eye was wild; he had little nervous tricks, like a man shaken by drink or drugs, and he neither had, nor professed to have, his hand on the helm of household affairs. View synonyms for unreliablenot reliable; untrustworthy“Collins English Dictionary — Complete & Unabridged” 2012 Digital Edition © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012unreliability noununreliableness noununreliably adverbExamples have not been reviewed.“Generally speaking it’s hard for me with my personality to get really close with unreliable people.”The memo, according to reports, asserts that the countries on the expanded list lack a credible “government authority to produce reliable identity documents,” keep unreliable criminal records or are beset by “widespread government fraud.”Discussions of Fox’s likability are also moot: He’s repulsive and unreliable, a monster.Concluding that Didion left these pages behind so they would eventually take shape as the penance of an unreliable narrator is surely too tidy.While Mr Collins salutes the enterprise farmers have shown, he says it is only happening because producing food is such an unreliable business.unrelentingunreligiousBrowse#aabbccddeeffgghhiijjkkllmmnnooppqqrrssttuuvvwwxxyyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day!© 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC Unreliable means not able to be trusted or depended on. It describes someone or something that is inconsistent, unpredictable, or likely to fail in performance or accuracy. unreliable /ˌənrɪˈlaɪəbəl/ /ˌʌnrɪˈlaɪəbəl/ Not able to be trusted or depended on; likely to fail or disappoint. untrustworthy, inconsistent, erratic, undependable reliable, dependable, trustworthy unreliable source, unreliable data, unreliable weather, unreliable narrator unreliability, unreliably Use "unreliable" to describe people, information, or things that cannot be consistently trusted or counted on. take with a grain of salt, fly-by-night, here today gone tomorrow Derived from "un-" (not) + "reliable," which comes from Latin "reliabilis" (trustworthy). Examples: 1. The car's unreliable engine often breaks down unexpectedly. 2. Her unreliable memory makes it hard to trust her stories. 3. The weather forecast is unreliable during monsoon season. 4. He’s an unreliable friend who often cancels plans last minute.