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English around the World



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English around the world

English around the world

[British - American English - Spelling rules](#)

[Australian English - British English](#)

[British English - Australian English](#)

[English - a world language](#)

[German loanwords in English](#)

British - American English - Spelling Rules

There are some spelling differences in American English. In the 1800's, the US Congress actually called for several changes to make words more phonetic. Look at the following examples:

	British English	American English	Example (British - American)
1	words ending in -re	change to -er	centre - center metre - meter
2	words ending in -our	change to -or	colour - color
3	words ending in -ogue	change to -og	catalogue - catalog
4	words ending in -ise/ize	ending only in -ize	realise/realize - realize
5	final -l doubled after short vowel	- l not always doubled after a short vowel	travelled - traveled modelling - modeling
6	words ending in -ence	change to -ense	defence - defense licence - license

British English - American English

[British - American English - Spelling Rules](#)

Here you will find words which have different meanings or are spelled differently in British and American English.

British English	American English
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English around the World

A	
accelerator	gas pedal, accelerator
aerial (TV, radio)	antenna, aerial
Alsatian	German shepherd
American Indian	Native American
anorak	jacket, parka
at the weekend	on the weekend
aubergine	eggplant
B	
bank holiday	national holiday, federal holiday
barrister, solicitor	lawyer, attorney
base rate	prime rate
to bath	to bathe
beetroot	beet
bill (in restaurants)	check (in restaurants)
bin, dustbin	garbage can/trash can
biro	ball-point pen
biscuit	cookie
bonnet	hood
boot	trunk
braces	suspenders
(round) brackets	parentheses
C	
candy floss	cotton candy
car park	parking lot
caravan	trailer
caretaker	janitor
catalogue	catalog
centre	center
chemist's shop	drugstore, pharmacy
chips	French fries
city centre	downtown, city center
cloakroom	checkroom, coatroom
clothes peg	clothespin
colour	color
cooker	stove
(bathing) costume	swimsuit
cosy	cozy



English around the World

cot (baby)	crib
cotton wool	cotton ball
courgette	zucchini
crisps	potato chips
crossroads	crossroad (in the country) intersection (town and country)
curriculum vitae (CV)	résumé curriculum vitae (depending on the professional field)
D	
dinner jacket	tux, tuxedo
directory enquiries	directory assistance
diversion	detour
double cream	heavy cream
draught	draft
draughts	checkers
drawing pin	thumb tack
dressing gown	(bath) robe
drink driving	drunk driving
driving licence	driver's license
dummy	pacifier
duvet	comforter
E	
earth wire	ground wire
engaged	busy
enquiry	inquiry
everywhere	everyplace, everywhere
expiry date	expiration date
F	
fancy dress	costumes
Father Christmas	Santa Claus
favourite	favorite
to fill in	to fill out
film	film, movie
fire brigade	fire department
first floor	second floor
fish-fingers	fish-sticks
flannel	face cloth, wash cloth



English around the World

flat	apartment (flat: used for apartment on one floor)
flavour	flavor
football	soccer
fortnight	two weeks
fringe	bangs
from Monday to Friday	from Monday to Friday from Monday through Friday (Friday included)
full stop	period
G	
garden	yard
gear lever	gear shift
Gents	Men's Room
goods train	freight train
ground floor	ground floor, first floor
first floor	second floor
H	
harbour	harbor
headmaster, headteacher	principal
to hire	to rent
hire purchase	installment plan
hockey	field hockey
holiday	vacation
hoover	vacuum cleaner
humour	humor
I	
icing sugar	powdered sugar
indicator	turn signal
inverted commas, quotation marks	quotation marks
J	
jacket potato	baked potato
jewellery	jewelery
Joe Bloggs	John Doe
jumble sale	yard sale
jumper	sweater
K	
kilometre	kilometer
L	



English around the World

ladybird	ladybug
to lay the table	to set the table
letter box	mail box
lift	elevator
litre	liter
lorry	truck
lost property	lost and found
M	
mackintosh	raincoat
managing director	CEO (chief executive officer)
mashed potato	mashed potatoes
match	game
maths	math
mobile (phone)	cellphone
motorbike	motorcycle
motorway	freeway, highway, expressway, interstate
mum	mom

American - British English

[British - American English - Spelling Rules](#)

Here you will find words which have different meanings or are spelled differently in British and American English.

