

You can change the spelling of any Term used by Mangia! : ingredients (main and otherwise), units of measurement, conditions, Nationalities, Cooking Methods, Courses, and Seasons. In the case of ingredients and Nationalities, you can also change how they are arranged into Categories. You can specify singular and plural variations on ingredient and unit names, provide Alternative Spellings for certain Terms, and link ingredients together as synonyms which can be used interchangeably in recipes. All of these options are available to you through the Edit Dictionary... command under the Edit menu.

Depending on what kind of Term you wish to edit, you are given one of several different windows which share a number of things in common. Each has:

- OK and Cancel buttons. Both close the window, the latter without saving any changes you've made.
- A Do It button. This button can only be clicked after you have made a change to a Term. It makes the change permanent, then removes the Term from the window. It's just like OK except that the window doesn't go away, so you can go on to edit other Terms.
- Text box(es), accompanied by Dictionary Buttons.
- Another text box, just below it, labeled ...Spell it like this: or ...Normal Spelling.

The operation of each window is similar in principle: using the text box and pop-up menu at the top of the window, you choose a Term to modify. When a valid Term is in the box, the rest of the window darkens, and its text boxes are filled with various pieces of information about the Term. You modify these items as you like, then click on Do It or OK (or hit the Return key) to make the changes permanent.

The Ingredients Window illustrates all of the possibilities. It has items for:

- ...Normal Spelling: If you want the Term spelled another way, type the new spelling in here. This is the spelling that will be used in recipes and anywhere there is a use of the ingredient.
- ...Singular, ...Plural: Some ingredients and units have a particular way of being pluralized (some Terms, like "flour," have no sensible plural). When an ingredient is being counted (like "4 oranges"), the Singular and Plural forms are used instead of the Normal Spelling. When it's being measured (as in "2 lb. oranges"), the Normal Spelling is used. You're welcome to omit either the Singular or Plural spellings if the Normal Spelling works instead (for example, there's no need to specify "oranges" as both the Normal Spelling and Plural).
- ...Category it goes in: For ingredients, units, Courses, and Nationalities, you can "file them under" one or more Categories by putting a group name into this box. This is how, for example, "Provençal" gets filed under both "French" and "Mediterranean." Normally each term goes into one Category, but you can hold down the Shift key while selecting a Category from the Dictionary Button (or just type a series of Categories separated by commas) to provide more than one.
- ...Things it includes: For a Category, specify here the Terms it "contains." Selecting from the pop-up menu adds examples of the Category to the list.
- ...Synonyms for it: These are Terms to be treated identically in sorting for recipes (for example, if you specify "Garbanzo beans," you'll also get recipes using "chickpeas").
- ...Things you can make with it: To match recipes to ingredients properly, Mangia! needs to know that "If I have this, I can make that." For example, if a recipe calls for egg yolks, having eggs is good enough. This is where you say that.
- Found In: This is a pop-up menu for specifying where the ingredient is found in your friendly local supermarket. This item is used when Printing Shopping Lists.

All of the Term-editing windows differ only in which of the above items appear in its window. Here are some tips and facts to help keep you going inside the Dictionary:

- The Do It button is only active when 1) an existing Term appears in the top text box, and 2) there are changes to register.
- Most of the window is grayed out until an existing Term has been provided.

- The program will prevent you from having two Terms spelled the same.
- Anywhere a Dictionary Button appears, you can select ...New <something> at the bottom of the pop-up menu to create a new Term. If you select that item from a submenu, the new Term will go into the right Category.
- You can type new Terms into most of the text boxes. You'll get the Spelling Checker asking whether your intent was to type an existing Term or make a new Term. This can be a very handy way to create several new Terms in a Category all at once.

Once you have changed a Term in the Dictionary, you will see it in that form everywhere it appears: menus, recipes, Ingredient Lists, wherever. However, its appearance in the Title, Description, Instructions, or Notes of any recipe will not change.