

Crossword Compiler Help Contents

Press F1 to learn how to use Help.



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What you need to know to get started.

Finding Words and **Filling Automatically**

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Editing Clues

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Crossword Reference

Reference information for writing cryptic crosswords, an introduction to cryptics and a guide to crossword jargon.

Other Related Software

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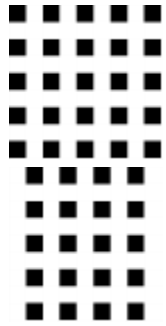
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Block Filling

British-style puzzles, in which words are linked every alternate letter, have a regular pattern of blocks. You can quickly fill in the basic pattern by choosing **Fill Blocks** from the **Pattern** menu.

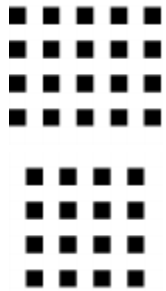
Block filling fills in every alternate block on alternate rows. There are four choices of starting position:

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.

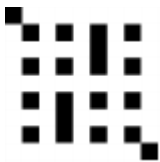
Symmetry

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

Use Autofind 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:



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', to pop up a scrollable list of words that fit. 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:



Note that compound words in the word list are not punctuated, e.g. '**OUT OF DATE**' appears as '**OUTOFDATE**', as it will in the puzzle.

If not words are found that fit you can 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. E.g. 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 (e.g. '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.

You can use '-' instead of '?' if you like (it's a bit quicker to type).

Puzzle Flipping

You can flip a puzzle 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. You can undo a flip by doing another flip. Here is a puzzle, one before and one after a flip:

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

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

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:

Arial Bold:



Courier New:

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. You can specify the maximum number of words 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.

You can abort the Search at any time by pressing **OK**. The program adds anagrams to the bottom of the list as it finds them. 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. 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. 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 or write for details.

If you have any further questions please email:
AGenius@genius.demon.co.uk

Changing Square Sizes

You can customise the size at which the puzzle and solution are displayed, printed, and copied to the clipboard. 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 you copy it 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. Insert black squares (blocks) 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. You can repeat undo a large number of times to undo whole chunks of the puzzle (in the full licensed version). Undo does not remove interlocking letters, so your intersecting words are left intact. Undo is particularly useful with Autofind to test words in certain positions and then undo them if necessary.

Printing Headers

Select **Headers...** from the File menu to specify headers that you can be print when you Print a puzzle.

Every time you print a crossword you can print Left and Right headers at the top of the page. You can also have a centred header below the left and right headers. Leave a header box blank to leave that header position blank. If you have no right header the left headers covers the entire top of the page, if you do have a right header the left header covers at most the left half of the page. You can check the Justify Right box if you want the right header to be right justified.

Save headers to use the same headers every time you start the program.

You may customise headers to provide constant text (such as your name and address) or variable data (such as puzzle details or date). To supply constant text, simply type that text in one of the header boxes. To supply variable text, use one or more of these control codes each beginning with a '%' (you can use upper or lower case).

%D	Day of the month	%W	Puzzle width
%M	Month of the year	%H	Puzzle height
%Y	Year (abbreviated. E.g. 95)	%N	Number of words in puzzle
%F	Puzzle's file name	%P	Puzzle's path and filename
%R	Puzzle's reference	%Rn	nth line of the puzzle reference

Some examples:

What you want the header be	What you type
12 x 15 puzzle: 21 words	%W x %H puzzle: %N words
Antony Lewis 10/5/96	Antony Lewis %D/%M/%Y
File Name: DEMOPUZ.CWD	File Name:%F

Codes are particularly useful in conjunction with puzzle References - if you standardise your references so that, say, the first line is a puzzle title, you can create a header for puzzles in the form

DEMO PUZZLE by Antony Lewis

by using the header text '%R1 by Antony Lewis'. You then never need to alter the Headers when you make new puzzles - you just have to write the

reference and the header will be automatically changed.

By default the entire reference is printed as the left header - just '%R'.

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. You can be print the reference as part of a header 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.

You can customise the space between clues and the space between the clue number and clue in the Format dialogue box when using RTF. You can also change the relative size of the numbers in the puzzle. You can set the font used in the puzzle and solution in the Font dialogue box. The host program sets the font for the clues and answers. This ensures that it will match whatever font you are using in the other program.

If you find that the clues do not copy correctly then try increasing the Number/Clue space in the format dialog box. When you copy clues to the clipboard you are prompted to include clue format information: that is, do you want the clue length in brackets after every clue.

