# CryptaGram Help Index

### How To ...

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### Commands

Buttons Game menu Topics menu Player menu Background Letterbar menu Text menu About menu Help menu

### Game menu commands

The Game menu offers the following commands:

		Shortc ut
<u>Done</u>	Quote has been solved, check to see if it is	Alt G +
	correct.	D
<u>Next</u>	Starts a new quote.	Alt G +
		Ν
<u>Restart</u>	Clear all letters and begin this quote again.	Alt G +
		R
<u>Give Up</u>	OK, l give up. (The cost is 60	Alt G +
	minutesouch!)	G
<u>Exit</u>	Exits CryptaGram	Alt G +
		Х

### How to Play CryptaGram

### First things first:

If this is the first time your copy of CryptaGram has been played, you are prompted to enter a player's name. Otherwise, the previous player's name will be displayed in the window. You may choose that name, enter a new one (just start typing over the old name), or click on the down arrow next to the name box to see a list of people who have previously played the game. Choose one of these by double clicking on the name you wish to use.

PLAYER 1	-
PLAYER 1	
PLAYER2	
PLAYER3	
PLAYER4	-
mark in	Junene

#### Now what ?

The game window is now displayed, but there is no quote to solve. To start the game, click on the <u>Next Quote</u> button.

#### The Object :

To solve the quote by decoding the scrambled letters as quickly as possible.

#### How do I do that ?

Look for letter patterns, punctuation (hyphens, apostrophes), the same letter ending many words, i.e. many words in English end with 'E' or 'S'. Single letters could be 'l' or 'A'. Basically, you make your best guess at the outset, building words as you go.

#### What buttons or keys do I use ?

To choose a letter to place in a rectangle on the playing screen, click any letter on the <u>letterbar</u> This marks the official beginning of the game, and activates the <u>timer</u>. The letter you have just chosen is displayed until it is played.

To play a letter, move the cursor over any rectangle (under a scrambled letter), Click the left mouse button. The current chosen letter is now displayed in this rectangle, and in any other rectangle under the same scrambled letter (this sounds more complicated than it is: try it).

#### To 'erase' a letter from your answer:

To erase all instances of a letter in your answer, click on that letter's depressed button on the <u>letterbar</u> .

#### I have solved the quote, now what do I do ?

When done, click on the Done button.

If you have successfully solved the quote, the <u>Timer</u> stops, a congratulatory sound is heard (assuming you have a sound card and the <u>Sound</u> option is checked 'on'), and a happy graphic is displayed.

If your quote is not correct, an appropriate sound is heard, a sad graphic is displayed. Keep trying, or <u>Give Up</u>

#### How did I do?

After completing a quote, your times can be displayed by choosing the Player menu , then choosing Stats.

#### What does the timer do ?

The timer is used to time how long you take to successfully complete a quote. It can be hidden or displayed, but not turned off.

#### Neat stuff:

Backgrounds can be changed to any colour or from a select group of patterns. Click on <u>Background menu</u> and choose either Solid colours or patterns.

Text can be resized or changed from black to white by clicking on the <u>Text menu</u>, then choose a colour, or the <u>Size</u> option.

The text is sensitive to the window size. This means that if you enlarge or reduce the size of Cryptagram' s window, the quote text will resize as well.

If you need assistance, you can invoke the helper.

If more help is needed solving a quote, <u>right-click</u>on any answer rectangle to display the correct letter. The cost is a time penalty of five minutes added to your game time.

## **Text Menu Commands**

Black	Changes the scrambled and answer text to	<b>Shortcu t</b> Alt T + B
White	black Changes the scrambled and answer text to white.	Alt T + W
<u>Bold or</u> Regular	Changes the apparent thickness of the text.	Alt T + S
<u>Size</u>	Used to decrease or increase the text size.	Alt T + S

## **Text Sizing and Appearance**

Text can be set to **bold** or regular , black or white, by checking the appropriate radio button.

Text can be resized by clicking on the handle, hold the mouse button down, and drag it to the left or right. A true representation of the text size as it changes is displayed.

