



Words with the SUFFIX -OR



SUFFIX -OR Word List

A

Actor - a person who performs in plays, movies, or television shows.

- The talented **actor** brought the character to life on the stage.

Administrator - a person responsible for managing and organizing an organization or institution.

- The school **administrator** manages the day-to-day operations of the school.

Advisor - a person who provides advice or guidance to another person or organization.

- He sought the advice of a career **advisor** to explore different job opportunities.

Agitator - a person who encourages others to take political or social action by stirring up public opinion.

- The **agitator** tried to stir up trouble among the students by spreading rumors.

Auditor - a person who conducts an official financial or operational inspection of an organization or individual.

- The **auditor** reviewed the financial records of the company to ensure accuracy.

Aviator - a person who flies aircraft, such as airplanes or helicopters.

- The skilled **aviator** piloted the airplane with precision and skill.

B

Benefactor - a person who gives financial or other types of assistance to another person or organization.

- The kind **benefactor** donated money to support the local community center.

C

Calculator - a device or person that performs mathematical calculations.

- The students use a **calculator** to help with complex math homework.

Captor - a person or thing that captures another person or thing.

- The hostages were being fed and treated well by their **captors**.

Collector - a person who collects objects, such as stamps or coins, as a hobby or profession.

- The stamp **collector** had an impressive collection from around the world.

Collaborator - a person who works jointly with others to achieve a common goal or project.

- The artists worked together as **collaborators** to create a beautiful mural.

Competitor - a person or organization that competes with others in a particular field or industry.

- The store had a policy to match all of its **competitor's** prices.

Contractor - a person or company that agrees to provide goods or services for a specific project or time period.

- The **contractor** was responsible for overseeing the construction of the new building.

Counselor: A person who provides guidance and support, typically in a therapeutic or educational setting

- He works as a school **counselor**, helping students with their academic and personal challenges.

Creator - a person who creates or brings something into existence.

- Today, many YouTube **creators** can earn a full-time living just from their channel.

D

Decorator - a person who designs and arranges the interior of buildings or rooms.

- The couple hired a **decorator** to help with the design of their new home.

Demonstrator - a person who takes part in a public display of opinion or action to protest or support a cause.

- **Demonstrators** marched around City Hall all morning.

Dictator - a ruler who has complete power and authority over a country or people.

- The **dictator** ruled the country with absolute power and authority.

Distributor - a person or company that distributes or delivers goods or products to customers.

- The company is one of the country's largest software **distributors**.

Donor - a person who gives or donates something, such as money or blood, to a person or organization in need.

- The generous **donor** contributed money to support the local charity.

E

Editor - a person who edits or revises written material, such as books or articles.

- The **editor** provided valuable feedback on the manuscript.

Elevator - a device or person that moves people or goods vertically between floors or levels of a building.

- The **elevator** was stopped for repairs so I had to take the stairs to get to my apartment.

Emancipator - a person who frees or liberates others from a situation of bondage or oppression.

- Abraham Lincoln is known as the **emancipator** for his role in freeing the slaves.

Executor - a person appointed to carry out the instructions of a will or the wishes of a deceased person.

- The **executor** carried out the instructions outlined in the person's will.

G

Generator - a machine that produces electricity, power, or energy.

- During the power outage, the backup **generator** kicked in and provided electricity to the entire house.

Governor - a person who is appointed or elected to govern a state, country, or organization.

- Polls show that most citizens are happy with the job that the **governor** is doing right now.

I

Incinerator - a device or person that burns waste material to ashes or gases for disposal.

- The **incinerator** burns waste materials and turns them into ash.

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Inspector - a person who examines or investigates something to ensure that it is functioning properly or meets certain standards or regulations.

- The **inspector** checked the construction site for compliance with safety regulations.

Instructor - a person who teaches or provides instruction to others, typically in a classroom or educational setting.

- During University, Kevin made money part-time as a guitar **instructor**.

