

# Crossword Compiler Help Contents

Press F1 to learn how to use Help.



## **Editing the Puzzle**

What you need to know to get started.

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How to find words to fit in the puzzle and how to get Crossword Compiler to fill grids for you.

## **Editing Clues**

How to write and edit clues for words in the puzzle.

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## **Crossword Reference**

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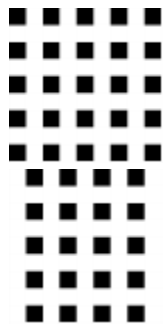
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## Block Filling

A British-style puzzle, in which words are linked every alternate letter, has a regular pattern of blocks. The basic pattern can be filled in quickly by choosing **Fill Blocks** from the **Pattern** menu.

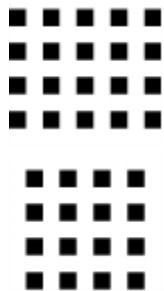
Block filling fills in every alternate block on alternate rows. There are four choices of starting position:

Fill from (1,1):



Fill from (2,1):

Fill from (1,2):



Fill from (2,2):

Note that fill from (2,1) and (1,2) is not compatible with dual-symmetry.

## Symmetry

You can automatically create a symmetric pattern by selecting one of the symmetry options from the **Pattern** menu. You can have normal S-Symmetry or Dual-Symmetry (Dual-Symmetry only works if you have a square puzzle).

This pattern shows Dual-Symmetry:



Whereas this one only has S-Symmetry:



## Autofind

Autofind can be used to find words to fit in the puzzle. Select **Autofind** from the **Words** menu, or click the right mouse button on a square in the word. Words are found to fit in the current type direction, but if there is only one possible word through the cursor's square, words are found to fit there.

For example if you had a puzzle that looked like this:

```
OPEN SHOP
U N A
TWEED
O R M
FOGGINESS
D E R
A P T
T I L
ETCH
```

You may want to find a word to fit down the middle. Click with the right mouse button on one of the squares, for example, above the 'D', and a scrollable list of words that fit is produced. Simply scroll through and select the word you want and press Insert. If you selected the word **ADMIRAL** then the puzzle would look like this:

```
OPEN SHOP
U N A
TWEED
O R M
FOGGINESS
D E R
A P T
T I L
ETCH
```

Note that compound words in the word list are not punctuated, eg. '**OUT OF DATE**' appears as '**OUTOFDATE**', as it will in the puzzle.

If not words are found that fit you will be prompted to search the secondary word list. You can also toggle between the main and secondary word list by pressing the **Other** button on the Word Found dialog box. Change the word lists used as the main and secondary lists using the Word List Usage command on the **Words** menu.

To find a word to fit a given template use the Find Word... command on the **Words** menu. To find a fit for whole sections of the puzzle rather than just one word at a time use the Fill Automatically command on the **Words** menu.

## Find Words

If you want to find words that match a specific pattern you can use the **Find Word...** command on the **Words** menu.

In the dialogue box enter the template for the word, using '?' for letters you don't know, or a '\*' for any number of unknown letters. Eg. to find a 5 letter word that starts in 'T' and ends in 'ND' enter 'T??ND', and the program will find all the words in the lists which match (eg. 'TREND'). To find all words starting with 'H' and ending in 'K' enter 'H\*K'.

'\*' can stand for any number of letters, including no letters. If you wish to find a word starting with an 'L' ending in an 'N' at least two letters behind the 'L', you can enter '\*L??\*N'. This will find, for example, 'ALIEN' which has two letters between the 'L' and 'N', and 'ALLERGEN' which has many letters between them. '\*L\*N' would include words like 'KILN' in the list, where the 'L' and 'N' follow each other.

If you want to find words to fit in the puzzle it is easier to use the Autofind facility.

## Puzzle Flipping

A puzzle may be flipped to its mirror image by selecting **Flip Pattern** from the **Pattern** menu. This has no effect other than the numbering and order of the clues, and the appearance of the puzzle. A flip can be undone by doing another flip. Here is a puzzle, one before and one after a flip:

```
OPEN SHOP
UN A OE
TWEED TAR
OR MH I
FOGGINESS
DER RAC
APT AUD IO
TIL LEP
ETCH EDGE
```

```
OUT OF DATE
PW OPT
ENERGETIC
NEG H
ADMIRAL
S N U E
HOT HEADED
OAS I G
PERISCOPE
```

## Font

You may change the font used to display and print the puzzle and clues by selecting **Font...** from the **Options** menu. You can only use True Type fonts with Crossword Compiler. The point size you choose has no effect on the puzzle but is used in Printing the clues. Here is what a sample puzzle looks like with some of the standard fonts:

Arial:

```
OPEN SHOP
UNAE OE
TWEED TAR
ORMHI
FOGGINESS
DERAC
APT AUDIO
TIL E P
ETCH EDGE
```

Arial Bold:

```
OPEN SHOP
UNAE OE
TWEED TAR
ORMHI
FOGGINESS
DERAC
APT AUDIO
TIL E P
ETCH EDGE
```

Courier New:

```
OPEN SHOP
UNAE OE
TWEED TAR
ORMHI
FOGGINESS
DERAC
APT AUDIO
TIL E P
ETCH EDGE
```

Times New Roman:



## Anagram

You can search for multiple word anagrams of a given word, either from the Clue Editor or by choosing **Anagram...** from the **Words** menu.

If you run it from the Clue Editor the word you are clueing will be anagrammed automatically. If you choose **Anagram...** from the menu you should enter the word in the dialogue box. If you wish to anagram for multiple words just enter the words you want to anagram.

Anagram finds all the multiple word anagrams of the given word up to a certain maximum number of component words. The maximum number of words in the multi-word anagram can be specified in the Preferences dialog box. If you choose a large number the search is slower as there will be a lot of different anagrams. Specifying a small number also makes it easier to find a suitable anagram.

Anagrams are displayed as they are found. The words in multi-word anagrams are not sorted, but anagrams are found in order of word length, so you should get all the straight anagrams before the multi-word ones etc.

The Search can be aborted at any time by pressing **OK**. Anagrams are added to the bottom of the list as they are found. If there are a lot of possible anagrams they may not all be found, but you should always get at least the first thousand or so. The finder will work in the background as you edit other clues or whatever. To bring the window to the top just click on it. You can leave the anagram window open, and it will be reset with a new word whenever you select **Anag...** in the clue editor, or **New** in the anagram window. **Anag...** sets the word to the word you are clueing, **New** prompts you for a new word to anagram.

Anagrams are found using the word file selected in the **Anag files' path and name** input line in the Word List Usage box. The program uses a list of words from 1 to 3 letters long for anagrams, specified at the bottom of the Word List Usage dialog box. This should contain the words in decreasing order of length, one word per line. It is best not to have very obscure short words otherwise the program will find very many obscure and meaningless anagrams. You should normally only change the default list of short words if you want to find anagrams in some other language.

The anagram feature is a quick and easy way to find anagrams of words. However if you wish to find meaningful anagrams of longer words, phrases or names, it will take quite a long time, and you may have to look through a list of 16000 anagrams to find the best one. There is however a dedicated anagram program that I can recommend to anyone with a special interest in anagrams, called Anagram Genius.

## **Anagram Genius for the PC**

After six years of development what is probably the world's most sophisticated anagram generator has finally been ported to a mass-market platform: Microsoft Windows.

This highly unusual software takes the names of your friends, employers and competitors and transforms them in ways you would never believe. It rearranges the letters and uses powerful Artificial Intelligence techniques to say things that are weird, wonderful (and sometimes extremely insulting!)

For example:

\*\* type in "Ronald Wilson Reagan" and tell the software he is male, a politician and you want satirical anagrams. It rearranges the letters of his name to say he is "a long-insane Warlord"!

\*\* You want to do some research into fundamental philosophy. Type in "The meaning of life" and out comes (along with many others) "The fine game of nil".

\*\* Type in "The best things in life are free" and it produces "Nail-biting refreshes the feet": it is free after all (although you may need to pay for some yoga lessons first!)

\*\* Type in "The end of the world is nigh!" and get "Down this hole, frightened".

There are many many more examples, buy the software and you can add to them with (amongst others) your name, the names of your friends and colleagues, your employer, acquaintances, commercial rivals etc. Etc.

(Thanks to Donald L. Holmes for finding the last two examples).

## **Correspondence from existing owners of anagram genius**

\*\* Your latest version of Anagram Genius defies superlatives! What a fantastic and fascinating creation!

\*\* One friend turned out to be an anagram of "recombined anus", another "I'm a jolly anarchic poker" and my wife "And in herself weary"; all of which were appropriate. My yuppy boss found out her name was an anagram of "She'll engineer gain" which she thought appropriate.

\*\* Terrific! It has brought me and my friends considerable entertainment.

\*\* I was interested to note that an anagram of Virginia Bottomley "I'm an evil Tory bigot" made it into the national press - I'd spotted that one a year earlier using the original version of Anagram Genius!

\*\* May I congratulate you on an excellent product.

\*\* There isn't anything I don't like about it ... I think you have a hit!

