

THE ASK-LIST OF WORDS

These words have three standards of pronunciation:

æ In Good Speech in classic texts

æ In General American

ɑ: In British RP

abaft	blasted	chaff, -s	classmate
advance, -s	blasting	chaff-cutter, -s	classmen
advanced	blast-furnace, -s	chaffed	classroom, -s
advancement, -s	blastment, -s	chaffer, -s (n)	classwoman
advancing	blast-pipe	[chaffer (v) æ]	classwomen
advantage, -s	branch, -es	chaffiness	classy
advantaged	Branch	chaffing, -ly	command, -s
aft	branched	chaffless	commanded
after	branching	chaffy	commander, -s
"after-" prefixes	branchless	chance, -s	commanding, -ly
aftermath, -s	brass, -es	chanced	commandment, -s
afternoon	brass-band, -s	chancel, -s	commando, -s
afterward, -s	brass-founder	chancelle-ries	counterblast, -s
aghast	brass-hat, -s	chancelle-ry	countermand, -s
alabaster	brassie, -s (golf)	chancellor, -s	countermanded
Alabaster	brassier (more brassy)	Chancellor	countermanding
alas (æ in RP)	brassiest	chancellorship, -s	craft, -s
answer, -s	brassy	chancer	craftier
answe-rable	broadcast, -s	chance-ries	craftiest
answe-rably	calf	chance-ry	craftily
answered	calf's-foot	Chance-ry	craftiness
answe-rer, -s	calf-skin	chancier	craftsman, -men
answe-ring	calve, -s	chanciest	"-craft" suffixes
ask, -s	calved	chancing	daft
[ask newt æ]	calves'-foot	chancy	dafter
asked	calve-skin, -s	chandler, -s	daftest
asking	calving	Chandler	daftly
aunt, -s	can't	chant, -s	daftness
auntie, -s	cask, -s	chanted	dance, -s
autograph, -s	casked	chanter, -s	Dance
avalanche, -s	casket, -s	chantey	danced
avast	casking	chanties	dancer, -s
bask, -s	cast, -s	chanting	Dancer
basked	castaway, -s	Chantrey	dancing
basket, -s	caste, -s	chantries	deathmask, -s
basketball, -s	caster	chantry	demand, -s
basketful, -s	Castelnau	Chantry	demanding
basketry	casting, -s	chanty	demanding
basket-work	casting-net, -s	clasp, -s	disadvantage, -d, -s
bath, -s	casting-vote, -s	clasped	disaster, -s
bath-brick, -s	cast-iron	clasping	disastrous, -ly
bath-chair, -s	castle, -s	clasp-knife, -ves	disastrousness
bathroom, -s	Castlebar	class, -es	distaff, -s
behalf	Castleregia (gh)	classed	downcast
branch, -es	Castleton	classier	downdraught, -s
Blanche	castoff, -s	classiest	draft, -s
blanched	castor, -s; Castor	classiness	drafted
blanching	castor-oil	classing	drafter, -s
blast, -s	cenotaph, -s	classman	drafting

THE ASK-LIST OF WORDS, Cont.

draftsman, -men	flabbergasting	grasper, -s	laugher, -s
draught, -s	Flanders	grasping, -ly	laughing, -ly
"draught-" prefixes	flask, -s	grass, -es	laughing-gas
draughtier	flasket, -s	grass-cutter, -s	laughing-stock =
draughtiest	forecast, -ed, -ing, -s	grassed	laughter
draughtily	forecaster, -s	grass-green	mask, -s
draughtiness	France	grasshopper, -s	masked
draughty	Frances	grassier	masking
draughtsman, -men	Francies	grassiest	masque, -s
encephalograph, -s	Francis	grassing	mast, -s
enchant, -s	freelance, -s, -d	grass-land	master, -s
enchanted	gaped, -s	grass-widow, -s	"master-" prefixes
enchanter, -s	gaped	grass-widower, -s	"-master" suffixes
enchancing	gaspig	grassy	mastered
enchantment	ghastlier	half	masterful, -ly
enchantress, -es	ghastliest	"half-" prefixes	masterfulness
enclasp, -s	ghastliness	halve, -s	maste-ring
enclasped	ghastly	halved	masterpiece, -s
enclasping	gi-raffe, -s	halves	maste-ry
engraft, -s	glance, -s	halving	mast-head, -s
engrafted	glanced	handicraft, -s	mastiff, -s (æ in RP)
engrafting	glancing, -ly	hasp, -s	mischance, -s
engraftment	glass, -es	hasped	mooncalf
enhance, -s	glass-blower, -s	hasping	mooncalves
enhanced	glass-blowing	headmaster, -s	nastier
enhancement, -s	glass-cutter, -s	he-reafter	nastiest
enhancing	glassful, -s	impassable, -bly	nastily
ensample, -s	glass-house, -s	implant, -s, -ed	nastiness
entrance, -s (v)	glassier	indraught, -s	nasty
entranced, -ly	glassiest	lance, -s	outcast, -s
epigraph, -s	glassily	Lance	outcaste, -s
epitaph, -s	glassiness	lanced	outcasted
everlasting, -ly	glass-paper, -s	lance-corpo-ral, -s	outcasting
everlastingness	glassware	lancer, -s	outclass, -es
example, -s	glass-work, -s	lancet, -s	outclassing
exampleed	glasswort	Lancet	outlast, -s
examplig	glassy	lancing	outlasted
Falstaff	graft, -s	Lancing	outlasting
fast, -s	"-graft" suffixes	last, -s	overcast
fasted	grafted	lasted	overglance, -d, -s
faster, -s	grafter, -s	lasting, -ly	overtask, -ed, -ing, -s
fastest	grafting	lastly	pa-ragraph, -s
fasting	grant	lath, -s, -y	pa-ragraphed
fastness	Grant	lather, -s	pa-ragraphing
fast-day, -s	granted	lathered	pass, -es
fasten, -s	grantee, -s	lathe-ring	passed
fastened	granting	lathwork	passable, -ness
fastener, -s	grantor, -s	lathy	passably
fastening	graph, -s	laugh, -s	pass-book, -s
fastness, -es	"-graph" suffixes	laughable	passer, -s
"-fast" suffixes	Grasmere	laughableness	[passer sparrow æ]
flabbergast, -s	grasp, -s	laughably	passer-by
flabbergasted	grasped	laughed	passers-by

