

Need another word that means the same as “instigate”? Find 49 synonyms and 30 related words for “instigate” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Instigate” are: incite, set off, stir up, inspire, prompt, set in motion, put in motion, get under way, get going, get off the ground, get in operation, start, begin, initiate, launch, institute, lay the foundations of, lay the first stone of, sow the seeds of, set up, inaugurate, found, establish, put in place, organize, get working, get functioning, activate, encourage, urge, goad, provoke, spur on, drive on, egg on, entice, stimulate, push, press, prod, induce, impel, prevail upon, constrain, motivate, make, influence, persuade, sway**

## Instigate as a Verb

### Definitions of "Instigate" as a verb

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “instigate” as a verb can have the following definitions:

- *Incite someone to do something, especially something bad.*
- *Bring about or initiate (an action or event).*
- *Provoke or stir up.*
- *Serve as the inciting cause of.*

### Synonyms of "Instigate" as a verb (49 Words)

<b>activate</b>	Make active or more active. <i>A DNA repair enzyme that is <b>activated</b> by visible light.</i>
<b>begin</b>	Begin to speak or say he began. <i><b>Begin</b> a new chapter in your life.</i>

<b>constrain</b>	Compel or force (someone) to follow a particular course of action. <i>Agricultural development is considerably <b>constrained</b> by climate.</i>
<b>drive on</b>	Operate or control a vehicle.
<b>egg on</b>	Throw eggs at.
<b>encourage</b>	Inspire with confidence; give hope or courage to. <i>The intention is to <b>encourage</b> new writing talent.</i>
<b><u>entice</u></b>	Attract or tempt by offering pleasure or advantage. <i>The treat is offered to <b>entice</b> the dog to eat.</i>
<b>establish</b>	Institute enact or establish. <i><b>Establish</b> the location with a wide shot.</i>
<b>found</b>	Set up or found.
<b>get functioning</b>	Take the first step or steps in carrying out an action.
<b>get going</b>	Take the first step or steps in carrying out an action.
<b>get in operation</b>	Reach a destination; arrive by movement or progress.
<b>get off the ground</b>	Irritate.
<b>get under way</b>	Succeed in catching or seizing, especially after a chase.
<b>get working</b>	Irritate.
<b><u>goad</u></b>	Goad or provoke as by constant criticism. <i>He was trying to <b>goad</b> her into a fight.</i>
<b>impel</b>	Drive, force, or urge (someone) to do something. <i>A lack of equality <b>impelled</b> the oppressed to fight.</i>
<b>inaugurate</b>	Commence officially. <i>The new President will be <b>inaugurated</b> on January 20.</i>
<b><u>incite</u></b>	Urge on; cause to act. <i>They conspired to <b>incite</b> riots.</i>
<b><u>induce</u></b>	Bring on childbirth in (a pregnant woman) artificially, typically by the use of drugs. <i>The ads <b>induced</b> me to buy a VCR.</i>
<b>influence</b>	Have and exert influence or effect. <i>The artist s work <b>influenced</b> the young painter.</i>
<b>initiate</b>	Take the lead or initiative in; participate in the development of. <i>African men are <b>initiated</b> when they reach puberty.</i>
<b>inspire</b>	Breathe in (air); inhale. <i>They can expand their lungs and <b>inspire</b> enough gas to satisfy oxygen requirements.</i>

<b>institute</b>	Advance or set forth in court. <i>The award was <b>instituted</b> in 1900.</i>
<b>launch</b>	Launch for the first time launch on a maiden voyage. <i>He <b>launched</b> a biting attack on BBC chiefs.</i>
<b>lay the first stone of</b>	Put into a certain place or abstract location.
<b>lay the foundations of</b>	Put into a certain place or abstract location.
<b>make</b>	Make or cause to be or to become. <i><b>Make</b> an effort.</i>
<u><a href="#">motivate</a></u>	Provide (someone) with a reason for doing something. <i>He was primarily <b>motivated</b> by the desire for profit.</i>
<u><a href="#">organize</a></u>	Plan and direct (a complex undertaking). <i>Julie <b>organized</b> food and drink for the band.</i>
<b>persuade</b>	Induce (someone) to do something through reasoning or argument. <i>Health boards were finally <b>persuaded</b> of the desirability of psychiatric units.</i>
<b>press</b>	Create by pressing. <i>The mob was still <b>pressing</b> forward.</i>
<b>prevail upon</b>	Continue to exist.
<b>prompt</b>	(of an event or fact) cause or bring about (an action or feeling). <i>And the picture he <b>prompted</b>.</i>
<u><a href="#">provoke</a></u>	Evoke or provoke to appear or occur. <i>Rachel refused to be <b>provoked</b>.</i>
<u><a href="#">push</a></u>	Make strenuous pushing movements during birth to expel the baby. <i>He <b>pushed</b> at the skylight but it wouldn't budge.</i>
<b>put in motion</b>	Arrange thoughts, ideas, temporal events.
<b>put in place</b>	Estimate.
<b>set in motion</b>	Decide upon or fix definitely.
<b>set off</b>	Get ready for a particular purpose or event.
<b>set up</b>	Put or set (seeds, seedlings, or plants) into the ground.
<b>sow the seeds of</b>	Place seeds in or on (the ground).
<b>spur on</b>	Goad with spurs.
<b>start</b>	Give a signal to competitors to start in a race. <i>She <b>startled</b> when I walked into the room.</i>