\*\* It is much better and more sophisticated than I could imagine.

\*\* The program is great and I am amazing my friends with it.

\*\* Anagram Genius is wonderful.

... plus many many others.

(All quotes can be proven genuine on request. Some of the quotes refer to 'Supergram', the name of the same software on the Acorn Archimedes. To avoid confusion 'Anagram Genius' was substituted into these examples.)

### **Selected features of the latest version**

\*\* Choice between American or British English. The default is automatically selected from the computer's country code.

\*\* 'Satire' flag for wildly satirical anagrams, 'Flattery' flag for flattering anagrams. 'Normal' flag for no good or bad bias.

\*\* 'Vulgar words' flag allows on censors coarse or obscene language. (When not censored and combined with the 'Satire' flag these words are considered highly desirable!)

\*\* Limit the number of anagrams to keep. Keep only anagrams scoring above a certain score. Limit the number of words in the found anagrams.

\*\* Describe the text by gender, political, computer or business associations. Describe the text in detail by specifying the relevance of individual words. Your description is used by the artificial intelligence routines to find relevant and meaningful anagrams for that subject.

\*\* Include interjections, dropped 'H' words ("ello", "orrible" etc.) and others. Penalise anagrams for not being a good mix of the initial text.

\*\* Automatic intelligent default punctuation and choice of word-order for each anagram

which is completely overridable if you so choose.

\*\* Print or save out reports, word lists and anagrams. Fully-featured print-preview option.

\*\* All anagrams are given a score and sorted into order. For texts which contain many anagrams you only need look at the best ones.

\*\* The powerful back-end works hand-in-hand with an excellent user interface which is both logical and powerful. The process of finding anagrams is divided into four conceptually clear stages. The stages can be flicked between and the computer's choices overridden or left as you choose. At all times you are in control.

\*\* It can deal with short texts of just a few letters or long texts of thirty letters or more which would choke any other software. Most texts are processed in just a few seconds but a powerful scheduling algorithm keeps the search within reasonable timescales no matter how massive its task.

\*\*\* All for just 19.99 pounds sterling! \*\*\*

### **Anagram Genius ordering information**

To run Anagram Genius you will need a machine running Windows 3.1 (or another compatible Operating System), 4Mb of RAM or more, at least 386 processor and a mouse. The software is supplied on a high density 3.5" PC disc.

\*\* All orders should be sent to:

Genius 2000 Software  
Dept AL  
P.O. Box 395  
Cambridge CB3 9PJ  
United Kingdom

\*\* In the United Kingdom: Send a cheque for 19.99 + 1.65 S&H (total 21.64 pounds) payable to "Genius 2000 Software" to the above address.

\*\* In the United States: Send a check for \$29.95 made payable to "Genius 2000 Software" to the above address. Current airmail postage from the US to the UK is 50 cents (write "airmail" on the envelope). Your order will be dispatched back to you by fast international airmail. This price includes shipping, handling, bank charges and all sales taxes.

\*\* In other countries: send a cheque for 22.99 pounds sterling (19.99 + 3.00 shipping and handling) drawn on a British bank to the above address. Alternatively add 5 pounds to cover bank charges (totalling 28.00), convert to your local currency and send a

cheque in your native currency drawn on a local bank. All cheques should be payable to "Genius 2000 Software". Exchange rates are published in most newspapers.

These prices buy a single copy of the software and a licence to use it on one machine by one person at a time. If the software is to be used by more than one person you will probably need to buy a site licence: send email to [AGenius@genius.demon.co.uk](mailto:AGenius@genius.demon.co.uk) or write for details.

If you have any further questions please email: [AGenius@genius.demon.co.uk](mailto:AGenius@genius.demon.co.uk)

## Changing Square Sizes

The size at which the puzzle and solution are displayed, printed, and copied to the clipboard can be customised. Select **Square Sizes...** from the **Options** menu to bring up a dialogue box.

**Puzzle** - Specifies the size in millimetres of the puzzle used in printing and the suggested puzzle size when it is copied to the clipboard.


**Solution** - Size in millimetres of the solution.

**Zoom % of puzzle size** - Specifies the factor by which the puzzle size is enlarged when you edit it on the screen. This does not effect the printed size.

## Editing the Puzzle

When you start a New puzzle, or Open an existing one, the puzzle is displayed in the window with a cursor in the top left hand corner.

You enter letters from the current cursor position by typing as normal. Black squares (blocks) are inserted by pressing the space bar. In the puzzle there are usually words going in two directions; to change the direction of typing press tab, or click on the direction icon on the Toolbar. This then displays the current type direction. The cursor also changes to show the type direction:

 To type Horizontally

 To type Vertically

You can use the cursors to move round the puzzle, or click with the left mouse button to move to a certain square. You can also insert blocks by double clicking with the left mouse button.

For a full list of keyboard commands see Keyboard.

You can fill in some of the pattern by using the Fill Blocks command on the **Pattern** menu.

To automatically insert blocks in symmetrical positions select one of the Symmetry options on the **Pattern** menu.

You can create irregular puzzles by removing unwanted squares from the puzzle. Press Ctrl+Delete with the cursor on the square to be removed. To remove all blank squares from the puzzle, select the Remove Blanks command from the **Pattern** menu. This makes the puzzle only have lines around squares with letters or blocks in, so giving it an irregular outline.

You can **Undo** editing by pressing Alt+ Backspace. This moves the cursor to the end of the last editing action and then undoes the action. This can be repeated a large number of times to undo chunks of the puzzle. Interlocking letters are not removed using **Undo**, so leaving the intersecting words intact. Undo is particularly useful with Autofind to test words in certain positions and then undo them if necessary.

## Giving the puzzle a reference

You can give a reference to a puzzle in addition to its file name by selecting **Reference...** from the **File** menu. Enter anything you want, typically information about who wrote the puzzle, when etc. It has no effect other than to give some extra information about the puzzle, and it can be printed when you Print the puzzle.



## Copying to the clipboard

You can copy the puzzle, clues, solution or answers to the clipboard to use them in other Windows programs. Select **Copy to Clipboard** from the file menu, and select what you want copied from the submenu.

The puzzle and solution are copied as pictures (metafiles) that can be resized in the host application. They are copied by default at the size specified in the Square Sizes dialogue box, but can then be resized without any loss in quality.

The clues and answers are copied as Rich Text Format (RTF) and plain text. The host application will use the appropriate format. Most word processors (but NOT Write) and DTP programs will accept RTF, which gives formatted text, bold clue numbers right aligned etc. Other programs can use the plain text, but it won't look as good.

The space between clues, and the space between the clue number and the clue can be customised in the Format dialogue box for RTF. The relative size of the numbers in the puzzle can also be changed. The font in the puzzle and solution is set in the Font dialogue box, the font for the clues and answers is set by the host program so it will match the font you are using in that. If you find that the clues do not copy correctly then try increasing the Number/Clue space in the format dialog box.

The answers option copies the answers in text form eg.

**Across:** 1 Cueing, 4 Abbott, 9 Infant prodigy, 10 Connoisseurs, 12 Alcove, 14 Shinto, 16 Overdecorate, 19 Command module, 20 Donate, 21 Oyster.

**Down:** 1 Chitchat, 2 Elfin, 3 Non-conversant, 5 Biotechnology, 6 Omicron, 7 Toys, 8 Spasm, 11 Forebear, 13 Cavemen, 15 Bendy, 17 Adult, 18 Scud.

The solution option copies the completed puzzle, as it looks when you edit it, eg.

```

O P E N   S H O P
U N   A   O E
T W E E D   T A R
O R   M   H   I
F O G G I N E S S
D E   R   A   C
A P T   A U D I O
T   I   L   E   P
E T C H   E D G E
```

The clues and answers can then be put into columns or whatever in the host program.

## Reviewing the Clues

You can view the clues written so far using the **Review Clues...** command in the **Clue** menu. The clues are shown in two scrollable lists, with the clue number at the left, and the solution to the right. If a word is unclued the clue reads 'No Clue'. If there are incomplete words in the puzzle the solution appears with question marks for the missing letters.

You can edit a clue by selecting the clue by scrolling through the lists and pressing the **Edit** button (Alt+E), or double clicking on the clue with the left mouse button. This brings up the Clue Editor dialogue box which you can use normally. You can move between the Across and Down clues using Tab and Shift+Tab.

It is a good idea to review the clues before you Print them to check you haven't missed any clues, or that any words are incomplete. It also makes quite a convenient way to edit the clues.

## Keyboard

Keyboard controls when editing puzzle:

<b>CURSORS</b>	Move the cursor
<b>CTRL+CURSORS</b>	Skip to next or previous word start
<b>TAB</b>	Toggle type direction
<b>ENTER</b>	Move to left or top of next line
<b>SPACEBAR</b>	Insert Block
<b>DELETE</b>	Delete letter/block at cursor
<b>CTRL+DELETE</b>	Remove square from puzzle
<b>SHIFT+DELETE</b>	Delete word. Doesn't effect intersecting words
<b>ALT+BACKSPACE</b>	Undo
<b>ALT+A</b>	<u><a href="#">Autofind</a></u>
<b>ALT+E</b>	<u><a href="#">Edit Clue</a></u>
<b>F1</b>	Help Index
<b>F2</b>	Save
<b>CTRL+ESC</b>	Switch to another program

See [Mouse](#) for mouse combinations and the [Toolbar](#) topic

## Mouse

**Left Button**            Move cursor to square clicked on

**Double Left Button**        Insert block in square clicked on

**Right Button**            Autofind words to fit in word clicked on

See Keyboard for keyboard shortcuts, and the Toolbar topic.

