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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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sec·re·tar·y  (sĕk rĭ-tĕr'ē)

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n. pl. **sec·re·tar·ies**

1. A person employed to handle correspondence, keep files, and do clerical work for another person or an organization.
2. An officer who keeps records, takes minutes of the meetings, and answers correspondence, as for a company.
3. An official who presides over an administrative department of state.
4. A desk with a small bookcase on top.

[Middle English *secretarie*, from Medieval Latin *sēcrētārius*, confidential officer, clerk, from Latin *sēcrētus*, secret; see [SECRET](#).]

sec·re·tar i·al (-târ ē-əl) *adj.*



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secretary

c. 1800 American Hepplewhite secretary attributed to Michael Allison (1773-1855)

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