Font Characteristics	×
Font	Colour Black White
W	Appearance Bold C Regular
OK ÕÕ Cancel	Size

### **Letterbar Menu Commands**

		Shortcu t
Float	The letter bar is changed to a moveable/sizeable window.	Alt F + F
Park	The letterbar is returned to just over the text area.	Alt F + P

The letterbar is used to choose a letter to place somewhere in your answer. Once used, a letter button remains depressed. To erase a letter from your answer, click on that depressed letter button in this letter bar.

The bar can be dragged anywhere on the screen. (Click on the titlebar, hold down the mouse button and drag to desired position). It also be resized (Click on any edge of the sides or bottom of the letterbar, hold the button down, and drag the mouse to reshape the bar).



				×	
$\mathbf{A}$	B	C	D	E	
F	G	H	Ι	J	
К	$\mathbf{L}$	Μ	Ν	0	
P	Q	R	S	Τ	
U	$\mathbf{V}$	W	Х	Y	
Z					

or

# Sound

Use this option to turn the sound off and on. If checked, the sound is on.

Helper
Sound
Timer

# Helper

Use this option to activate the helper,. If checked, a graphic of a face appears.



When a letter is placed in an answer square, the helper will let you know if this is the correct letter or not.

*Note: The cost of using the helper is 1 minute per letter.* 

## Getting more help (or..how to cheat !)

To display the correct letter anywhere in the answer, place the mouse cursor in the answer rectangle

and click the right button. Ok, it 's not really *cheating*, look at it as a way of ...getting assistance.



Note: The penalty for this is five minutes added to your game time.

### How to View or Hide the Timer

Use this option to view or hide the timer. In the example below, the timer box is checked, signifying that the timer will be displayed as soon as the next quote starts. Note: the timer is activated once you click on a letter button, or <u>right-click</u> to place a letter.

Γ	Helper
	Sound
	Timer

# Next command (Game menu or Next button)

Use this command to start the next quote.

### Shortcuts

Mouse: Click the 'Next Quote' button.



Keys: Alt G then N

# Give Up command (Game menu or Give Up button)

Use this command if you cannot solve the quote, and wish to see the answer.

*Note:* A penalty of 60 minutes is added to your overall time.

#### Shortcuts

Mouse: Click the 'GiveUp' button.

Keys: Alt G then G

## Restart command (Game menu or Give Up button)

Use this command to start over by erasing all the answer letters.

### Shortcuts

Mouse: Click the 'ReStart' button.

Keys: Alt G then R

### Done command (Game menu or Done button)

Use this command when the quote you have been working on is completed.

If your answer is correct, the <u>Timer</u> will stop, and a sound and graphic will both signal your success.

If incorrect, a sound and graphic will clearly indicate that fact. Continue, or  $\ \underline{\text{Give Up}}$ 

### Shortcuts

Mouse: Click the Done button.

Keys: Alt G then D

## **Player menu commands**

The Player menu offers the following commands:

New	Add a new player (up to a maximum of ten).	Shortc ut Alt P + N
Delete	Erase a player, usually to make room for another.	Alt P + D
Stats	Display the current player's statistics.	Alt P + S

## **Topics menu commands**

The topics menu choices are used to choose the current 'topic' or 'theme' of quotes to solve.

		Shortcu t
Advice	Quotes which offer advice.	Alt T + A
Famous	Famous sayings of famous people.	Alt T + F
God	Quotes about God and religion.	Alt T + G
Humor	Funny expressions and jokes	Alt T + H
Kids	Quotes for young kids.	Alt T + K
Literature	Literary gems.	Alt T + L
Love	Quotes about love,marriage and romance.	Alt T + O
Random	A variety of quotes from no particular topic	Alt T + R
Wisdom	Pearls of wisdom.	Alt T + W

# **Background menu commands**

The background menu choices offers the following commands, which allow you to alter the background of the game area.

Shortcu	
+	

		L
Solid Colours	Choose a solid colour as the background.	Alt B + S
Patterns	Choose a pattern as the background.	Alt B + P

### **Buttons**

Help is available about the following buttons:

<u>Next Quote</u> <u>Done</u> <u>ReStart</u> <u>Give Up</u> <u>Helper</u> <u>Sound</u> <u>Timer</u> <u>Letterbar</u>

## Help menu commands

The Help menu offers the following commands, which provide you assistance with this application:

General<br/>How to Play<br/>How to<br/>CheatOffers you an index to topics on which you can get help.<br/>Displays information on how to play.<br/>Displays information on how to cheat!