## Open an existing file

You can open an existing crossword file by selecting **Open...** from the **File** menu. Enter the name of the file to open, or select the directory and file from the list boxes and press **Open**. If you have an unsaved puzzle already open you will be prompted to ask if you want to save it or not before opening the new puzzle.

Crossword Compiler puzzle files have the .CWD extension, and are in a special format, you cannot open files saved by another application.

## Starting a new crossword

You can start a new crossword with a blank grid by selecting **New** from the **File** menu. You are prompted for the size of the puzzle you want to create. Valid sizes are between 3 and 39 squares height and width. If you have an unsaved puzzle already open you will be prompted to save it.

## **Saving a puzzle with a name**

You can give a puzzle a name, or save under a new name by selecting **Save As...** from the **File** menu. Enter the name for the puzzle and press OK. You can select a different directory by using the list box on the right.

You can save the puzzle as a .CWD file for further editing with Crossword Compiler, or as Rich Text Format, to use in other applications. Change the selection in the **Save file as type** input box to change the setting and give the file a name ending in **'.RTF'**

Puzzles saves as Rich Text Format (RTF) with the .RTF extension cannot be reopened from Crossword Compiler, but does allow you to save the puzzle clues etc. so that they can be used in word processing, DTP programs etc. If you save as RTF you are prompted for what you want saved in the file, the puzzle, clues, solution, answers or a combination.

You can save a puzzle as a .CWD file with its present name by pressing F2 or selecting **Save** from the **File** menu.

## Save

Select **Save** from the **file** menu or press F2 to save the puzzle with its present name. If the puzzle is un-named the Save As dialogue box will open for you to choose a name.



## Printer Setup

Select **Printer Setup...** from the **File** menu to select and setup a printer for Printing.  
Select the printer you want from the drop down list. You can press the **Setup...** button to set other options such as page orientation, size etc.

## Toolbar

The toolbar is the array of icons at the top of the program window. By clicking on them with the mouse you can quickly invoke the command they represent. By holding the mouse cursor over a button for a short time you will pop up some text which tells you what the button does. Use this feature if you are unsure what any button does.

Here is a complete description of all the buttons:



Get Help



Open an existing file



Save the crossword



Invoke Autofind



Fill Automatically from cursor



Toggle type direction



Undo last change. Can be used multiple times.



Edit Clue

See Editing the Puzzle for more information on undoing and type directions.

## Writing Clues

You can edit the clue for a particular word in the puzzle by pressing Alt+E with the cursor on the word of the clue you want to edit, or by using the Edit tool on the Toolbar. If there are two words through the letter at the cursor, it will select the word in the current type direction. A dialog box will pop up in which you enter the clue. Once you have finished the clue press Enter to close the dialog box or Alt+> to edit the next clue. The number of the clue is displayed in the title bar of the dialog box and the word the clue is for is displayed below. There is a large input box for entering the clue and an input line for entering the format of the word.

Here's a summary of clue dialog box commands, which can also be called by clicking with the mouse on the buttons at the top of the dialog box:

Enter	Close editor, saving changes
ESC	Close editor without saving changes
Alt+D	Delete the clue
Alt+>	Move to next clue, saving changes
Alt+<	Move to previous clue, saving changes
Alt+K	<u>Link</u> the clue
Alt+A	Find <u>Anagrams</u>
Alt+P	Paste in clue from the <u>Clue Database</u>
F1	Bring up this help screen

I suggest that you complete the puzzle network before starting to write clues, so then you can systematically write each clue in order with no chance of missing a clue or writing a clue for a word which will be changed later. Once you have finished you can review the clues by selecting **Review Clues** from the **Clue** menu.

## Editing the Clue

To edit the clue, or write a new one, simply type the clue in the Clue editor box. The editor word-wraps the clue as you type so there is no need to press Enter to end a line, and the clue will then be correctly wrapped when it is printed as well. The clue can be of any length up to a maximum of 400 characters, which should be long enough for anyone's purposes. The cursor can be moved within the editor box using the cursor keys, or by clicking with the mouse. You can skip to the next word using Ctrl-Right or the last word with Ctrl-Left.

You can change the format of the solution by entering the format in the Word Format input line.

## Word Format - Automatic Word length

Do not include the length of the clue in the clue editor, but in the **Word Format** input line. By default this is just the number of letters in the word, which is entered automatically. However if the 'word' is in fact hyphenated or more than one word you can enter the format here. Just type the number of letters in each word, or hyphenated half word, and a comma to indicate a new word or a hyphen to indicate a hyphen. The format is then automatically included in brackets at the end of the clue when it is printed, and the word is correctly formatted in the dialog box and if you print the answers. For example if the word is displayed as ONTOPOFTHEWORLD (On top of the world), then in the format line type '2,3,2,3,5'. On pressing tab the correctly formatted word will appear at the top of the dialog box. If the clue is linked then the format should be entered for the linked solution.

## Printing the Crossword

Select **Print...** from the **File** menu to print the crossword. A dialog box is displayed showing the various print options. Check the check boxes for what you want printed. 'Puzzle' just prints the blank numbered puzzle as it would appear in a newspaper. You can also print the solution with the words in.

You can choose to print just the clues, in which case they are printed word wrapped in two columns, or you can print the clues with answers - word wrapped clue on the left and the solutions on the right (as when you review the clues).

If you try to print the clues before you have written the clues the program will print out the clue numbers with a blank space next to it. If you like to work to a hard copy when writing clues you can do this by printing out the clues and answers before writing the clues. Doing this will leave you a space to write the clue on the printout sheet. You can then type in the clues when you are satisfied with them.

Note that very large puzzles may not fit on A4 paper. If not you will be asked whether the square sizes you have chosen should be shrunk to make it fit. To change the margins choose the Page Setup... command from the **File** menu. The printer can be changed by selecting Printer Setup... on the **File** menu.

Printing the puzzle uses all the settings set in the various **Options** dialog boxes. See Square Sizes , Font and Format for more information.

## Word List Usage

Selecting **Word List Usage...** from the **Words** menu allows you to set and change the word file directory settings. To set the word files' directory, Click on the Set button by the relevant entry. Select the word file that you want to use and press OK. The files are given with a '.X7' extension in the file box, just select one of these, the entire list will be used.

The main word list is used by Autofind and Find Word to search for words. If no words are found in that list then the secondary list, if it is not the same, is scanned. This allows you to specify a specialised word list as the main list, and a general word list as the secondary list. This is useful for creating subject specific crosswords, as often the specialised word list will not be big enough to find words to fit in all the spaces. It also allows you to scan the shorter SHORTS word list which contains few obscure words and endings, and then to search the more comprehensive WORDS list if few matches are found.

By default the SHORTS.X?? word list is used for Automatic Filling, as it contains less obscure words, and far fewer parts of speech than the WORDS word list. If AutoFill cannot fill in a section using the specified word list, it will prompt to see if you want to try doing a fill from the secondary word list.

## Preferences

Selecting **Preferences...** under the **Options** menu allows you to change various program options.

You can disable ToolTips for the ToolBar by deselecting the check box. You can also specify if you want backup files made whenever you save a puzzle. If this is selected, a file with the '.BAK' extension will be created. This helps to prevent disaster if you accidentally delete the crossword file, or make some change that you later decide was unnecessary.

You can also change the default puzzle size, so if, for example, you always produce 13x13 puzzles you could change the default settings so that you do not need to change the size settings when you start a new crossword.

The maximum number of words found by Autofind can also be altered. Specifying a very large number may slow down the search considerably, and a huge list of words is not very helpful. Suggested numbers are in the range of hundreds or a couple of thousands. Specifying a small number would probably only increase the search speed significantly on a very slow computer. Larger figures are recommended as you can then scroll through the list so that your puzzle does not end up with all its words beginning with 'A'.

The maximum number of words in multi-word anagrams found by the Anagram facility can also be changed. Numbers larger than 3 or 4 will tend to make the search slow and produce vast numbers of anagrams for long words.

Settings in the **Preferences...** box are saved automatically to your currently selected configuration file when you quit the program.

## Linking Clues

It is possible that you have two or more words in the crossword for which you wish to write a combined clue. For example, if somewhere in the puzzle there are the two words PREGNANT and PAUSE you may wish to write one clue for the phrase 'PREGNANT PAUSE' rather than two separate clues. To do this bring up the Clue Editor with the cursor on the word 'PREGNANT'. Press Alt+L, or click with the mouse on the **Link** button at the top of the dialog box. Enter the number(s) of the clues to link to (the number of the clue is displayed at the top of the dialog box when you edit the clue). In the example above, 'PREGNANT' may for example be 1 Across, and 'PAUSE' 5 Across. To link the two simply enter '5' in the input line and press Enter. The word at the top of the editor dialog box will now be PREGNANTPAUSE, and to format this correctly you should enter '8,5' in the Word Format input line.