American English	British English
A	
a deck of cards	a pack of cards
a package of cigarettes	a packet of cigarettes
airplane	plane
antenna, aerial	aerial (TV, radio)
apartment (flat: used for apartment on one floor)	flat
B	
baby carriage, baby buggy, stoller	pram, pushchair
backpack	rucksack
baked potato	jacket potato
ball-point pen	biro



English around the World

bangs	fringe
bathroom, rest room	toilet, loo
beet	beetroot
bell pepper	pepper
bill	note
billfold	wallet
buck	quid
bulletin board	notice board
busy	engaged
C	
cab	taxi
can	tin
candy store	sweet shop
carpet pad	underlay
cart	trolley
catalog	catalogue
cellphone	mobile (phone)
center	centre
CEO (chief executive officer)	managing director
check (in restaurants)	bill (in restaurants)
checkers	draughts
checkroom, coatroom	cloakroom
clothespin	clothes peg
color	colour
comforter	duvet
cookie	biscuit
costumes	fancy dress
cotton ball	cotton wool
cotton candy	candy floss
cozy	cosy
crib	cot (baby)
crossroad (in the country) intersection (town and country)	crossroads
crosswalk	pedestrian crossing zebra crossing
D	
detour	diversion
diaper	nappy
directory assistance	directory enquiries



English around the World

downtown, city center	town centre city centre
draft	draught
driver's license	driving licence
drugstore, pharmacy	chemist's shop
drunk driving	drink driving
E	
eggplant	aubergine
elementary school grade school	primary school
elevator	lift
eraser	rubber
everyplace, everywhere	everywhere
Excuse me.	Sorry.
expiration date	expiry date
F	
face cloth, wash cloth	flannel
faucet	tap
favorite	favourite
fender	wing
field hockey	hockey
fields day	sports day
film, movie	film
fire department	fire brigade
ground floor, first floor second floor	ground floor first floor
fish-sticks	fish-fingers
flashlight	torch
flavor	flavour
freeway, highway, expressway, interstate	motorway
freight train	goods train
French fries	chips
from Monday to Friday from Monday through Friday (Friday included)	from Monday to Friday
front desk	reception
G	
game	match
garbage	rubbish



English around the World

garbage can/trash can	bin, dustbin
gas	petrol
gas pedal, accelerator	accelerator
gear shift	gear lever
German shepherd	Alsatian
grade	year
ground wire	earth wire
H	
harbor	harbour
heavy cream	double cream
hood	bonnet
humor	humour
I	
inquiry	enquiry
installment plan	hire purchase
inventory	stock
J	
jacket, parka	anorak
janitor	caretaker
jewelery	jewellery
John Doe	Joe Bloggs
K	
kerosene/kerosine	paraffin
kilometer	kilometre
EL	
ladybug	ladybird
lawyer, attorney	barrister, solicitor
license plate	number plate
liter	litre
lost and found	lost property
M	
mail	post
mail box	letter box
mailman	postman
mashed potatoes	mashed potato
math	maths
Men's Room	Gents
mom	mum
mortician	undertaker



English around the World

motorcycle	motorbike
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Australian English - British English

Here you will find words which have different meanings or are spelled differently in British and Australian English.

This list is not complete. Some words might be rarely used, some are old, others are used only in specific areas.

If you know words which can be added to this list (or should be dropped), send them in an [e-mail](#).

Australian English	British English
A	
a good lurk	a way of getting something for nothing
ace	excellent
aggro	aggressive
Alf	stupid person
amber (fluid)	beer
arvo	afternoon
Aussie, Strine	Australian
B	
back of beyond	far away in the outback
back of bourke	Middle of nowhere
bathers	swimming costume
beef road	road for trucking cattle by road trains
Belt up.	Shut up.
berko	angry
Bickie	biscuit
billabong	waterhole
Billie	tea kettle
bonkers	crazy
booze	alcohol
Bottle Shop	Liquor Shop
bushranger	criminal
C	
chalkie	teacher



English around the World

chokkie	chocolate
chook	chicken
Chrissie	Christmas
comfort station	toilet
counter meal	pub meal
cut lunch	sandwiches
D	
daks, strides	trousers
dead horse (old)	tomato sauce
deli	Milk bar (South Wales)
digger	soldier
dill	idiot
donk	engine (car or boat)
Duco	Car paint
dunny	lavatory (outdoor)
E	
earbush (old)	non-stop talk
F	
flake	shark meat
to fossick	to hunt for gemstones
G	
game	brave
to gander	to have a look
G'day mate.	Hi.
gibber (used in the west)	stony desert
to give it away	to give up
good oil	exact information
Good on ya!	Well done!
to grizzle	to whine
grog	alcohol
gum tree	Eucalyptus tree
gummy	a sheep which has lost all its teeth
H	
How are you going?	How are you?
J	
Jackaroo	trainee on a cattle farm
jocks	underpants (men)
jumbuck (mainly in songs)	sheep
K	



