Example: OPERATOR in a Sentence

Definition of OPERATOR

1. one that operates: such as
   a: one that operates a machine or device
   b: one that operates a business
   c: one that performs surgical operations
   d: one that deals in stocks or commodities

2. a: MOUNTEBANK, FRAUD
   b: a shrewd and skillful person who knows how to circumvent restrictions or difficulties

3. a: something and especially a symbol that denotes or performs a mathematical or logical operation
   b: a mathematical function

4. a binding site in a DNA chain at which a genetic repressor binds to inhibit the initiation of transcription of messenger RNA by one or more nearby structural genes — called also operator gene; compare OPERON
NEW! Time Traveler
First Known Use: 1598
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People Are Reading

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November 2017
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Examples of OPERATOR in a Sentence

the operator of an automobile
the operator of a nuclear power plant
Call the operator for the phone number.
Operator, please connect me with extension 123.

...is quite an operator—no one else could have gotten them all to agree to the project.

Recent Examples of OPERATOR from the Web

The two operators of this meat chariot are Mustard Maddie and Jalapeño Jackie, AKA Maddie Murphy and Jackie Stumm.

— Maggie Lange, Bon Appetit, "The Most Exclusive Summer Internship Is Aboard the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile," 6 June 2017

The film's especially harsh in its portrayal of attorney general Robert F. Kennedy (Michael Stahl-David) as a steely weasel of an operator, initially uncomprehending of Johnson's usefulness.

— Michael Phillips, idahostatesman, "Woody Harrelson tries on the prosthetic ears in 'LBJ'," 2 Nov. 2017

In a series of orders issued on Monday, the agency asked all North Slope operators with similar well designs to temporarily shut them down and provide a list of such wells by Dec. 31.


Origin and Etymology of OPERATOR

These example sentences are selected automatically from various sources to reflect current usage of the word 'operator.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. Send us feedback.

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https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/operator
OPERATOR Defined for English Language Learners

operator

noun

Definition of OPERATOR for English Language Learners

: a person who uses and controls something (such as a machine, device, or business): someone who operates something

: a person whose job is to help to connect telephone calls: in charge of a telephone switchboard

: a person who is able to easily achieve things especially by persuading people or by being dishonest

Phrases Related to OPERATOR

Related Phrases

crane operator

smooth operator

NEW! Time Traveler

First Known Use: 1598

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Definition of OPERATOR for Students

1: a person who manages or controls something • a plow operator

2: a person in charge of a telephone switchboard

3: a person who is skillful at achieving things by persuasion or deception

Medical Dictionary

Medical Definition of OPERATOR

1: one (as a dentist or surgeon) who performs surgical operations

2: a binding site in a DNA chain at which a genetic repressor binds to inhibit the initiation of transcription of messenger RNA by one or more nearby structural genes — called also operon gene; compare OPERON

Learn More about OPERATOR

See words that rhyme with operator