From now on these two words will be linked, and if you select Edit Clue with the cursor on 'PAUSE' it will automatically show you the clue you have written for 'PREGNANT PAUSE'. If you Print the puzzle 5 Across will have the clue 'See 1', and 1 Across will have the linked clue. If you print the answers the linked word will be printed after 1 Across and not after 5 Across. If at some point you change the puzzle layout so that 'PAUSE' is no longer 5 Across but, say, 7 Across the linking will still be done correctly.

You can link more than two words by entering the clue numbers you want linked separated by '/'. Do not enter the number of the clue you are editing, but just the clues you want linked to the end of it. You must be editing the first clue in the link so that you get the words linked in the correct order. Links can only be done on words in the same direction. To try to link clues that are already linked would be an error as you can only link a given word once.

Note that pressing OK in the Link dialog box saves the clue as it is when you close the box, and that the link will not be undone if you Cancel the clue editor box after making a link. To remove a link bring up the Link dialog box and press delete to clear the input line. There will then be no links, and the clues of the words which were linked will be returned to the state they were in before the link was made.



## Ordering Crossword Compiler

This program is distributed as Shareware. You may use the program for a maximum of 30 days for evaluation. If you wish to use the program after this period you must order a licensed copy. The program costs only £28 including P&P for EEC, and £30 for other countries. A order form is provided in the ORDER.WRI file, and can be printed out by pressing Alt+O or the **Order form...** button when at the program start-up screen, entering your details and printing the form.

Otherwise send a cheque, Eurocheque or PO/International Money Order (sorry, I can't take credit cards) to

Antony Lewis, 16 Townley Rd, London SE22 8SR, England.

I can accept cheques made out in any convertible currency: please calculate what £32 comes to in your local currency and make out a cheque for that amount (the extra £4 is to cover the bank charge for accepting foreign cheques). If you would like to order word lists as well then please add £6 for each word list you want before converting.

Licensed users get the latest version of the program, with word lists for 3 to 20 letters, including compound words. The licensed version also has facilities for adding and removing words from the word lists, and manipulating word lists. It comes with an installation program to set it all up for you.

You may also buy some additional word lists at £6 each.

The sets are as follows:

**Disk 1** - Medical, legal, ethnic, names, food, US places, UK places, cities, literature, Old Testament, RAF, IATA, Olympic, school chemistry, 174000+ unusual words and variant spellings.

**Disk 2** - 233000+ Words from Webster's second edition, 75000+ Expressions from Webster's second.

**Disk 3** - 156000+ German, 131000+ French, 85000+ Spanish, 60000+ Italian.

**Disk 4** - 270000+ Finnish, 61000+ Norwegian, 24000+ Danish, 11000+ Swedish.

**UK Advanced Cryptics Dictionary v1.2**

## Ordering Crossword Compiler in N. America

This program is distributed as Shareware. You may use the program for a maximum of 30 days for evaluation, if you wish to use the program after this period you must order a licensed copy. The program costs only \$45 including P&P in the US and Canada. You can also order two disks of additional word lists for \$25, inc P&P.

You can order from M&G Services by check, cash, money order or C.O.D. The numbers for ordering are **1-800-425-7775** or **1-404-513-6566**. Faxes are also accepted at these numbers. You can E-Mail to **mab@netcom.com**. There is an extra charge of \$5 for C.O.D. A registration form is provided in the ORDERUS.WRI file, and can be printed out by pressing Alt+O or the **Order form...** button when at the program start-up screen, entering your details and printing the form.

### CREDIT CARD ORDERS ONLY -

You can order with MC, Visa, Amex, or Discover from Public (software)Library by calling **800-2424-PsL** or **713-524-6394** or by FAX to **713-524-6398** or by CIS Email to 71355,470. You can also mail credit card orders to PsL at P.O.Box 35705, Houston, TX 77235-5705.

THE ABOVE NUMBERS ARE FOR ORDERS ONLY.

Any questions about the status of the shipment of the order, refunds, registration options, product details, volume discounts, site licenses, etc, must be directed to M&G Services.

Licensed users get the latest version of the program, with word lists from 3 to 20 letters. The licensed version also has facilities for adding and removing words from the word lists, and combining word lists. It comes with an installation program to set it all up for you.

The additional word disks include the following lists:

**174000+ Unusual words and variant spellings**

**233000+ Words from Webster's second edition**

**75000+ Expressions from Webster's second**

**medical, legal, names, ethno, literature, Old Testament, US places, UK places, cities, IATA, RAF, Olympic and food and drink**

## **Format**

The layout of the puzzle and clues when printed or copied to the clipboard can be changed by selecting **Format...** from the **Options** menu.

## **Spacings**

These specify the gap left between the number of the clue and the clue itself, and the vertical space between different clues when printed or copied. If you have problems copying clues to the clipboard, or opening a file save as Rich Text Format you could try increasing the value of the number/clue space as some programs don't like small measurements.

## **Size % of Squares**

Here you can change the relative size of the squares and the numbers, the letters and the lines. Give a value in terms of the percentage of the Square Size. These ratios will then be preserved if you change the square sizes, or change the size once copied into another application.

## **Across/Down**

Enter the text you want to head the across and down clues here. This setting is used when the clues are printed or exported. You could change the default settings to, for example, 'ACROSS' and 'DOWN' to use capitals, or a foreign translation of 'across' and 'down' to use with non-English puzzles.

## **Print Clues in Roman**

Check this box to print the clues in Times New Roman font, regardless of the setting in the Font dialog box. Otherwise the same font is used for the clues as for the puzzle.

All changes in this box are saved automatically when you quit the program.  
See Page Setup for changing the margins.

## Information

For statistics and file information about a crossword select the **Information...** item on the **File** menu.

Labels in box are self explanatory.

## Removing Blanks

To remove all squares in the puzzle with no letter or block in, select the **Remove Blanks** item on the **Pattern** menu.

Removing blanks gives the puzzle an outline that goes round every filled square, allowing you to create free-form puzzles. A square can be toggled between being removed and blank by pressing ctrl+delete with the cursor on the square to be toggled. Here is an example of a puzzle before and after removing the blanks:



## Clear Letters

Select **Clear Letters** from the **Pattern** menu to clear all the letters in the grid leaving a blank grid. If you have written some clues for the words you are clearing you will be prompted to delete all the clues as well. If you choose to clear the clues they will be lost for ever, however you can replace the letters you cleared by using the undo button on the Toolbar.

You can use **Clear Letters** to extract a blank grid from a puzzle you or someone else has already written, saving you the trouble of creating a new grid.

## **Page Setup**

Select **Page Setup...** from the **File** menu to change the margins used when the puzzle is printed.

All measurements are in centimetres.

## Filling the Puzzle Automatically

You can fill in complete puzzles, or sections of puzzles from a word list using the **Fill Automatically** command on the **Words** menu. You can also click on the AutoFill icon in the Toolbar.

AutoFill attempts to fill in all non-complete words connected with the word the cursor is in. Place the cursor in a square in the section you want to fill, or place it in a blank square at the top of the grid to fill a blank puzzle. You need to have your array of black squares finalised before invoking AutoFill, which then fills round the blocks you have.

For example, if you had a crossword that looked like this:



you could place the cursor next to the 'E' in 'STICKER', and invoke AutoFill, to get a complete crossword. For example



Where there is a choice of words that will fit, one is chosen at random. By pressing Alt+Backspace to undo one fill, and invoking AutoFill again, you may be able to produce many different fits.

AutoFill uses the word files specified in the **AutoFill files' path and name** input line in the Word List Usage dialog box. By default, if you installed for British English, this is the SHORTS word list, which is much shorter than the full WORDS word list, and contains words more likely to be acceptable in a British crossword. If you installed for American English the default is the WORDS word list which is much larger. You need to use a large word list to be successful in filling American style grids.

While the computer is searching, words that it is trying are shown in the puzzle. The program actually looks 1 to 2 levels deeper than is displayed, but it gives you some idea of the progress that it is making. You can cancel or stop the search at any time by pressing the buttons on the dialog box which pops up. There is a beep when the search is complete.

## Clue databases

Clue databases allow you to database clues from puzzles that you have written, or to store your flashes of inspiration until the word comes up in a crossword. You can open a clue database, or create a new one, by selecting **Open Database...** item on the **Clue** menu.

You can add clues from puzzles to the database using the **Add clues from puzzle** command, or by adding new clues using the **Add clue to database** or **Browse Clues...** command.

Clues can be pasted from the database when editing a clue by selecting the Paste... button at the top of the clue editor. A box is popped up showing all the clues databased for that word. You need not paste in the clue, you could use the facility to check that your clue is sufficiently different from the previous clues that you have written.

Databases can be merged using the Merge Databases... command, including ones that were not created using Crossword Compiler. This should save you from re-entering all the clues if you already have a database on computer.