English around the World

kelpie	sheepdog
kiwi, enzedder	New Zealander
L	
lolly (in the country)	money
M	
mad as a cut snake	furious
middy, pot	beer glass (285 ml)
milko	milkman
mozzie	mosquito
N	
nana	banana
neddies	horses
never-never	remote desert country
num-nums (parent to kid talk)	tasty food
O	
oil	information
On ya!	Good on you!
P	
paddock	field
piffle	nonsense
pissed	drunk
plonk	cheap wine
pom	English person
postie	postman
prang	accident
R	
Reckon!	Absolutely!
ringer (in the country)	fast sheep shearer
Roo	kangaroo
S	
send 'er down Hughie	I hope it's going to rain.
she	it
she's apples	it's fine
Shove off.	Go away.
snag	sausage
station	farm
T	
tea	evening meal
tucker	food



English around the World

V	
vegemite	vegetable extract (used for sandwiches)
vegies	vegetables
W	
wharfie	dockworker
woolgrower	sheepfarmer
Y	
Yank	American
you've got Buckley's	you haven't got a chance/hope in hell

British English - Australian English

Here you will find words which have different meanings or are spelled differently in British and Australian English.

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British English	Australian English
A	
a good job	a good lurk
Absolutely!	Reckon!
accident	prang
afternoon	arvo
aggressive	aggro
alcohol	grog
alcohol	booze
American	Yank
angry	berko
Australian	Aussie, Strine
B	
banana	nana
beer	amber (fluid)
beer glass (285 ml)	middy, pot
biscuit	Bickie



English around the World

C	
Car paint	Duco
cheap wine	plonk
chicken	chook
chocolate	chokkie
Christmas	Chrissie
criminal	bushranger
D	
dockworker	wharfie
drunk	pissed
E	
engine (car or boat)	donk
English person	pom
Eucalyptus tree	gum tree
evening meal	tea
exact information	good oil
excellent	ace
F	
far away in the outback	back of beyond
farm	station
fast sheep shearer	ringer (in the country)
field	paddock
food	tucker
G	
game	brave
Go away.	Shove off.
H	
Have you eaten yet?	Did you eat yet?
Hi.	G'day mate.
horses	neddies
How are you?	How are you going?
I	
idiot	dill, drongo
information	oil
it	she
it's fine	she's apples
K	
kangaroo	Roo
L	



English around the World

lavatory	Loo
lavatory (outdoor)	dunny
Liquor Shop	Bottle Shop
M	
Middle of nowhere	back of bourke
Milk bar (South Wales)	deli
milkman	milko
money	lolly (in the country)
mosquito	mozzie
N	
New Zealander	kiwi, enzedder
nonsense	piffle
non-stop talk	earbush (old)
P	
postman	postie
pub meal	counter meal
R	
remote desert country	never-never
road for trucking cattle by road trains	beef road
S	
sandwiches	cut lunch
sausage	snag
shark meat	flake
sheep	jumbuck (mainly in songs)
a sheep which has lost all its teeth	gummy
sheepdog	kelpie
sheepfarmer	woolgrower
Shut up.	Belt up.
soldier	digger
stony desert	gibber (used in the west)
stupid person	Alf
swiming costume	bathers
T	
tasty food	num-nums (parent to kid talk)
tea kettle	Billie
teacher	chalkie
to complain	to grizzle
to give up	to give it away
to have a look	to gander



English around the World

to hunt for gemstones	to fossick
toilet	comfort station
tomato sauce	dead horse (old)
trainee on a cattle farm	Jackaroo
trousers	daks, strides
U	
underpants (men)	jocks
undertaker	mortician
V	
vegetable extract (used for sandwiches)	vegemite
vegetables	vegies
W	
waterhole	billabong
Well done!	Good on ya!