Investor - a person or organization that provides financial resources to a business or venture in exchange for a share of ownership or profit.

- The **investor** decided to invest in the tech startup, believing in its potential.

J

Juror - a member of a group of people who are selected to hear evidence and make a decision in a court of law.

- The **juror** listened to the evidence presented in the court case and helped reach a verdict.

L

Liberator - a person who sets someone free from captivity or oppression.

- In WWII, the Canadian forces were seen as **liberators** by the Netherlands.

Locator - a person or device that helps to find or locate something, such as a lost item or a specific location.

Emergency services used a mobile phone **locator** to trace the call of the missing girl.

M

Mediator - a person who intervenes between two parties to help them reach an agreement or settle a dispute.

- The **mediator** helped resolve the conflict between the two arguing parties.

Moderator - a person who leads a discussion or debate, ensuring that all participants have a chance to speak and that the conversation remains respectful and on-topic.

- The **moderator** facilitated the discussion and ensured everyone had a chance to speak.

N

Narrator: A person who tells or narrates a story, often providing a voice-over or commentary.

- She worked as a **narrator** for audiobooks, lending her voice to various stories.

Navigator - a person who plots or directs the course of a ship, aircraft, or vehicle.

- The **navigator** used a map to guide the driver on the road trip.

Negotiator - a person who engages in negotiations, often in a business or diplomatic setting, to reach an agreement or settlement.

- The **negotiator** worked to find a compromise that satisfied both sides of the disagreement.

O

Operator - a person who operates or manages a machine, equipment, or system, often in a technical or industrial setting.

- He trained to become a certified forklift **operator** at the warehouse.

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P

Perpetrator - a person who commits a crime or wrongdoing.

- The police arrested the **perpetrator** of the crime.

Predecessor - a person or thing that came before another person or thing in time or position.

- The current president's policies differed from those of his **predecessor**.

Professor - a person who teaches and conducts research at a college or university.

- The **professor** delivered a fascinating lecture on astrophysics.

Protector - a person or thing that provides protection or security for someone or something else.

- Batman acts as a **protector**, keeping Gotham City safe from villains.

Prosecutor - a person who brings criminal charges against someone in a court of law, often on behalf of the government or state.

- The **prosecutor** presented the evidence in court to prove the defendant's guilt.

R

Reflector - a device or person that reflects light or sound, often used for safety or communication purposes.

- The **reflector** on the bicycle increased visibility at night to enhance safety.

Regulator - a person or device that controls or regulates the flow, speed, or level of something, such as water, electricity, or temperature.

- The government acts as a **regulator** to enforce rules and maintain order.

S

Senator - a member of a legislative body, such as the United States Senate, who is responsible for making laws and representing their constituents.

- The **senator** represents the people and makes decisions in the legislative body.

Separator - a device or person that separates one thing from another, such as a sieve or a filter.

- The **separator** divides different types of recyclable materials for proper disposal.

Simulator - a device or person that imitates or simulates a real-life situation, often used for training or research purposes.

- The flight **simulator** allows pilots to practice flying in a realistic virtual environment.

Spectator - a person who watches or observes an event, often a sports or entertainment event.

- The excited **spectators** cheered loudly when their team scored a goal.

Supervisor - a person who oversees or manages the work of others, often in a professional or organizational setting.

- He was promoted to a **supervisor** role for his exceptional leadership skills.

Surveyor - a person who measures and maps the land, often for construction or planning purposes.

- The land **surveyor** measures and maps out the boundaries of properties.

Survivor - a person who remains alive or continues to exist after a dangerous or traumatic event, often used to describe someone who has overcome an illness or hardship

- The sole **survivor** of the shipwreck managed to stay alive until rescue arrived by drinking rainwater.

T

Translator - a person who translates or interprets language or text from one language to another.

- He worked as a freelance **translator**, translating documents for clients worldwide.

V

Visitor - a person who visits a place or person for a temporary period of time.

- The museum welcomed many enthusiastic **visitors** during the art exhibition.