The answers option copies the answers in text form, e.g.

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.



You can put the clues and answers into columns or whatever you like 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 then 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:

CURSORS	Move the cursor
CTRL+CURSORS	Skip to next or previous word start
TAB	Toggle type direction
ENTER	Move to left or top of next line
SPACEBAR	Insert Block
DELETE	Delete letter/block at cursor
CTRL+DELETE	Remove square from puzzle
SHIFT+DELETE	Delete word. Doesn't effect intersecting words
ALT+BACKSPACE	Undo
ALT+A	<u>Autofind</u>
ALT+E	<u>Edit Clue</u>
F1	Help Index
F2	Save
CTRL+ESC	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 save it 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 in 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'**. You cannot open puzzles saved as Rich Text Format (RTF) from Crossword Compiler. You can however use RTF to save the puzzle, clues, etc. so that you can use them in word processing and DTP programs. If you save as RTF you are prompted for what you want saved in the file, the puzzle, clues, solution, answers or a combination. If you check the Skip clue format info box, the clues are copied without the length in brackets after each clue.

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. You can hold the mouse cursor over a button for a short time to pop up a hint 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

To edit the clue for a particular word in a puzzle press Alt+E with the cursor on the word for the clue you want to edit. You can also use 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 clue number is displayed in the title bar of the dialog box and the clue word is displayed below that. 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. You can also call most of them 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>
Alt+L	Display list of <u>Letter Indicators</u>
Alt+I	Display list of <u>Anagram Indicators</u>
F1	Bring up this help screen

I suggest that you complete the puzzle network before starting to write clues. You can then systematically write each clue in order so there's no chance of missing a clue or writing a clue for a word that you will change 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. The clue will be correctly word-wrapped when you print it 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. You can move the cursor within the editor box by 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 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 you print it. The word is also correctly formatted in the dialog box and when you print the answers. For example if the word is displayed as ONTOPOFTHEWORLD (On top of the world), then type '2,3,2,3,5' in the format line. On pressing tab the correctly formatted word will appear at the top of the dialog box. If the clue is linked then enter the format 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.

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).

You can check the Skip clue format info box to suppress the usual automatic word length feature. Using Dithered Blocks can be useful if you want to speed up printing on a dot-matrix, or stop the paper getting soggy on an Inkjet.

You can disable Headers by un-checking the Print Headers box. If you haven't specified any headers then none will be printed anyway. By default the header is just the puzzle reference.

If you try to print the clues before you have written them the program will print out the clue numbers with a blank space next to it. This is useful if you like to work to a hard copy when writing clues. You can then type in the clues when you are satisfied with them.

Note that very large puzzles may not fit on A4 paper. You will be asked whether the square sizes should be shrunk to make it fit if the puzzle doesn't fit. To change the margins choose the Page Setup... command from the **File** menu. You can change the printer 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

Select **Word List Usage...** from the **Words** menu to set and change the word file directory settings. Click on the Set button by the one of the lists' directories to change it. Select the word file that you want to use and press OK. Word files have a '.X7' extension in the file box, just select one of these, the entire list will be used.

Autofind uses the main word list 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. You can also 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

Select **Preferences...** from the **Options** menu to change various program settings.

You can disable ToolTips for the ToolBar by deselecting the check box. You can also make backup files. If you select this option a file with the '.BAK' extension will be created whenever you save a puzzle. 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.

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'.

You can change the maximum number of words in multi-word anagrams found by the Anagram facility. 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. You can only link 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. 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 that 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. An order form is provided and can be printed out by pressing 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 to

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

You can order by credit card over the internet: see
<http://www.wp.com/netword>.

If you would like more information or have some questions you can also e-mail to **ccw@netword.demon.co.uk** or visit the web pages at **<http://www.wp.com/netword>**.

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 full 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.

I also have a program called WordWeb Pro, a powerful thesaurus/dictionary, which can be used as a separate program or from Crossword Compiler. It costs just £15 inclusive.

You may also buy some additional word list disks 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 v1.3

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.

You can order the following:

Full licensed version of Crossword Compiler for \$45

Two disks of additional word lists for \$25

WordWeb Pro, a comprehensive thesaurus/dictionary, for \$25

Toll Free Ordering: Visa and MasterCard orders may be placed by calling Laser Point at (800) 894-6758.