Australian English - British English

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a good lurk	a way of getting something for nothing
ace	excellent
aggro	aggressive
Alf	stupid person
amber (fluid)	beer
arvo	afternoon
Aussie, Strine	Australian
B	
back of beyond	far away in the outback
back of bourke	Middle of nowhere



English around the World

bathers	swimming costume
beef road	road for trucking cattle by road trains
Belt up.	Shut up.
berko	angry
Bickie	biscuit
billabong	waterhole
Billie	tea kettle
bonkers	crazy
booze	alcohol
Bottle Shop	Liquor Shop
bushranger	criminal
C	
chalkie	teacher
chokkie	chocolate
chook	chicken
Chrissie	Christmas
comfort station	toilet
counter meal	pub meal
cut lunch	sandwiches
D	
daks, strides	trousers
dead horse (old)	tomato sauce
deli	Milk bar (South Wales)
digger	soldier
dill	idiot
donk	engine (car or boat)
Duco	Car paint
dunny	lavatory (outdoor)
E	
earbush (old)	non-stop talk
F	
flake	shark meat
to fossick	to hunt for gemstones
G	
game	brave
to gander	to have a look
G'day mate.	Hi.
gibber (used in the west)	stony desert
to give it away	to give up



English around the World

good oil	exact information
Good on ya!	Well done!
to grizzle	to whine
grog	alcohol
gum tree	Eucalyptus tree
gummy	a sheep which has lost all its teeth
H	
How are you going?	How are you?
J	
Jackaroo	trainee on a cattle farm
jocks	underpants (men)
jumbuck (mainly in songs)	sheep
K	
kelpie	sheepdog
kiwi, enzedder	New Zealander
L	
lolly (in the country)	money
M	
mad as a cut snake	furious
middy, pot	beer glass (285 ml)
milko	milkman
mozzie	mosquito
N	
nana	banana
neddies	horses
never-never	remote desert country
num-nuns (parent to kid talk)	tasty food
O	
oil	information
On ya!	Good on you!
P	
paddock	field
piffle	nonsense
pissed	drunk
plonk	cheap wine
pom	English person
postie	postman
prang	accident
R	



English around the World

Reckon!	Absolutely!
ringer (in the country)	fast sheep shearer
Roo	kangaroo
S	
send 'er down Hughie	I hope it's going to rain.
she	it
she's apples	it's fine
Shove off.	Go away.
snag	sausage
station	farm
T	
tea	evening meal
tucker	food
V	
vegemite	vegetable extract (used for sandwiches)
vegies	vegetables
W	
wharfie	dockworker
woolgrower	sheepfarmer
Y	
Yank	American
you've got Buckley's	you haven't got a chance/hope in hell

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a good job	a good lurk
Absolutely!	Reckon!



English around the World

accident	prang
afternoon	arvo
aggressive	aggro
alcohol	grog
alcohol	booze
American	Yank
angry	berko
Australian	Aussie, Strine
B	
banana	nana
beer	amber (fluid)
beer glass (285 ml)	middy, pot
biscuit	Bickie
C	
Car paint	Duco
cheap wine	plonk
chicken	chook
chocolate	chokkie
Christmas	Chrissie
criminal	bushranger
D	
dockworker	wharfie
drunk	pissed
E	
engine (car or boat)	donk
English person	pom
Eucalyptus tree	gum tree
evening meal	tea
exact information	good oil
excellent	ace
F	
far away in the outback	back of beyond
farm	station
fast sheep shearer	ringer (in the country)
field	paddock
food	tucker
G	
game	brave
Go away.	Shove off.



English around the World

H	
Have you eaten yet?	Did you eat yet?
Hi.	G'day mate.
horses	neddies
How are you?	How are you going?
I	
idiot	dill, drongo
information	oil
it	she
it's fine	she's apples
K	
kangaroo	Roo
L	
lavatory	Loo
lavatory (outdoor)	dunny
Liquor Shop	Bottle Shop
M	
Middle of nowhere	back of bourke
Milk bar (South Wales)	deli
milkman	milko
money	lolly (in the country)
mosquito	moszie
N	
New Zealander	kiwi, enzedder
nonsense	piffle
non-stop talk	earbush (old)
P	
postman	postie
pub meal	counter meal
R	
remote desert country	never-never
road for trucking cattle by road trains	beef road
S	
sandwiches	cut lunch
sausage	snag
shark meat	flake
sheep	jumbuck (mainly in songs)
a sheep which has lost all its teeth	gummy
sheepdog	kelpie



English around the World

sheepfarmer	woolgrower
Shut up.	Belt up.
soldier	digger
stony desert	gibber (used in the west)
stupid person	Alf
swiming costume	bathers
T	
tasty food	num-nums (parent to kid talk)
tea kettle	Billie
teacher	chalkie
to complain	to grizzle
to give up	to give it away
to have a look	to gander
to hunt for gemstones	to fossick
toilet	comfort station
tomato sauce	dead horse (old)
trainee on a cattle farm	Jackaroo
trousers	daks, strides
U	
underpants (men)	jocks
undertaker	mortician
V	
vegetable extract (used for sandwiches)	vegemite
vegetables	vegies
W	
waterhole	billabong
Well done!	Good on ya!