

150 Commonly Misspelled Words

a lot	disastrous	library	quiet
absence	discipline	license	quit
accommodate	embarrass(ment)	maintenance	quite
achieve	equipment	mathematics	really
acquire	exceed	medieval	recommend
address	exercise	memento	reference
advice	exhilarate	millennium	referred
almost	existence	miniature	relevant
apparent	experience	miniscule	religious
arctic	fascinating	mischievous	repetition
argument	fiery	misspell	restaurant
atheist	fluorescent	mysterious	rhyme
athlete	foreign	necessary	rhythm
awful	forward	neighbor	scissors
becoming	friend	noticeable	secretary
beginning	gauge	nuclear	separate
believe	government	occasion(ally)	sergeant
business	grateful	occurrence	shining
calendar	guarantee	omission	similar
category	guidance	original	sincerely
ceiling	harass	pastime	speech
cemetery	height	perceive	successful
changeable	hierarchy	perseverance	supersede
chief	humorous	personal(ly)	surely
collectible	ignorance	personnel	surprise
column	immediate(ly)	piece	therefore
coming	independent	playwright	thorough
committed	indispensable	possess(ion)	through
conscience	inoculate	precede	truly
conscious	intelligence	prejudice	twelfth
consensus	jealous	presence	tyranny
coolly	jewelry	privilege	until
deceive	judgment	professor	using
definite(ly)	knowledge	promise	vacuum
desperate	leisure	pronunciation	weird
difference	liaison	proof	withhold
dilemma		publicly	writing
disappoint		questionnaire	

Commonly Confused Words

affect / effect – In most cases **affect** is a verb, while **effect** is a noun.

- The tsunami **affected** the city. The **effects** of the tsunami are damaged buildings and injured people.
- You must do the assigned work for a class to **affect** you. If you do the work, then the class will have an **effect** on you.

its / it's – **Its** is possessive, while **it's** is a contraction of **it is**.

- **It's** a dog. The dog has **its** bone.
- **It's** difficult to see the deer in the bushes, but **its** head is by a big tree.

lose / loose – **Lose** is a verb, while **loose** is almost always an adjective.

- Don't let your pets run **loose** in your backyard. You might **lose** them.
- Did you **lose** your belt? Yes, it was too **loose** and fell off.

their / they're / there – **Their** is possessive. **They're** is a contraction of **they are**. **There** can be a pronoun or an adverb.

- **There** are twelve people in the class. The class is held in **there**. Tomorrow is **their** last class, and **they're** taking an exam.
- **There** is a chance that **they're** going to the zoo in **their** car. Once they get **there** I think **they're** going to walk with **their** stroller.

then / than – **Then** indicates a time or order, while **than** is used to compare two or more things.

- She likes math better **than** English.
- The subject comes first in a sentence, **then** the verb, and **then** the object.
- He is first and **then** you are second, because he arrived earlier **than** you.

to / too / two – **To** is used to form an infinitive verb and as a preposition that usually indicates movement. **Too** is a synonym for **also**, **in addition**, **extremely**, and **very**. **Two** is a number.

- She is going **to** the store. She needs **to** buy **two** gallons of milk, and she would like cereal **too**.
- I have **two** pet fish. I want **to** own more, but my fish tank is **too** small.

your / you're – **Your** is possessive, while **you're** is a contraction of **you are**.

- **Your** brother can be mean, but **you're** very nice.
- **You're** a good student when you finish **your** work.