Electronic Mail Registration: You may register via electronic mail by sending the following information to orders@laserpoint.com

- Name of the product you are registering
- Visa or MasterCard Account Number
- Card Type (Visa or MasterCard)
- Card Expiration Date
- Name of card holder

Postal Mail Registration: You may send cash or checks, drawn in U.S. funds on a U.S. bank, to:

Laser Point
Crossword Compiler Registration
P.O. Box 2378
Watsonville, CA 95077
USA

CompuServe: CompuServe customers may wish to use the CompuServe Shareware Registry. GO SWREG and register product ID 11407.

Licensed users get the full program, with all features enabled and 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

You can change the layout of the puzzle and clues when printed or copied to the clipboard 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. 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

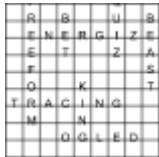
For statistics and file information about a crossword select the **Information...** item on the **File** menu.

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. You can toggle a square between being removed and blank by pressing ctrl+delete with the cursor on the square. 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. You may be able to produce many different fits by pressing Alt+Backspace to undo one fill, and then invoking AutoFill again,

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. It contains words likely to be acceptable in any 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 successfully fill 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 pop-up dialog

box. 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.

You can paste clues from the database when editing a clue by selecting the Paste... button at the top of the clue editor. A box pops up showing all the clues in the database 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. If there are no clues in the currently selected database the Paste button is disabled. This gives you a quick means of telling whether there are clues in the database or not.

You can merge databases together 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 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. You can then 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 that 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 a word in the input line and press 'enter' to display all clues in the database for that word. 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 program saves your current configuration every time you close the program. You can specify a different configuration file by selecting **Configuration File...** from the **Options** menu. To open an existing configuration 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 that you make. You can then start Crossword Compiler with a particular configuration by clicking on the relevant icon in the Program Manager.

The program will save settings 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 you are going to use the puzzles 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 your crosswords 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 (un-check the Print Headers box). The puzzle or solution will be printed to the file.

WordWeb Pro

WordWeb is a comprehensive thesaurus/dictionary for Windows that can be used directly from Crossword Compiler. You can run it as a separate program, or call it from the Clue Editor to paste in words.

In addition to displaying sense definitions and synonyms, WordWeb can also find sets of related words including

- Antonyms** - Words opposite in meaning, e.g. bright/dull
- Hypernyms** - More general, less specific words, e.g. jungle/forest
- Hyponyms** - More specific words, e.g. forest/jungle
- Meronyms** - Words which denote a part or member, e.g. tree/forest
- Holonyms** - Words which denote a collection, eg. forest/tree

WordWeb allows you to filter the synonyms found by sense and by part of speech.

The database used by WordWeb contains many words for which there are no synonyms, in which case the sense description gives you detail about what the word means.

WordWeb matches case of synonyms, e.g. search for "pulpits" and WordWeb finds "podia", "rostra", "ambos", etc, search for "pulpit" and you will get the singular synonyms.

It comes with a 100000+ word list containing only words in the WordWeb database which can be used for word finding and grid filling when used with Crossword Compiler.

WordWeb also comes with a template for MS Word v6/7 which allows you to integrate it into the Word environment. There are also macros to let you use it from Ami Pro, Word Pro and Word 2.

There is a FreeWare version of WordWeb which cannot be used directly from Crossword Compiler. If you have the Freeware version you can upgrade to WordWeb Pro at a reduced price (you only need one disk instead of three) - see the WordWeb help file for more information.

WordWeb Pro is supplied in both Windows 3.1 and Windows 95 editions.

If you have any questions or would like more information please E-Mail WordWeb@netword.demon.co.uk.

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 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 you can find the word 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 that 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

The clue spells out the parts of the word. E.g.

Failed English dandy (4)

=DUDE, meaning dandy. Failed=DUD, English=E (this is a standard letter indicator for 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 (using foreign words like this is another standard strick), 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 clues do 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 usually it indicates 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 in misprint clues, where a part of the clue has been misspelled, 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 or WordWeb, 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
absurd
accommodated
adaptation
addled
adrift
affected
afresh
agitated
all at sea
alter
alternatively
ambiguous
amiss
anomalous
anyhow
arising from
arranged
assembled
astray
at sea
awful
awkwardly

abnormal
accident
accommodation
adapted
adjust
adversely
afflict
after a fashion
agitator
all over the place
altered
amalgam
ambiguously
amok
another
anyway
around
arrangement
assembly
at fault
at sixes and sevens
awfully
awry

abnormally
about
accidental
adapt
addle
adjusted
affect
afflicted
agitate
aimless
all wrong
alternative
amalgamate
amended
anew
another way
appear
arrange
askew
assorted
at odds
at variance
awkward