<b>stimulate</b>	Encourage or arouse interest or enthusiasm in. <i>The courses <b>stimulate</b> a passion for learning.</i>
<b>stir up</b>	Affect emotionally.
<b>sway</b>	Move or walk in a swinging or swaying manner. <i>Wind rattled and <b>swayed</b> the trees.</i>
<b>urge</b>	Encourage someone to continue or succeed. <i>Drawing up outside the house he <b>urged</b> her inside.</i>

### Usage Examples of "Instigate" as a verb

- *Instigating men to refuse allegiance to the civil powers.*
- *I will be instigating legal proceedings.*
- *They instigated a reign of terror.*

### Associations of "Instigate" (30 Words)

<b>agitative</b>	Causing or tending to cause anger or resentment.
<b>animate</b>	Endowed with animal life as distinguished from plant life. <i>Much loved characters have been <b>animated</b> in this Franco Canadian co production.</i>
<b>arousal</b>	Mutual sexual fondling prior to sexual intercourse. <i>The purpose of art is the <b>arousal</b> of emotions.</i>
<b>arouse</b>	Stimulate sexually. <i>She had been <b>aroused</b> from deep slumber.</i>
<b>catalyst</b>	A substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction without itself undergoing any permanent chemical change. <i>The invasion acted as a <b>catalyst</b> to unite the country.</i>
<b>catalyze</b>	Change by catalysis or cause to catalyze.
<b>deed</b>	Convey or transfer property or rights by legal deed. <i>Doing good <b>deeds</b>.</i>
<b>encourage</b>	Spur on. <i>Pupils are <b>encouraged</b> to be creative.</i>
<b>energize</b>	Supply energy, typically kinetic or electrical energy, to (something). <i>Floor sensors are <b>energized</b> by standing passengers.</i>
<b>enliven</b>	Make lively. <i>The wartime routine was <b>enlivened</b> by a series of concerts.</i>

<b>excitation</b>	The neural or electrical arousal of an organ or muscle or gland. <i>Continuous rotation of the motor by sequential <b>excitation</b> of the phase windings.</i>
<b>excite</b>	Cause to be agitated excited or roused. <i><b>Excite</b> the neurons.</i>
<b>exhort</b>	Strongly encourage or urge (someone) to do something. <i>I <b>exhorted</b> her to be a good child.</i>
<b>impel</b>	Drive forward; propel. <i>Financial difficulties <b>impelled</b> him to desperate measures.</i>
<b>incite</b>	Give an incentive for action. <i>He <b>incited</b> loyal subjects to rebellion.</i>
<b>incitement</b>	An act of urging on or spurring on or rousing to action or instigating. <i>The <b>incitement</b> of mutiny.</i>
<b>induce</b>	Cause to arise. <i>The current in the primary winding is <b>induced</b> by the rotating magnet.</i>
<b>inspire</b>	Give rise to. <i>The lung cancer patient cannot <b>inspire</b> air very well.</i>
<b>instigation</b>	The verbal act of urging on. <i>The Domesday Survey was compiled at the <b>instigation</b> of William I.</i>
<b>invigorate</b>	Impart vigor, strength, or vitality to. <i>The cold water <b>invigorated</b> him.</i>
<b>invoke</b>	Call on (a deity or spirit) in prayer, as a witness, or for inspiration. <i>The antiquated defence of insanity is rarely <b>invoked</b> in England.</i>
<b>motivate</b>	Provide (someone) with a reason for doing something. <i>He was primarily <b>motivated</b> by the desire for profit.</i>
<b>persuade</b>	Cause somebody to adopt a certain position, belief, or course of action; twist somebody's arm. <i>It wasn't easy but I <b>persuaded</b> him to do the right thing.</i>
<b>provocation</b>	Something that incites or provokes; a means of arousing or stirring to action. <i>He burst into tears at the slightest <b>provocation</b>.</i>
<b>provoke</b>	Evoke or provoke to appear or occur. <i>The decision <b>provoked</b> a storm of protest from civil rights organizations.</i>
<b>rouse</b>	Cause to be agitated excited or roused. <i><b>Rouse</b> the cable out.</i>
<b>spur</b>	Strike with a spur. <i><b>Spur</b> horses.</i>

<b>stimulate</b>	Cause to do; cause to act in a specified manner. <i><b>Stimulate</b> my appetite.</i>
<b>stir</b>	Mix or add by stirring. <i>They will be <b>stirred</b> to action by what is written.</i>
<b>urge</b>	A strong desire or impulse. <i>Do try to relax she <b>urged</b>.</i>