Definition of MINISTER

1 : AGENT

2 a : one officiating or assisting the officiant in church worship
   b : a clergyman especially of a Protestant communion

3 a : the superior of one of several religious orders —called also minister-general
   b : the assistant to the rector or the bursar of a Jesuit house

4 : a high officer of state entrusted with the management of a division of governmental activities

5 a : a diplomatic representative (as an ambassador) accredited to the court or seat of government of a foreign state
   b : a diplomatic representative ranking below an ambassador

See minister defined for English-language learners
See minister defined for kids

Examples of MINISTER in a sentence

<the British ministers at the international peace conference>
<em>our minister</em> gives an interesting sermon every week.

**Origin and Etymology of MINISTER**

Middle English <em>ministre</em>, from Anglo-French, from Latin <em>minister</em> servant; akin to Latin <em>ministerialis</em>.

**MINISTER Synonyms**

Synonyms:
- agent
- delegate
- emissary
- envoy
- legate
- ambassador
- representative

**Other Christian Religious Terms**

Pentateuch, blasphemy, curate, doxology, eremite, iconoclasm, liturgy, orison, pneuma, reliquary

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**Definition of MINISTER**

<em>ministered</em>  
<em>ministering</em>  
<em>intransitive verb</em>

1. to function as a minister of religion
2. to give aid or service <em>minister</em> to the sick

See <em>minister</em> defined for English-language learners

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**First Known Use of MINISTER**

**Other Christian Religious Terms**
14th century

Pentateuch, blasphemy, curate, doxology, eremite, iconoclasm, liturgy, orison, pneumonia, relic

Phrases related to MINISTER

Related Phrases

minister to

MINISTER Defined for English Language Learners

Definition of MINISTER FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

: a person whose job involves leading church services, performing religious ceremonies (such as marriages), and providing spiritual or religious guidance to other people: a member of the clergy in some Protestant churches

: an official who heads a government department or a major section of a department in some countries (such as Britain)

: a person who represents his or her own government while living in a foreign country

MINISTER Defined for Kids

minister
Definition of MINISTER for Students

1: a person who performs religious ceremonies especially in Protestant church services

2: a government official at the head of a section of government activities <minister of education>

3: a person who represents his or her government in a foreign country

Definition of MINISTER for Students

ministered ministering

: to give help or care <minister to the sick>

Learn More about MINISTER

Thesaurus: All synonyms and antonyms for minister
Spanish Central: Translation of minister
English: Translation of minister for Spanish speakers
Britannica English: Translation of minister for Arabic speakers