Crossword Compiler clue database files have the .CDB extension, and are in the format of keyword in capitals, space, then the clue. Each entry like this is on a separate line.



## Creating new word lists

To create a new word list select the **Make New List...** option from the **Words** menu. Select the directory you want and type in a name for the new list. Press OK when done. You will be prompted to make to new list the main word list. You will probably wish to do this as you will then be able to add some words to the empty word list. See the [Changing Word Lists](#) topic

## Merging word lists

Select **Merge File...** or **UnMerge file...** from the **Main Word** List sub-menu of the **Words** menu to add or remove an entire file of words from the main word list. The words will be added or removed from the main word list currently selected in the Word List Usage dialog box. You can merge in either merge files (one word on each line), or Crossword Compiler word files. For the purpose of choosing the file to add the word files are shown in the box with a '.X7' extension. This is just for illustration, the entire word list will be (un)merged in if you select one .X7 file.

Merge files to add must be in the format of one word per line. The words in the file can be punctuated, out of order and in upper or lower case. If the word file you want to merge in was created using DOS and contains non-English characters, you should run the DOSTOWIN.EXE program in the Crossword Compiler root directory. This will then allow you to merge in the file correctly, as long as your computer is set up in the same way as when the word list was created.

Only words which are not already present will be added, so avoiding double entries. If you are adding a very large file of words, be prepared to have a coffee while you wait - it may take some time. A count of the number of words added or removed is given when finished.

## Browsing clues

You can browse the clues in the currently select clue database by selecting **Browse Clues...** from the **Clue** menu. Type in the word to browse in the input line and all clues in the database for that word will be displayed. Double click on a clue to edit it, or select it and press Delete to delete it. You can add new clues by pressing the New button. When you have finished browsing press OK to save the changes, or cancel not to save. Saving may take several seconds if you have a large database, please be patient!

See the [Clue Databases](#) topic for more information on clue databases.

## Configuration Files

The configurations that you have set are saved every time the program is closed. You can specify a different configuration file by selecting **Configuration File...** from the **Options** menu. To open an existing config. file just type the name.

To create a new configuration file enter a name for the new file. You will be prompted to create a Program Manager icon for each configuration file you make. You can then start Crossword Compiler with a particular configuration by clicking on the relevant icon in the Program Manager.

The program settings will then be saved in whichever configuration file is selected when you close the program. You will also be prompted to save the configuration whenever you change configuration files.

Multiple configuration files can be useful if you create crosswords matching widely different specifications. For example, if you create a specialised crossword on some topic, but also general crosswords, you would probably wish to use different word lists for the two. You may also wish to set the font, size, format etc. differently if the puzzles are going to be used in different ways. By saving each set-up in a different configuration file you can easily switch between the two.

## Merging clue databases

You can merge clue databases together by using the **Merge Databases...** command. Just select a database to merge into the currently selected one. If the database you are merging in was not created by Crossword Compiler you should check that the database is in the following format:

WORD Clue after a space

Each clue should be on a separate line, and they must be in strict alphabetical order. You cannot merge in non-Crossword Compiler databases if they contain non English characters in the databased words.

## Adding a clue to the database

To add a clue to the current clue database select the **Add clue to database...** option on the **Clue** menu. Type in the word and then the clue and format just as you would when editing a clue. Press Add to add the clue to the database. To add all the clues from a puzzle use the **Add clue from puzzle** command on the same menu. You can browse, delete, add and edit clues in the database by selecting the Browse Clues... command. See the Clue Databases topic for more information on clue databases.

## Desktop Publishing

Crossword Compiler for Windows has various features to help you DTP your crosswords. To use them in another application that you run, they can be Copied to the Clipboard and pasted into the host application.

If you wish to save them so that other people can use them in their publisher programs then save the puzzle as Rich Text Format (see Saving). This is the best way of transferring puzzles, clues etc. between Windows based systems. However if you want the puzzle to be used in a Macintosh publishing program you may be better off saving the puzzle and solution as an EPS file. Macintosh should have no problem with Rich Text Format clues and answers, but some programs cannot always use the puzzle and solution reliably.

To print puzzles and solutions as EPS files (encapsulated PostScript) for non-Windows publishers:

1. Install a PostScript printer driver, i.e. one for a HP LaserJet PostScript printer. If you use a PostScript printer or already have this installed anyway then go to step 3.
2. To Install the driver run the Print Manager (in the Main program group). Select Options Printer Setup... from the menu. Click on Add>> button. Select HP LaserJet 3 PostScript. Click on Install... You will need your original Windows disk 2 at this point. If you use Windows 95+, this may be slightly different, see the manual.
3. Using CCW select Printer Setup from the File menu. Select the LaserJet printer. Click on the Setup... button. Click on the Options button. Select Print to Encapsulated PostScript file and enter a file name. Keep pressing OK to close all the dialog boxes.
4. Select Print and print the Puzzle or the Solution. It will be printed to the file.

# Crossword Reference

Introduction to cryptic crosswords

Crossword Jargon

Anagram Indicators

Letter Indicators



## Introduction to Cryptics

Cryptic clues are very popular in Britain, and have a following in North America. In cryptics, unlike 'quick' or American crosswords, the clue has a cryptic part in addition to a definition part. This makes them harder to solve, but there should be no ambiguity about whether an answer is correct or not. The cryptic part of the clue consists of some instructions on how to put together the answer from its letters, a play on words, or some other quirkiness. Here is an explanation of some of the more common clue types, though in practice many clues will be a combination of these simple types:

### Double Definition

Here the clue consists of two parts, both of which are synonyms or definitions of the word. E.g.

Calling charge (6)

=CAREER, calling (meaning job) and charge (as in to charge round) both mean career, though not in the meaning first implied by the clue.

Likewise

Money-lust (3) = YEN

Cook fish (3) = FRY

### Anagram

This consists of two parts, an anagram of the word and a definition. Often the anagram is indicated by some Anagram Indicator, meaning 'mixed up', 'shuffled' or whatever. E.g.

Platter to cook waffle (6)

=PRATTLE, anagram of 'platter', meaning to waffle. 'To cook' indicates the anagram, though more properly 'to cook' would be before the anagram. However misplacing of the indicator, or complete omission of the indicator are quite common.

Likewise

Rioted to get control of news! (6)

= EDITOR, an anagram of 'rioted'. The anagram indicator here is 'rioted', which is also the word to be anagrammed, hence the exclamation mark which usually indicates some overlap in the clue.

Reversal clues are a special cases of anagram clues, where the anagram happens to be just the word backwards. In this case it would be indicated by some word such as 'back' or 'rising'.

## Hidden Word

Here the word can be found in the middle of the clue. It is normally indicated by some word like 'inside'. E.g.

Uncover a veneer, inside is black (5)

=RAVEN, meaning black. The word is hidden in 'Uncover**R A VENEer**' .

## Homophone

This is where the cryptic part of the clue leads to a word which is pronounced the same as the answer but spelled differently. It is usually indicated by some word or phrase like 'we hear' or 'reportedly'. E.g.

Heard the branch bend (3)

=BOW, meaning 'bend', a homophone of 'bough' (meaning 'branch'). These type of clues can turn into more of a pun, where the clue is followed by a question mark:

Poem heard from soprano pigeon? (5)

=HAIKU, a Japanese poem, pronounced roughly as 'high-coo'.

## Charade

Parts of the word are spelled out in the clue. E.g.

Failed English dandy (4)

=DUDE, meaning dandy. Failed=DUD, English=E (this is a standard pointer to the letter E), hence DUD+E=DUDE.

Often these have more than two parts.

## Container

The clue instructs you to place some letters inside others, producing the word. E.g.

Complain when club admits the French (5)

=BLEAT, meaning complain. Club=BAT, the French=LE (this is another standard crossword trick, using foreign words like this), admit 'LE' to the middle of 'BAT' and you get 'BLEAT'.

## **? clues**

The '?' is used to indicate some pun or weirdness in the clue. It can be used on almost any clue that doesn't follow the usual forms of clue. E.g.

Meeting needed to make pear juice? (5,10)

=PRESS CONFERENCE, you need to press conference pears in order to make pear juice.

Park? (6,4)

=COMMON NOUN, 'park' can mean a common, and is also a common noun.

It is used in 'backwards clues', where the answer to the clue could be a clue itself, E.g.

Wot, wot ?(3,4)

= TWO FOLD, if you take 'two' and 'fold' it you get 'wot' . 'Wot' occurs two fold in the clue. Likewise

Draw? (8)

=BACKWARD, 'draw' ='ward' back(wards). These clue does not have a definition part, this is usually only acceptable if the clue has some other particular merit.

## **!' clues**

Like the '?', the exclamation mark is sometimes used to indicate something unusual. However it is usually used to indicate some overlap in the clue, where say the word to be anagrammed also forms part of the definition. An example is

It's in hearing! (3)

=EAR, 'ear' occurs in 'hEARing' and if you are in hearing your ear certainly is!

The exclamation mark is also used very occasionally in ultra-short clues, E.g.

L! (4,3) = TAIL END or J!(4,5) = JUMP START

The clues lack any definition part, and the '!' could equally well be replaced by a question mark.