## About menu commands

The About offers the following commands:

		Shortc
		u
About the author	Displays information about the programmer.	<b>ر</b> Alt A + U
About the program	Displays version, copyright and other information.	Alt A + A

# Exit command (Game menu)

Use this command to end your CryptaGram session.

### Shortcuts

Keys: Alt G then X

# Using Help command (Help menu)

Use this command for instructions about using Help.

### Size command (System menu)

Use this command to display a four-headed arrow so you can size the active window with the arrow keys.

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After the pointer changes to the four-headed arrow:

- 1. Press one of the DIRECTION keys (left, right, up, or down arrow key) to move the pointer to the border you want to move.
- 2. Press a DIRECTION key to move the border.
- 3. Press ENTER when the window is the size you want.

Note: This command is unavailable if you maximize the window.

### Shortcut

Mouse: Drag the size bars at the corners or edges of the window.

# Move command (Control menu)

Use this command to display a four-headed arrow so you can move the active window or dialog box with the arrow keys.

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Note: This command is unavailable if you maximize the window.

### Shortcut

Keys: CTRL+F7

## Minimize command (application Control menu)

Use this command to reduce the CryptaGram window to an icon.

### Shortcut

Mouse: Click the minimize icon  $\fbox$  on the title bar. Keys: ALT+F9

# Maximize command (System menu)

Use this command to enlarge the active window to fill the available space.

#### Shortcut

Mouse: Click the maximize icon on the title bar; or double-click the title bar. Keys: CTRL+F10 enlarges a document window.

# **Restore command (Control menu)**

Use this command to return the active window to its size and position before you chose the Maximize or Minimize command.

### Switch to command (application Control menu)

Use this command to display a list of all open applications. Use this "Task List" to switch to or close an application on the list.

### Shortcut

Keys: CTRL+ESC

### **Dialog Box Options**

When you choose the Switch To command, you will be presented with a dialog box with the following options:

#### Task List

Select the application you want to switch to or close.

#### Switch To

Makes the selected application active.

#### **End Task**

Closes the selected application.

### Cancel

Closes the Task List box.

#### Cascade

Arranges open applications so they overlap and you can see each title bar. This option does not affect applications reduced to icons.

#### Tile

Arranges open applications into windows that do not overlap. This option does not affect applications reduced to icons.

### Arrange Icons

Arranges the icons of all minimized applications across the bottom of the screen.

### **How to Register**

### Why should I register ?

The main reason why you should register this program is <u>not</u> that this is shareware, but that by registering, you are supporting the production of such software. Where else can you try before you buy? The concept of shareware is (as far as I know) unique to the software industry. For the price of a movie and a popcorn, you get hours of enjoyment at no further cost to you, or anyone in your family. By sending in your registration, you are encouraging shareware programmers to keep producing quality programs, sold to you at a fraction of the cost charged by commercial vendors.

### How much does it cost to register?

Only \$10 in Canadian or American funds.

### Details, I want details:

Send your cheque or money order to:

B Jenkins 20 Silverwood Street Charlottetown, P.E.I. Canada C1E 2A2

See REGISTER.DOC for a form and details. It is located in the same directory as this program. Thank you.

### How to Contact the Author

E-Mail: BPJ@ISN.NET

Web: WWW.ISN.NET/~BPJ

Note: The  $\sim$  symbol is a tilde, located in the upper left corner of the keyboard.

I welcome your comments, suggestions and criticisms.

See REGISTER.DOC for more details. It is located in the same directory as this program. Thank you.

### How to Get More Quotes

Mail a cheque or money order for \$20 (Canadian or American funds) to:

B Jenkins 20 Silverwood Street Charlottetown, P.E.I. Canada C1E 2A2

Include your regular mail or E-mail address. Upon receipt of your payment, you will be sent a password allowing you to download the extended version, which includes thousands upon thousands of quotes.

### See REGISTER.DOC for a form and more details. It is located in the same directory as this program. Thank you.