

a·gent

S3 W2

/ˈeɪdʒ nt/

noun [countable]

- 1 BUSINESS a person or company that represents another person or company, especially in business:

Our agent in Rio deals with all our Brazilian business.

agent for

*We're **acting as agents** for Mr Watson.*

→ ESTATE AGENT,
LAND AGENT,
REAL ESTATE AGENT,
TRAVEL AGENT

- 2 ARTIST/ACTOR someone who finds work for actors, musicians etc, or who finds someone to PUBLISH a writer's work:

My agent has a new script for me to look at.

*a **literary agent***

- 3 GOVERNMENT AGENT someone who works for a government or police department, especially in order to get secret information about another country or organization:

*an **intelligence agent***

*an **FBI agent***

*an **undercover** (= secret) **agent***

→ SECRET AGENT,
DOUBLE AGENT

- 4 CHANGE/MAKE SOMETHING DIFFERENT (technical) a chemical or substance that is used for a particular purpose or that has a particular effect:

*Soap is a **cleansing agent**.*

- 5 FORCE/CHANGE/MAKE SOMETHING DIFFERENT someone or something that affects or changes a situation:

agent for/of change

Technological advances are the chief agents of change.

→ [FREE AGENT](#)

Word origin

Date: 1400–1500

Language: Medieval Latin

Origin: from the present participle of Latin *agere* 'to drive, lead, act, move, do'

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

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