

ac·tor W3

/ˈæktə \$ -ər/

noun [countable]

someone who performs in a play or film:

leading/principal actor

She has starred with many leading actors.

character actor (= an actor who takes unusual or interesting roles)

COLLOCATIONS

adjectives

a good/ fine/ great actor *He had a reputation as a fine actor.*

a well-known/ famous actor *I'd really like to be a famous actor.*

a professional/ amateur actor *It isn't easy to become a successful professional actor.*

the leading/ principal actor (= acting the most important part) *Schwarzenegger was one of Hollywood's leading actors.*

a supporting actor (= acting a part that is not the most important one) *She was awarded an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.*

a talented/ accomplished actor *Jacobsen was one of the most accomplished actors of his generation.*

a comic actor *He was a comic actor and he always got a laugh.*

a classical actor (= acting parts from important traditional literature) *a drama school that trains classical actors*

NOUN + actor

a movie/ film/ screen/ Hollywood actor *the movie actor Brad Pitt*

a stage actor *Most stage actors are very badly paid.*

a television/TV actor *For several years he had small parts as a television actor.*

a comedy actor *Jason was voted top TV comedy actor.*

a character actor (= an actor who is good at unusual or interesting roles) *As a character actor you get interesting parts.*

THESAURUS

actor someone who performs in a play or film: *Her son wants to be an actor.* | *Both my parents are actors.*

actress a woman who performs in a play or film. Many women prefer to be called **actors** rather than **actresses**: *Who was the actress who played Jane Eyre?* | *She's one of my favourite actresses.*

star a famous actor: *Julia Roberts is a famous Hollywood star.* | *The hotel is popular with movie stars.*

the star someone who plays the most important part in a play or film: *Daniel Radcliffe is the star of the 'Harry Potter' films.*

co-star one of two or more famous actors who have important parts in a play or film: *Her co-star Jodie Foster won the Best Actress Award.*

the lead the main acting part in a play or film: *He will **play the lead** in a new version of 'Dracula'.*

extra an actor in a film who does not say anything but is part of a crowd: *She started her career as an extra in TV soap operas.*

understudy an actor who learns a part in a play so that they can act the part if the usual actor is ill: *Vanessa had flu, and her place was taken by her understudy, Miss Lisa Fennell.*

a group of actors

the cast all the actors in a play or film: *Other members of the cast include Johnny Depp and Danny DeVito.* | *She will head the*

cast (= she will have the most important part) .

company a group of actors who perform plays together: *In 2006, he joined the Royal Shakespeare Company. | The play will be performed by an all-female company.*

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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