

Here's the **simple difference** 👍

✓ Declarative Pipeline — how to specify agent

You use the `agent` block.

❖ Run on ANY node

```
pipeline {  
    agent any  
  
    stages {  
        stage('Build') {  
            steps {  
                sh 'mvn clean install'  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

❖ Run on a specific label

```
pipeline {  
    agent { label 'docker-node' }  
  
    stages {  
        stage('Build') {  
            steps {  
                sh 'mvn clean install'  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

❖ Run inside Docker (very common)

```
pipeline {  
    agent {  
        docker { image 'maven:3.9-eclipse-temurin-17' }  
    }  
  
    stages {  
        stage('Build') {  
            steps {  
                sh 'mvn clean install'  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Scripted Pipeline — how to specify agent

In scripted pipelines you use node.

❖ Any agent

```
node {  
    stage('Build') {  
        sh 'mvn clean install'  
    }  
}
```

❖ Specific label

```
node('docker-node') {  
    stage('Build') {  
        sh 'mvn clean install'  
    }  
}
```

Easy memory trick

Type Agent keyword

Declarative agent {}

Scripted node {}

Interview one-liner

“In declarative pipelines agents are defined using the `agent` block, while scripted pipelines use the `node` statement to select the executor.”