B

badly
beaten up
becoming
bends
bizarre
blended
break
break up
brew
broke
broken up
buckled
builder
built
busted
by mistake

baffled
become
befuddled
bent
blend
blunder
break down
breaking
brewed
broken
buckle
buckling
builders
bungled
by accident

battered
becomes
bend
bewildered
blending
botched
break out
breaks
broadcast
broken down
buckles
build
building
bust
by arrangement

C

calamitous

calamitously

can be

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

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

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
deformed
demolished
deployed
derivation
design
devastated

damaged
dealt with
defected
deformity
demolition
derange
derivative
designed
devastation

dance
deception
defective
demented
deplorably
deranged
derived from
destroyed
develop

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

E

eccentric
effects
emend
engendering
ensemble
equivocal
erring
erupting
exceptional
exotic
extraordinarily

F

fabricate
failing
false
faltering

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

effect
embody
emendation
engineered
entangled
erratic
erroneous
eruption
exceptionally
exploded

fabricated
failure
falsely
fanciful

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

effected
embroil
emended
enough for
entanglement
erratically
error
essentials
excited
explosion

fabrication
fallacious
falsified
fantastic

**fashion
faulty
fiddle
fixed
flounder
flummoxed
flustered
for a change
form of
fracas
fragments
freely
frisky
from
funnily
fused**

G

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

H

**haphazard
hash
helter-skelter
hidden
horribly**

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**

**fashioned
fermented
figuring in
flaw
fluctuating
flurried
foolish
forced
forms
fractured
freakish
frenzied
frolic
fudge
funny**

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

**hapless
havoc
hide
hopeless
hotchpotch**

**ill
ill-made
impaired
in
in a ferment
in a jumble
in a muddle
in a tizzy
in a whirl
in confusion
in disorder**

**fashioning
fickle
find
flawed
fluctuation
fluster
foolishly
forged
formulating
fracturing
free
fresh
frolicking
function
funny looking**

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

**harassed
haywire
higgledy-piggledy
horrible
hybrid**

**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 knots
in pieces
in ruins
in uproar
inconstant
induce
injure
insane
intricate
irregular**

J
**jerky
joggle
jumbled**

K
**kind
knotted**

L
**lawless
liquid
lousy**

M
**mad
made from
madly
make a mess of
make-up
maladroit
malfunction
manage
manager
manifest
manipulated
marred
materials for
mayhem
melt
mercurial
messily
mince
misapplied
miserable
misrepresentation
mistake**

**in order
in rebellion
in shreds
inaccurate
incorrect
infirm
injured
insanely
involve
irregularity**

**jerky
juggled**

kind of

**let loose
loosely
ludicrous**

**maddened
made of
make a bungle of
make
making
malformation
maltreated
managed
mangle
manifestation
manoeuvre
mashed
mauled
meandering
melted
mess
messy
minced
misbehaved
mishandled
misrepresented
mistreated**

**in other words
in revolt
in trouble
incoherent
incorrectly
ingredients
inordinately
interfered with
involved
irritated**

**jittery
jumble**

kinky

**letters of
lousily
lunatic**

**made
made up
make a hash of
makes
maladjusted
malformed
maltreatment
management
mangled
manipulate
manoeuvred
material for
maybe
medley
mended
messed
metamorphosis
mingled
misconstrued
mishap
misshapen
misused**

mix
mix-up
modelled
modify
mould
muddied
muddly
mutilated
mysterious

mixed
mobile
modification
molested
moulded
muddle
mutable
mutilation
mysteriously

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
outlandish
overturn

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

obscurely
odd
off
ordered
organise
originally
outcome of
out of gear
out of sorts
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
reshape
reshuffled
resolved
resulting in
revise
revolutionary
revolved
reword
rewritten
rigged
rioting
rotten
roving
ruin
ruinous
run amok
ruptured

ragged
ravage
rearrange
reassembled
rebuild
recalcitrant
reconstructed
rectified
refine
reformation
regenerate
remade
rendering
renovation
reorganisation
repack
replaced
representation
reproduce
resettle
reshaped
resolution
resort
reveal
revised
revolutionised
revolving
reworded
rickety
riot
riotous
rough
rude
ruins
rum
running amok

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

sadly
scatters
scruffy
set
set out

scatter
scramble
serve up
set differently
setting

shake
shambles
shatter
shifted
ship-shape
shuffled
skittish
sloppy
smashed
somehow
sorted
sorting
split
spoilt
spurious
stew
stirred
stormy
strange-looking
stricken
stupidly
subvert
surprisingly
swapping
swirling
switched