THE ASK-LIST OF WORDS, Cont.

passing	<u>pr</u> ancing	sampler, -s	tasked
pass-key, -s	quaff, -s*	sampling	tasking
passman, -men	quaffed *	schoolmaster, -s	taskmaster, -s
Passover, -s	quaffer, -s *	shaft, -s	task-mistress, -es
passport, -s	quaffing *	Shaftesbu-ry	telecast, -s
pass-word, -s	<u>ra</u> ft, -s	shan't	telegraph, -s
past	<u>ra</u> fted, -s	slander, -s	telegraphed
pastime, -s	<u>ra</u> fter, -s	slandered	telegraphing
past-master, -s	<u>ra</u> ftered	slande- <u>re</u> r	the-reafter
pastor, -s	<u>ra</u> fting	slande- <u>ri</u> ng	topmast ²
pasto- <u>ra</u> l, -s	<u>ra</u> scal, -s	slande- <u>rou</u> s, -ly	trance, -s
pasto- <u>ra</u> lism	<u>ra</u> scalities	slande- <u>rou</u> sness	<u>tra</u> nspl ² ant, -s
pasto- <u>ra</u> te, -s	<u>ra</u> scality	slant, -s	transplantable
pastu- <u>ra</u> ge	<u>ra</u> scally	slanted	transplanted
pasture, -s	<u>ra</u> sp, -s	slanted	transplanting
pastured	<u>ra</u> sped	slanting, -ly	trespass, -es ²
pastu- <u>ri</u> ng	<u>ra</u> sping	slantwise	trespassed
path, -s	<u>ra</u> s be-rr ies	staff, -s	trespasser, -s
pathfinder, -s	<u>ra</u> s be-rr y	staffed	trespassing
Pathfinder	<u>ra</u> spiness	staffing	unstanch
pathless	<u>ra</u> s py	stagecraft	unsurpassed
pathway, -s	<u>ra</u> ther	stanch, -es	upcast, -s
perchance	<u>re</u> cast, -s	stanching	vantage, -s
planch, -es	<u>re</u> casting	stanchion, -s	vast
planchette, -s	<u>re</u> pass, -es	statecraft	vaster
plant, -s	<u>re</u> passed	steadfast, -ly	vastest
planted	<u>re</u> passing	steadfastness	vastly
planter, -s	<u>re</u> past, -s	stedfast	vastness
planting	<u>re</u> pasture	supplant, -s	vasty
plaster, -s	<u>re</u> primand, -s	supplanted	waft, -s
plastered	<u>re</u> primanded	supplanter, -s	waftage
plaste- <u>re</u> r, -s	<u>re</u> primanding	supplanting	wafted
plaste- <u>ri</u> ng	salve, -s ** (anoint)	surpass, -ed, -es	wafting
<u>pr</u> ance, -s	salved **	surpassing, -ly	witchcraft
Prance	salving **	taft, -ed, -s	<u>wra</u> th (\mathcal{D} or \mathcal{J} * in RP)
<u>pr</u> anced	sample, -s	tafting	<u>wra</u> thful, -ly
<u>pr</u> ancer, -s	sampled	task, -s	

* In North American speech and in British RP, "quaff" and its derivatives usually are pronounced *'k,wɔɹf* but often in verse must rhyme with an Ask-Word, in which case they, too, become Ask-Words.

** In British RP, "salve" (anoint; soothe) and its derivatives are pronounced: *'sæl:v*

For proper names and places not listed above, it is best to check local pronunciation and the dictionaries if you suspect it may be an Ask-Word.

In British RP the words on the Ask-List are pronounced with *ɑ:* as in "father." In addition to these words, there are a few words pronounced with *ʌ:* by many British RP speakers, while *æ* as in "Pat" is used by other RP speakers as well as virtually all North Americans. With such words, most characters in North American plays will use *æ*; for characters in British plays it is advisable to investigate factors such as regional, class and educational backgrounds, to determine which vowel sound should be used. