

Entrepreneur

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For the practice of starting a new organization, see [Entrepreneurship](#).

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An **entrepreneur** is a person who has possession of a new [enterprise](#), [venture](#) or [idea](#) and assumes significant accountability for the inherent risks and the outcome.^[1] The term is originally a [loanword](#) from [French](#) and was first defined by the Irish economist [Richard Cantillon](#). Entrepreneur in [English](#) is a term applied to the type of personality who is willing to take upon herself or himself a new venture or enterprise and accepts full responsibility for the outcome. [Jean-Baptiste Say](#), a French economist is believed to have coined the word "entrepreneur" first in about 1800. He said an entrepreneur is "one who undertakes an enterprise, especially a contractor, acting as intermediary between capital and labour."^[2]