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
swap
swirl
switch

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
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
variously
version of
volatile**

**vague
vandalised
variety
vary
violent**

**vaguely
variable
various
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 W X Y Z

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

Letters are often 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

\$100
Cambridge
caught by

about
canine
capacitance

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
English leader
final score for bridge
player
log base
note
point

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
Epsilon
key

middle of September
number
quarter

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
eye opener
kind of mail

middlemen
oriental
Spain

sweetheart

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

Ache
beam
end of the month
hard
head start
henry
heroin
his head
hot
hour
hydrant

aitch
bomb
fashion centre
headfirst
hearts
henries
high
hogshead
Hotel
Hungary
hydrogen

I

1

a

ace

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

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

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
coin
heart of England
Labour leader
Lambert(s)
Latin
leaf
learner driver
length
Libra
link
litre(s)
longitude
low
Luxembourg

beginner
elevated railway
inductance
laevorotatory
Lambda
latitude
league
lecturer
letterhead
Lima
lira
little
long lead
lumen
many

central Ireland
end of April
inexperienced driver
lake
large
law
learner
left
Liberal
line
lire
long
love
luminance
mid-Wales

money
port
pupil
tail-end

novice
pound
second class
trainee

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
Navy
new
new leader
nitrogen
Norse
note
Nu
point

and ('n')
bridge player
first news
mid-evening
naira
Napoleon
neuter
new beginning
new start
nominative
North
noun
nuclear
pole

bearing
direction
first of November
mid-morning
name
Nationalist
neutron
new head
newton(s)
noon
Norway
November
number
quarter

O

11
circle
exclamation
job centre
nil

beginning of October
cry
first of October
love
none

blob
duck
front centre
middle of October
nothing

nought
oh
Omega
Opposition leader
ordered to start
oxygen
round
sphere

P

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

Q

electric charge
heat
quart
quartermaster
Queen
queer beginning
quetzal
quire

R

arithmetic
end of October
end of war
mid-afternoon
monarch
queen
radius
rand
réaumur

Ocean
Ohio
Omicron
orchestra leader
Oscar
pint
Scottish pass
Tan

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

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

electric resistance
end of November
head right
middle of March
never-ending
rabbi
railhead
raw beginner
rebel leader

octavo
old
only
order
Oxford
ring
spangle
zero

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

head of queue
quality
quarterly
Quebec
Queensland
question
quintal

end of September
end of December
king
middle of April
oyster month
radical
railway
reading
recipe

recto
regiment
Republican
reverend
right
road
Romeo
Roundhead
rupee
summer's end
writing

S

7 or 70

bender
dollar
first of September
ogee
pole
safety first
Saturday
school
self-starter
siemens
Signor
skinhead
solidus
singular
southern
starboard
strangeness
sun
sulphur

T

bone
cat's tail
end product
junction
Middle Eastern
square
Tango
teaspoonful
tempo
tense
Thailand
tesla

Rector
Regina
resistance
revolutionary leader
ring leader
Röntgen
rook
Royal
Russian leader
take
yearend

bearing
bridge player
endless
head of state
Old Bob
quarter
saint
Saxon
school head
September
Sierra
Sikh leader
small
shilling
son
spades
stokes
succeeded
Sunday

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

redhead
registered
restricted
Rex
river
Romania
ruble(s)
run(s)
starboard
winter's end
year's end

beginning of
September
direction
entropy
heart of Essex
point
Sabbath
Santa
schilling
second(s)
shilling
Sigma
singular
Society
siemens
South
Square
stop-start
sulphur
Sweden

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

tonne(s)
tritium
Tuesday

Tory leader
troop leader
Turkish leader

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
Vatican City
verb
very
victory sign
volt

against
few
neck
opposing
sign
velocity
verse(d)
Victor
Viscount
volume

anti
mid-Devon
number
see
vanadium
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

abscissa
by
co-ordinate
drawn
marked choice

antepenultimate
Chi
cross
female chromosome
mark with a kiss

**multiplication
number
ray
spot marker
unknown quantity**

Y

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

Z

**atomic number
from Zanzibar
last
Zaire
zenith
zone**

**multiply by
over 18
several
times
vote**

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

**final
gauge
last letter
Zambia
Zeta**

**mystery man
oxtail
sign of the times
unknown character
wrong**

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

**final letter
impedance
middle-sized
Zebra
Zionist leader**

