

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)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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