Violator - a person who breaks or violates a rule or a law

- The law is strictly enforced and all **violators** will be prosecuted.

W

Warrior - a person who fights in combat or war

- The courageous **warrior** fought bravely on the battlefield to protect his people.

6 Words Ending In -OR That Are *Not* Made From Verbs

Here are six common English words that end with the suffix **-OR** and describe people but are *NOT* made from verbs.

Author - a person who writes books, articles, or other literary works.

- She aspired to become an **author** and started writing her first book.

Word Origin

Middle English (in the sense 'a person who invents or causes something'): from Old French autor, from Latin auctor, from augere 'increase, originate, promote'. The spelling with th arose in the 15th cent., and perhaps became established under the influence of authentic. [Oxford Learner's Dictionaries](#)

Doctor - a person who is qualified to practice medicine and treat illnesses or injuries.

- Becoming a **doctor** requires many years of rigorous study.

Word Origin

Middle English (in the senses 'learned person' and 'Doctor of the Church'): via Old French from Latin doctor 'teacher' (from docere 'teach'). [Oxford Learner's Dictionaries](#)

Janitor - a person who cleans and maintains buildings, often in a public or commercial setting.

- The **janitor** swept the floors and emptied the trash bins in the school.

Word Origin

mid 16th cent.: from Latin, from janua 'door'. [Oxford Learner's Dictionaries](#)

Mentor - a person who provides guidance and advice to a less experienced or younger person, typically in a professional setting.

- The experienced professional acted as a **mentor** and guided the new employee.

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Word Origin

mid 18th cent.: via French and Latin from Greek Mentōr, the name of the adviser of the young Telemachus in the Greek epic poem the Odyssey by Homer. [Oxford Learner's Dictionaries](#)

Predator - an animal or person that preys upon others, often for food or as a means of exerting power or control.

• The lion is a fierce **predator** that is known as the king of the jungle.

Word Origin

1920s: from Latin praedator 'plunderer', from praedat- 'seized as plunder', from the verb praedari 'seize as plunder', from praeda 'booty'. [Oxford Learner's Dictionaries](#)

Traitor - a person who betrays their country or organization by acting against its interests or secrets.

• The **traitor** betrayed their friends by revealing their secret plans.

Word Origin

Middle English: from Old French traitour, from Latin traditor, from tradere 'hand over'. [Oxford Learner's Dictionaries](#)

The Suffix -OR Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between -or and -er suffixes?

The -or and -er suffixes are both agentive suffixes. They are used to form nouns indicating a person or thing that performs an action or function.

If a verb ends in the letters -ate it will usually form a noun by adding the suffix -or.

The verb generate becomes the noun generator.

The verb operate becomes the noun operator.

The verb translate becomes a noun translator.

There are a few cases when a word can be spelled either way, the spelling is either a personal preference or one spelling is preferred in a different country or area. A simple example of this is adviser and advisor.

[Oxford Learner's Dictionaries](#)

adviser noun (also **advisor**)

- a person who gives advice, especially somebody who knows a lot about a particular subject

The suffix -ER has more applications and is used much more often in English than the suffix -OR.

The suffix -ER is not only used to demonstrate the person or thing that performs an action or function. Here are some other uses for the suffix -ER.

To show a person or thing that has the thing or quality mentioned

- Foreign - foreigner
- Strange - stranger

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To show a person studying or expert in

- Astronomy - Astronomer
- Philosophy - Philosopher

To show a person belonging to

- A Londoner - A person from London
- A New Yorker - A person from New York

The suffix -ER is also used to make the comparative forms of adjectives and adverbs.

- Hot becomes hotter
- Soon becomes sooner

What is the origin of the suffix -or?

Suff -OR comes to English from other languages and older versions of English. Here are the sources for the suffix that I found at Wiktionary.com.

- From Middle English -our, from Old French -eor, from Latin -ātor; reinforced by Old French -or and its source, Latin -tor, -tōrem



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