

# The Ultimate List of Acting Verbs (Tactics)

from "Playing: An Introduction to Acting" by Paul Kuritz, Prentice-Hall. 1982

## A

*abase*  
*abet*  
*abolish*  
*absolve*  
*abuse*  
*accept*  
*acquaint*  
*acquit*  
*addle*  
*address*  
*admonish*  
*affirm*  
*afflict*  
*affront*  
*aid*  
*ail*  
*alarm*  
*alert*  
*allow*  
*allure*  
*amaze*  
*amend*  
*amuse*  
*anger*  
*antagonize*  
*anticipate*  
*ape appeal*  
*approach*  
*arouse*  
*arrange*  
*assess*  
*assist*  
*astound*  
*attack*  
*authenticate*

## B

*baby*  
*badger*  
*baffle*  
*bait*  
*bear*  
*beckon*  
*befuddle*  
*beg*  
*beguile*  
*belittle*  
*berate*  
*beseech*  
*bewitch*  
*bid*  
*blame*  
*bless*  
*bluff*  
*boost*  
*brainwash*  
*bribe*  
*buck*  
*bushwhack*

## C

*cajole*  
*calculate*  
*call*  
*catch*  
*caution*  
*censure*  
*challenge*  
*charge*  
*charm*  
*chastise*  
*cheat*  
*check*

*cheer*  
*chide*  
*clarify*  
*cloak*  
*coax*  
*coddle*  
*coerce*  
*collude*  
*command*  
*commend*  
*con*  
*conceal*  
*concern*  
*conciliate*  
*condemn*  
*condescend*  
*confide*  
*confirm*  
*confound*  
*confuse*  
*consider*  
*consign*  
*contest*  
*convince*  
*correct*  
*corroborate*  
*court*  
*cover*  
*criticize*  
*crucify*  
*crush*  
*curse*

## D

*damn*  
*dare*  
*deceive*  
*declaim*  
*deduce*

*defame*  
*defraud*  
*defy*  
*delight*  
*delude*  
*demean*  
*denigrate*  
*deny*  
*detect*  
*deter*  
*devastate*  
*dictate*  
*direct*  
*disconcert*  
*discourage*  
*discredit*  
*disencumber*  
*disgrace*  
*disgust*  
*dishearten*  
*dispirit*  
*displease*  
*dissuade*  
*distress*  
*divert*  
*divine*  
*dodge*  
*dominate*  
*dramatize*  
*draw*  
*duck*

## E

*ease*  
*educate*  
*elevate*  
*elicit*  
*elucidate*  
*embroil*

*enchant*  
*endear*  
*enflame*  
*engross*  
*enkindle*  
*enlighten*  
*enmesh*  
*ensnare*  
*entangle*  
*entertain*  
*entice*  
*entrap*  
*entreat*  
*entrust*  
*eradicate*  
*eschew*  
*estimate*  
*evade*  
*evaluate*  
*excuse*  
*execute*  
*exploit*

## F

*facilitate*  
*feed*  
*force*  
*frame*  
*free*  
*frighten*  
*frustrate*  
*fuddle*

## G

*gag*  
*gauge*  
*gladden*  
*goad*

*graft  
gull*

## H

*hallow  
harangue  
hassle  
help  
henpeck  
hoodwink  
humble  
humiliate  
humour  
hurt  
hush  
hypnotize*

## I

*imitate  
impair  
implicate  
indict  
indoctrinate  
induce  
indulge  
insinuate  
inspire  
insult  
interview  
intrigue  
invite*

## J

*judge*

## L

*lambast  
lampoon  
lead  
lecture  
libel  
liberate  
lure*

## M

*magnetize  
malign  
maneuver  
manipulate  
marshall  
mask  
mend  
mimic  
mislead  
misuse  
mobilize  
mortify  
motivate  
muffle  
muster  
mystify*

## N

*nag  
nauseate  
negotiate  
notify  
nullify*

## O

*obliterate  
offend  
oppose  
organize  
orient  
orientate  
overlook*

## P

*panic  
parrot  
patronize  
perform  
perplex  
persecute  
peruse  
placate  
plan*

*please  
pledge  
pontificate  
pose  
pray  
preoccupy  
press  
prevail  
prick  
prod  
promise  
promote  
prompt  
propagandize  
propel  
propose  
propound  
prosecute  
provoke  
purge  
purify  
pursue*

## Q

*quash  
quench  
query*

## R

*rally  
ratify  
ravage  
rave  
read  
rebuke  
recreate  
rectify  
reiterate  
reject  
rejoin  
release  
relegate  
remedy  
renege  
repel*

*reprehend  
repress  
reprimand  
repulse  
resist  
retract  
revolt  
ridicule*

## S

*sanctify  
satisfy  
scheme  
scold  
scrutinize  
sedate  
seduce  
settle  
shake  
shame  
shroud  
shun  
sicken  
simplify  
slander  
slur  
smother  
snare  
sober  
soothe  
spellbind  
spoil  
spur  
spurn  
squash  
squelch  
startle  
still  
stir  
stretch  
strike  
strip  
study  
stymie  
substantiate  
suffer*

*suggest  
summon  
supplicate  
support  
suppress  
surprise  
swindle*

## T

*tantalize  
tarnish  
tease  
tempt  
terrify  
thwart  
tickle  
titillate  
tolerate  
torment  
torture  
trammel  
trick  
trouble  
tyrannize*

## U

*unburden  
understand  
uproot  
urge*

## V

*validate  
verify  
victimize  
vilify  
vindicate*

## W

*warn  
woo  
worship  
wrangle*