Hyphenation Exception Log

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This is the periodic update of the list of words that \TeX fails to hyphenate properly. The full list last appeared in TUGboat 16, no. 1, starting on page 12, with updates in TUGboat 22, no. 1/2, pages 31–32, 23, no. 3/4, pages 247–248, and 26, no. 1, pages 5-6.

In the list below, the first column gives results from \TeX's \texttt{\showhyphens{...}}; entries in the second column are suitable for inclusion in a \texttt{\hyphenation{...}} list.

In most instances, inflected forms are not shown for nouns and verbs; note that all forms must be specified in a \texttt{\hyphenation{...}} list if they occur in your document. The full list of exceptions, as a \TeX-readable file, appears at http://mirror.ctan.org/info/digests/tugboat/ushyphex.tex. (It's created by Werner Lemberg’s scripts, available in the subdirectory hyphenex.)

Like the full list, this update has been subdivided into two parts: English words, and names and non-English words (including transliterations from Cyrillic and other non-Latin scripts) that occur in English texts.

Thanks to all who have submitted entries to the list. Here is a short reminder of the relevant idiosyncracies of \TeX's hyphenation. Hyphens will not be inserted before the number of letters specified by \texttt{\lefthyphenmin}, nor after the number of letters specified by \texttt{\righthyphenmin}. For U.S. English, \texttt{\lefthyphenmin=2} and \texttt{\righthyphenmin=3}; thus no word shorter than five letters will be hyphenated.

(The for the details, see The \TeXbook, page 454.) This particular rule is violated in some of the words listed; however, if a word is hyphenated correctly by \TeX except for “missing” hyphens at the beginning or end, it has not been included here.

Some other permissible hyphens have been omitted for reasons of style or clarity. While this is at least partly a matter of personal taste, an author should think of the reader when deciding whether or not to permit just one more break-point in some obscure or confusing word. There really are times when a bit of rewriting is preferable.

One other warning: Some words can be more than one part of speech, depending on context, and have different hyphenations; for example, ‘analyses’ can be either a verb or a plural noun. If such a word appears in this list, hyphens are shown only for the portions of the word that would be hyphenated the same regardless of usage.

The reference used to check these hyphenations is Webster's Third New International Dictionary, Unabridged.

Hyphenation for languages other than English

Patterns now exist for many languages other than English, including languages using accented alphabets. CTAN holds an extensive collection of patterns; see http://mirror.ctan.org/language/hyphenation and its subdirectories.

The list — English words

\begin{verbatim}
acupunct-ture(ist)  acupunct-ture(-ist)
aneursm              an-eu-rysm
aneursy-mal           an-eu-rys-mal
com-putable,ility    com-put-ab(le,ility)
copy-rightable        copy-right-able
deal-lo-cate(s,d)     de-allo-cate(s,d)
deal-lo-ca-tion       de-allo-ca-tion
der-i-va-tion          der-i-va-tion
deriva-tional         der-i-va-tion-al
essence               es-sence
fig-urine             fig-u-rine
home-o-static         ho-meo-stat-ic
home-osta-sis         ho-meo-sta-sis
iso-ge-o-met-ric      iso-geo-met-ric
isother-mal            iso-ther-mal
makein-dex            make-in-dex
mnemonic              mne-mon-ic
monoph-thong          mono-oph-thong
monospace             mono-space
namespace             name-space
om-nipresent(ce)      om-ni-pres-ent(ce)
phe-nolph-thalein     phe-nol-phthalein
ph-tha-la-mic         phtha-lam-ic
ph-tha-late           phthal-ate
ph-thi-sis            phthi-sis
polyandry(ous)        poly-an-dry(ous)
poly-dactyl(l1c)      poly-dac-tyl(-lic)
polyg-yny(ous)        poly-gy-ny(ous)
polyp(s)               pol-yyp
poly-phonic           poly-phon-ic
presently             pres-ent-ly
re-al-lo-cate(s,d)    re-allo-cate(s,d)
re-ar-range(s,d)       re-arrange(s,d)
sergeant             ser-gant
ser-vo-me-chan-i-cal  ser-vo-mech-a-nism
ser-vomech-a-nism     ser-vo-mech-a-nism
tex-theight \text-theight
\textlength
\text-width
tribesman             tribes-man
\end{verbatim}

Names and non-English words used in English text

\begin{verbatim}
Malay-alam  Ma-la-ya-lam
Mon-treal   Mont-real
Pres-by-te-rian  Pres-by-terian
Vi-eth       Vieth
\end{verbatim}