## **Indirect Anagram**

These clues are like anagram clues except that the anagram is not given explicitly and must be deduced from a synonym or whatever. This type of clue is very difficult unless the word is very short, and is frowned upon in many circles. E.g.

Find hole in tangled string (4)

=PORE, meaning 'hole', an anagram of 'rope' which is itself a synonym of 'string'

Must go round garden (4)

=NEED, anagram of 'EDEN' , a garden.

### **Others**

There are numerous other varieties of clue, most of which are used in special crosswords where the solver is told about the type of clue used. For example misprint clues, where a part of the clue has been misspelled, and the misspelling must be corrected before the clue can be solved. E.g. the definition part of the clue may be 'harp', but it would appear in the clue as 'hard' . This makes everything much trickier!

## Crossword Jargon

Here are some definitions of words that crop up in crossword literature. They are not used in the documentation of Crossword Compiler, so you don't need to learn them!

**Cruciverbalism**                Wordsmithism

**Light**                            A word in a puzzle which is to be clued

**Unch**                            A letter in a light that does not intersect with another light

**&Lit**                            A cryptic clue where the entire clue is also a 'literal' definition of the light.

## Anagram Indicators

### A

aberrant	abnormal	abnormally
absurd	accident	about
accommodated	accommodation	accidental
adaptation	adapted	adapt
addled	adjust	addle
adrift	adversely	adjusted
affected	afflict	affect
afresh	after a fashion	afflicted
agitated	agitator	agitate
all at sea	all over the place	aimless
alter	altered	all wrong
alternatively	amalgam	alternative
ambiguous	ambiguously	amalgamate
amiss	amok	amended
anomalous	another	anew
anyhow	anyway	another way
arising from	around	appear
arranged	arrangement	arrange
assembled	assembly	askew
astray	at fault	assorted
at sea	at sixes and sevens	at odds
awful	awfully	at variance
awkwardly	awry	awkward

### B

badly	baffled	battered
beaten up	become	becomes
becoming	befuddled	bend
bends	bent	bewildered
bizarre	blend	blending
blended	blunder	botched
break	break down	break out
break up	breaking	breaks
brew	brewed	broadcast
broke	broken	broken down
broken up	buckle	buckles
buckled	buckling	build
builder	builders	building
built	bungled	bust
busted	by accident	by arrangement
by mistake		

## C

calamitous  
capricious  
carelessly  
causes  
cavorting  
changed  
chaotically  
chewed up  
churn  
clarify  
collapse  
come to  
comes to  
complicated  
composed  
compound  
comprises  
concoct  
confounded  
confusion  
construct  
contort  
contrariwise  
contrived  
converted  
convulse  
correct  
corrupt  
could be  
cracked up  
crazily  
creation  
crumbled  
crumpled  
cunning  
curiously

calamitously  
capriciously  
catastrophic  
cavort  
change  
chaos  
characters  
chop up  
circling  
clumsy  
collapsed  
come to be  
comic  
components  
composer  
comprise  
comprising  
concocted  
confuse  
constituents  
constructed  
contorted  
contrary  
conversion  
convertible  
cook  
corrected  
corrupted  
cracked  
crash  
crazy  
crooked  
crumbling  
crush  
cunningly

can be  
careless  
catastrophically  
cavorted  
changeable  
chaotic  
chew up  
chopped up  
circulated  
cocktail  
combination  
come to grief  
comical  
compose  
composition  
comprised  
concealing  
concoction  
confused  
constitution  
construction  
contraption  
contrivance  
convert  
converts  
cooked  
correction  
corruption  
crack up  
crashed  
create  
crude  
crumple  
crushed  
curious

## D

damage  
danced  
decomposed

damaged  
dealt with  
defected

dance  
deception  
defective

deformed  
demolished  
deployed  
derivation  
design  
devastated  
developer  
deviating  
deviously  
different  
dilapidated  
disaster  
disclose  
discordance  
disfigurement  
dishevelled  
dislocate  
dismantled  
disorderly  
disorganised  
disperse  
disposition  
disruption  
dissipated  
distorted  
distractedly  
distributed  
disturbed  
divergent  
divert  
doctor  
dotty  
dreadful  
drunk  
dubious

deformity  
demolition  
derange  
derivative  
designed  
devastation  
development  
deviation  
devised  
differently  
disarranged  
disastrous  
disconcerted  
discordant  
disguise  
disintegrated  
dislocated  
disorder  
disorganisation  
disoriented  
dispersed  
disquieted  
dissembling  
dissonance  
distortion  
distraught  
disturb  
dithering  
diversification  
diverted  
doctored  
doubtful  
dreadfully  
drunken  
dubiously

demented  
deplorably  
deranged  
derived from  
destroyed  
develop  
deviant  
devious  
dicky  
difficult  
disarray  
discomposed  
discord  
disfigured  
disguised  
disintegration  
dislocation  
disordered  
disorganise  
dispersal  
disposed  
disrupted  
disseminated  
dissonant  
distracted  
distressed  
disturbance  
divergence  
diversified  
dizzy  
doddery  
doubtfully  
dressed  
drunkenly  
dud

## **E**

eccentric  
effects  
emend  
engendering  
ensemble  
equivocal  
erring  
erupting  
exceptional

effect  
embody  
emendation  
engineered  
entangled  
erratic  
erroneous  
eruption  
exceptionally

effected  
embroil  
emended  
enough for  
entanglement  
erratically  
error  
essentials  
excited



exotic  
extraordinarily

exploded

explosion

## F

fabricate  
failing  
false  
faltering  
fashion  
faulty  
fiddle  
fixed  
flounder  
flummoxed  
flustered  
for a change  
form of  
fracas  
fragments  
freely  
frisky  
from  
funnily  
fused

fabricated  
failure  
falsely  
fanciful  
fashioned  
fermented  
figuring in  
flaw  
fluctuating  
flurried  
foolish  
forced  
forms  
fractured  
freakish  
frenzied  
frolic  
fudge  
funny

fabrication  
fallacious  
falsified  
fantastic  
fashioning  
fickle  
find  
flawed  
fluctuation  
fluster  
foolishly  
forged  
formulating  
fracturing  
free  
fresh  
frolicking  
function  
funny looking

## G

garbled  
get-up  
gets face-lift  
gives rise to  
go astray  
go off  
go to pot  
goes  
grotesque  
gyrated

generating  
get face-lift  
give rise to  
gives  
go bad  
go straight  
go to the dogs  
goes off  
gyrate

get  
gets  
gives  
go amok  
go berserk  
go to pieces  
go wrong  
gone off  
gyrates

## H

haphazard  
hash  
helter-skelter  
hidden  
horribly

hapless  
havoc  
hide  
hopeless  
hotchpotch

harassed  
haywire  
higgledy-piggledy  
horrible  
hybrid

## I

idly  
ill-formed  
ill-used  
improper  
in a fashion  
in a heap  
in a mess  
in a tangle  
in a turmoil  
in commotion  
in disguise  
in knots  
in pieces  
in ruins  
in uproar  
inconstant  
induce  
injure  
insane  
intricate  
irregular

ill  
ill-made  
impaired  
in  
in a ferment  
in a jumble  
in a muddle  
in a tizzy  
in a whirl  
in confusion  
in disorder  
in order  
in rebellion  
in shreds  
inaccurate  
incorrect  
infirm  
injured  
insanely  
involve  
irregularity

ill-disposed  
ill-treated  
imperfect  
in a bad way  
in a frenzy  
in a knot  
in a riot  
in a tumult  
in chaos  
in disarray  
in error  
in other words  
in revolt  
in trouble  
incoherent  
incorrectly  
ingredients  
inordinately  
interfered with  
involved  
irritated

## J

jerky  
joggle  
jumbled

jerkily  
juggled

jittery  
jumble

## K

kind  
knotted

kind of

kinky

## L

lawless  
liquid  
lousy

let loose  
loosely  
ludicrous

letters of  
lously  
lunatic

## M

mad  
made from  
madly  
make a mess of  
make-up

maddened  
made of  
make a bungle of  
make  
making

made  
made up  
make a hash of  
makes  
maladjusted

maladroit  
malfunction  
manage  
manager  
manifest  
manipulated  
marred  
materials for  
mayhem  
melt  
mercurial  
messily  
mince  
misapplied  
miserable  
misrepresentation  
mistake  
mix  
mix-up  
modelled  
modify  
mould  
muddied  
muddly  
mutilated  
mysterious

malformation  
maltreated  
managed  
mangle  
manifestation  
manoeuvre  
mashed  
mauled  
meandering  
melted  
mess  
messy  
minced  
misbehaved  
mishandled  
misrepresented  
mistreated  
mixed  
mobile  
modification  
molested  
moulded  
muddle  
mutable  
mutilation  
mysteriously

malformed  
maltreatment  
management  
mangled  
manipulate  
manoeuvred  
material for  
maybe  
medley  
mended  
messed  
metamorphosis  
mingled  
misconstrued  
mishap  
misshapen  
misused  
mixture  
model  
modified  
mongrel  
moving  
muddled  
mutative  
mutinous

