Ossified *(pronounced* **os**-uh-fyd*) adjective*

Definition

from the verb ossify.
Ossify *(pronounced* **os**-uh-fy*) =* ***1.*** *change into bone or become bony; to harden into bony substance.* ***2.*** *to settle into a rigidly conventional form or style and become resistant to change; to become inflexible in one's habits, tenets, attitude, etc.; rigidify.*

Other featured words

Ossification *(pronounced* os-uh-fih-**kay**-shun*) noun*

Main Example

- In its report on the Columbia space shuttle disaster, the board of investigators placed some of the blame on the shuttle program management, saying it had become **ossified** and much too bureaucratic and was, therefore, slow to respond to new information.

Workplace Examples

- With our company having grown into a multibillion-dollar corporation, we now run the risk of **ossification** setting in . . . losing our entrepreneurial spirit. So, it is imperative that we start infusing our ranks with new blood on a regular basis.

- The remarkable thing about Cora, our manager, is that she is always open to new ideas and also brings several ideas of her own to the table. What a contrast from her predecessor who was pretty much sterile and **ossified**!

Other Examples

- an 85-year-old business owner, asked to share his secret of successful leadership, saying: "Self-renewal is the key! And keep updating your perspective so that your thinking doesn't begin to stagnate and **ossify**. One sure way to accomplish this is to constantly meet new people from different age groups and backgrounds."

- discontent and disillusionment being widespread in several Asian and African nations--ones that had gained independence decades ago amid much hope and promise--thanks to ruling party leaders **ossifying** into corrupt politicians

- in spite of persistent efforts by Western leaders, Russia, and the U.N., peace in the Middle East continuing to be elusive because, say analysts, the leadership on both sides is badly **ossified** and consistently fails to come up with bold and imaginative solutions