## N

nasty  
negotiated  
new form of  
newly formed  
not in order  
not straight

naughty  
new  
new order  
newly made  
not properly  
novel

negotiation  
new fashion  
new style  
not exactly  
not right

## O

obscure  
obstreperous  
odd looking  
operate  
orderly  
organised  
otherwise  
outed  
out of joint

obscured  
occasion  
oddly  
order  
organisation  
original  
out  
out of  
out of order

obscurely  
odd  
off  
ordered  
organise  
originally  
outcome of  
out of gear  
out of sorts

outlandish  
overturn

over

overthrow

## P

peculiar  
perfidious  
perplexed  
pervert  
pie  
plastic  
poorly  
possibly  
preparation  
problematic  
processing  
properly presented  
put another way  
put straight

peculiar looking  
perhaps  
perverse  
perverted  
placed  
playing tricks  
positioned  
potential  
prepared  
problematical  
production  
pseudo  
put out

peculiarly  
permutation  
perversely  
phoney  
plagued  
poor  
possible  
potentially  
problem  
processed  
properly organised  
pulverised  
put right

## Q

queer  
queerly

queered  
questionable

queer-looking  
quite different

## R

rabid  
ran amok  
readjusted  
rearrangement  
rebellious  
rebuilt  
recollected  
rectification  
redesigned  
reform  
refractory  
regulation  
remodelled  
renovated  
re-ordered  
reorganised  
repaired  
represent  
represented in  
reproduction

ragged  
ravage  
rearrange  
reassembled  
rebuild  
recalcitrant  
reconstructed  
rectified  
refine  
reformation  
regenerate  
remade  
rendering  
renovation  
reorganisation  
repack  
replaced  
representation  
reproduce  
resettle

rambling  
ravelled  
rearranged  
rebel  
rebuilding  
recast  
recreate  
redesign  
refined  
reformed  
regulated  
remodel  
rendition  
re-order  
reorganise  
repair  
replacement  
represented by  
reproduced  
resettled

reshape  
reshuffled  
resolved  
resulting in  
revise  
revolutionary  
revolved  
reword  
rewritten  
rigged  
rioting  
rotten  
roving  
ruin  
ruinous  
run amok  
ruptured

reshaped  
resolution  
resort  
reveal  
revised  
revolutionised  
revolving  
reworded  
rickety  
riot  
riotous  
rough  
rude  
ruins  
rum  
running amok

reshuffle  
resolve  
resulting from  
reviewed  
revolting  
revolve  
revolution  
rewrite  
ridiculous  
rioted  
rocky  
roughly  
ruffled  
ruined  
rumpled  
running wild

## S

sad  
scattered  
scrambled  
served up  
set off  
shake  
shambles  
shatter  
shifted  
ship-shape  
shuffled  
skittish  
sloppy  
smashed  
somehow  
sorted  
sorting  
split  
spoilt  
spurious  
stew  
stirred  
stormy  
strange-looking  
stricken  
stupidly  
subvert

sadly  
scatters  
scruffy  
set  
set out  
shaken  
shape  
shattered  
shifting  
show mutation  
silly  
slipping  
slovenly  
smashing  
sorry  
sorted out  
source of  
spoil  
sport  
squiggles  
stewed  
stirred up  
straight  
strangely  
stumbling  
substitute  
subverted

scatter  
scramble  
serve up  
set differently  
setting  
shaky  
shaped  
shift  
shilly-shally  
shuffle  
singular  
slipshod  
smash  
snarl up  
sort  
sort of  
spinning  
spoiled  
sporting  
staggered  
stir  
storm  
strange  
straying  
stupid  
subtle  
surprising

surprisingly  
swapping  
swirling  
switched

swap  
swirl  
switch

swapped  
swirled  
switches

## T

tampered with  
temper  
tentative  
terribly  
thrown  
tipped  
topsy-turvy  
tortuous  
tousle  
transformation  
translated  
transmuted  
transposed  
treated  
tricky  
troublesome  
tumultuous  
turned  
twisted

tangled  
tempestuous  
tentatively  
the result of  
tidied up  
tipsy  
to rights  
toss  
tousled  
transformed  
translation  
transport  
transposition  
trick  
trouble  
tumble-down  
turbulent  
turned out  
twister

tattered  
tempestuously  
terrible  
throw  
tip  
to pot  
torn  
tossed  
transform  
translate  
transmutation  
transported  
treacherous  
tricked  
troubled  
tumbling  
turn  
twist  
twisting

## U

uncertain  
undecided  
undone  
unhappy  
unravelling  
unrestrained  
unsettling  
unsteady  
untied  
unwonted  
usage  
uses

unclear  
undisciplined  
uneasy  
unnatural  
unreliable  
unruly  
unsound  
untidy  
unusual  
upheaval  
use

uncommon  
undoing  
unfamiliar  
unorthodox  
unrest  
unsettled  
unstable  
untie  
unusually  
upset  
used

## V

vacillating  
vandalise  
varied

vague  
vandalised  
variety

vaguely  
variable  
various

variously  
version of  
volatile

vary  
violent

version  
violently

## **W**

wander  
warped  
way  
weave  
well-formed  
well-varied  
whirling  
wobbly  
works  
wreck  
wrong

wandering  
warring  
way out  
weird  
well-ordered  
went off  
wild  
woolly  
worried  
wrecked  
wrongly

warp  
wavering  
wayward  
weirdly  
well-organised  
went to pieces  
wildly  
work out  
woven  
writhing

Many thanks to Tom Rayfield for compiling most of this list.

## Letter Indicators

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Letters can often be indicated by using words to point to a specific letter in a word, e.g. 'capital of France' for the letter F. Some of these are given below, but most of the 'capital of' ones have been omitted since there are so many.

### A

absolute temperature  
Academician  
accepted  
acreage  
active  
adults only  
AE  
Alpha  
American  
ampere(s)  
answer  
area  
atomic  
Australia(n)  
beginning  
bomb  
first of April  
middle class  
middle of May  
one

about  
Academy  
ace  
across  
adjective  
advance(d)  
African leader  
alto  
American capital  
Ångström(s)  
anterior  
argon  
atomic weight  
Austria(n)  
beginning of April  
ein  
first of August  
middleman  
midway  
per

absent  
acceleration  
acre(s)  
acting  
adult  
advisory  
afternoon  
amateur  
ammeter  
anonymous  
are(s)  
article  
atto  
before  
beginning of August  
first  
key  
midday  
note  
year

### B

300  
bad start  
barrel(s)  
basso  
Beta  
billion  
Blessed  
book  
bottle opener  
breadth  
British capital  
key  
second side

a follower  
barn  
baryon number  
bay  
Bible  
bishop  
blockhead  
born  
bowled  
Britain  
Burmese leader  
note  
supporting film

bachelor  
baron  
bass  
Belgium  
bighead  
black  
blood group  
boron  
Bravo  
British  
bye  
second class

### C



100  
calorie  
can-opener  
Cape  
castle  
Celsius  
Centigrade  
chapter  
cloudy  
cold  
Coloured  
Commons' leader  
constant  
Corps  
Cuba  
first course  
many  
speed of light

## D

500  
Danish leader  
day  
degree  
Democrat(ic)  
Department  
deputy head  
deuterium  
diamonds  
dinar  
directed  
dunderhead  
Germany  
large number  
note  
ring

## E

2.71828...  
boat  
Earl  
Echo  
Egyptian  
end of June  
engineering

\$100  
Cambridge  
caught by  
carat  
Catholic  
Celtic  
centime  
Charlie  
clubs  
college  
colt  
compliance  
contralto  
could start  
cubic  
head of clan  
note

bad end  
date  
dead  
delete  
denarius  
depart(s)  
deserted  
Deutsch  
died  
diopter  
Dominus  
Dutch  
head of department  
Lord  
old penny  
should end

250  
bridge player  
East  
Ecstasy  
Egyptian leader  
energy  
England

about  
canine  
capacitance  
carbon  
caught  
cent(s)  
century  
circa  
cocaine  
college head  
common time  
Conservative  
copyright  
coulomb(s)  
cycle  
key  
number

beginning of December  
daughter  
death's-head  
Delta  
density  
depth  
Deus  
diameter  
dimension  
Director  
duke  
first of December  
key  
many  
penny  
U.S. Democrat

bearing  
direction  
eastern  
egghead  
electron  
engineer  
English

English leader  
final score for bridge  
player  
log base  
note  
point  
sweetheart

Epsilon  
key  
  
middle of September  
number  
quarter

eye opener  
kind of mail  
  
middlemen  
oriental  
Spain

## **F**

40  
Fahrenheit  
faraday  
fathom  
feminine  
filly  
fluorine  
foot  
forte  
French  
Friday  
key  
note

beginning of February  
famous word  
farthing  
fellow  
fighter plane  
fine  
folio  
force  
franc  
French capital  
function of  
loud  
offend

fag end  
farad  
fast  
female  
figurehead  
first of February  
following  
foreign  
France  
frequency  
furlong  
loud music

## **G**

400  
clef  
gallon(s)  
Gauss  
German  
Germany  
good  
gramme(s)  
great  
guinea(s)  
inflatable suit  
legend  
note

£1,000  
dog's tail  
Gamma  
gelding  
German capital  
giga  
Government  
grand  
Greek leader  
Gulf  
key  
middle-age  
pig's tail

acceleration  
force  
gauges  
George  
German leader  
Golf  
gram(s)  
gravity  
guilder  
head of Government  
king  
midnight  
string

## **H**

200  
aspirate  
end of March  
harbour  
head of hair

Ache  
beam  
end of the month  
hard  
head start

aitch  
bomb  
fashion centre  
headfirst  
hearts

height  
her head  
Hindu leader  
hospital  
hothead  
husband  
Planck's constant

henry  
heroin  
his head  
hot  
hour  
hydrant

henries  
high  
hogshead  
Hotel  
Hungary  
hydrogen

## I

1  
beam  
ego  
his heart  
indeed  
India  
international leader  
island  
Italy  
number  
personal pronoun  
unit

a  
current  
electric current  
Ich  
Independence  
Institute  
iodine  
isle  
me  
number one  
second time

ace  
dotted  
first person  
imaginary number  
Independent  
International  
lota  
isospin  
mid-air  
one  
single

## J

beginning of January  
curve  
first of July  
Japan  
Journal  
jump start

beginning of June  
first of January  
jack  
joint  
Judge  
Justice

beginning of July  
first of June  
James the First  
joule  
Juliet  
pen

## K

250  
back end  
cork tip  
Kappa  
Kelvin  
kilogramme  
knight  
kopeck  
krone  
velocity constant

1,000  
Boltzmann constant  
Kampuchea  
karat  
kick-start  
kilometre  
knot(s)  
krona  
kwacha  
weekend

1,024 bits  
cocktail  
kaon  
keen beginner  
kilo  
king  
Köchel  
króna  
potassium

## L

50

beginner

central Ireland

coin  
heart of England  
Labour leader  
lambert(s)  
Latin  
leaf  
learner driver  
length  
Libra  
link  
litre(s)  
longitude  
low  
Luxembourg  
money  
port  
pupil  
tail-end

elevated railway  
inductance  
laevorotatory  
Lambda  
latitude  
league  
lecturer  
letterhead  
Lima  
lira  
little  
long lead  
lumen  
many  
novice  
pound  
second class  
trainee

end of April  
inexperienced driver  
lake  
large  
law  
learner  
left  
Liberal  
line  
lire  
long  
love  
luminance  
mid-Wales  
number  
pound sign  
sovereign

## **M**

1,000  
beginning of the month  
central Germany  
first of May  
large number  
maiden over  
Malta  
married  
Master  
medium  
meridian  
metre(s)  
military leader  
molar  
monsieur  
mother  
noon

beginning of March  
Bond's boss  
end of term  
Frenchman  
mach  
Majesty  
mare  
masculine  
meal starter  
mega  
meso  
Mike  
million(s)  
Monday  
month  
motorway  
very many

beginning of May  
central Denmark  
first of March  
head of MI5  
maiden  
male  
mark(s)  
mass  
Mediaeval  
member  
meta  
mile(s)  
minute(s)  
money  
Moslem leader  
Mu

## **N**

90  
beginning of November  
end of autumn  
indefinite number  
middle of the month  
named

and ('n' )  
bridge player  
first news  
mid-evening  
naira  
Napoleon

bearing  
direction  
first of November  
mid-morning  
name  
Nationalist

Navy  
new  
new leader  
nitrogen  
Norse  
note  
Nu  
point

neuter  
new beginning  
new start  
nominative  
North  
noun  
nuclear  
pole

neutron  
new head  
newton(s)  
noon  
Norway  
November  
number  
quarter

## O

11  
circle  
exclamation  
job centre  
nil  
nought  
oh  
Omega  
Opposition leader  
ordered to start  
oxygen  
round  
sphere

beginning of October  
cry  
first of October  
love  
none  
Ocean  
Ohio  
Omicron  
orchestra leader  
Oscar  
pint  
Scottish pass  
Tan

blob  
duck  
front centre  
middle of October  
nothing  
octavo  
old  
only  
order  
Oxford  
ring  
spangle  
zero

## P

400  
coppers  
momentum  
Papa  
part  
Pastor  
pence  
peseta  
piano  
party leader  
poise  
port  
power  
Prince  
quiet  
subdued

apple-core  
head of police  
money  
park  
participle  
pawn  
penny  
peso  
pint  
pawn  
political leader  
Portugal  
president  
pro  
small change

coin  
midshipman  
page  
parking  
past  
pedal  
per  
phosphorus  
parity  
pipe  
population  
post  
pressure  
proton  
soft

## Q

electric charge

first quality

head of queue

heat  
quart  
quartermaster  
Queen  
queer beginning  
quetzal  
quire

Quaker leader  
quarter  
quarto  
Queen's Head  
query  
quick start  
quran

quality  
quarterly  
Quebec  
Queensland  
question  
quintal

## R

arithmetic  
end of October  
end of war  
mid-afternoon  
monarch  
queen  
radius  
rand  
rêaumur  
recto  
regiment  
Republican  
reverend  
right  
road  
Romeo  
Roundhead  
rupee  
summer's end  
writing

electric resistance  
end of November  
head right  
middle of March  
never-ending  
rabbi  
railhead  
raw beginner  
rebel leader  
Rector  
Regina  
resistance  
revolutionary leader  
ring leader  
Röntgen  
rook  
Royal  
Russian leader  
take  
yearend

end of September  
end of December  
king  
middle of April  
oyster month  
radical  
railway  
reading  
recipe  
redhead  
registered  
restricted  
Rex  
river  
Romania  
ruble(s)  
run(s)  
starboard  
winter's end  
year's end

## S

7 or 70  
  
bender  
dollar  
first of September  
ogee  
pole  
safety first  
Saturday  
school  
self-starter  
siemens  
Signor

bearing  
  
bridge player  
endless  
head of state  
Old Bob  
quarter  
saint  
Saxon  
school head  
September  
Sierra  
Sikh leader

beginning of  
September  
direction  
entropy  
heart of Essex  
point  
Sabbath  
Santa  
schilling  
second(s)  
shilling  
Sigma  
singular

skinhead  
solidus  
singular  
southern  
starboard  
strangeness  
sun  
sulphur

small  
shilling  
son  
spades  
stokes  
succeeded  
Sunday

Society  
siemens  
South  
Square  
stop-start  
sulphur  
Sweden

## T

bone  
cat's tail  
end product  
junction  
Middle Eastern  
square  
Tango  
teaspoonful  
tempo  
tense  
Thailand  
tesla  
tonne(s)  
tritium  
Tuesday

car  
distribution  
Ford  
kind of shirt  
rat's tail  
summer shirt  
tare  
tee  
tenant  
tera  
Thursday  
time  
Tory leader  
troop leader  
Turkish leader

casual shirt  
end of August  
informal shirt  
kind of square  
shirt  
surface tension  
Tau  
temperature  
tenor  
tesla  
team leader  
ton(s)  
transitive  
troy

## U

acceptable  
centre court  
done thing  
mid-January  
sub  
top-drawer  
Unionist  
universal  
Upsilon  
uranium

bend  
classy  
gent  
posh  
superior  
turn  
union leader  
University  
upstart  
youth centre

bolt  
done  
genteel  
socially acceptable  
top  
Unicorn  
United  
upper class  
Uruguay

## V

5  
bomb  
midwives  
opposed to  
several

against  
few  
neck  
opposing  
sign

anti  
mid-Devon  
number  
see  
vanadium

Vatican City  
verb  
very  
victory sign  
volt

velocity  
verse(d)  
Victor  
Viscount  
volume

ventral  
versus  
victory  
vol.  
vs

## W

bearing  
cow's tail  
point  
tungsten  
wed  
weight  
West  
wicket  
wife  
wolfram  
work  
western

bridge player  
direction  
quarter  
Wales  
Wednesday  
Welsh  
Whisky  
wide  
with  
women  
workers' leader  
with

centre forward  
occidental  
raw edge  
watt  
week  
Welsh leader  
white  
width  
winter  
won  
West

## X

10  
buss  
Christ  
decussate  
kiss  
multiplication  
number  
ray  
spot marker  
unknown quantity

abscissa  
by  
co-ordinate  
drawn  
marked choice  
multiply by  
over 18  
several  
times  
vote

antepenultimate  
Chi  
cross  
female chromosome  
mark with a kiss  
mystery man  
oxtail  
sign of the times  
unknown character  
wrong

## Y

day's end  
end of February  
fourth of July  
penultimate  
Yankee  
yen  
yttrium

journey's end  
end of May  
male chromosome  
ponytail  
yard  
Yeomanry  
Yugoslavia

end of January  
end of July  
ordinate  
unknown quantity  
year(s)  
youth leader

## Z

atomic number  
from Zanzibar

final  
gauge

final letter  
impedance



last  
Zaire  
zenith  
zone

last letter  
Zambia  
Zeta

middle-sized  
Zebra  
Zionist leader

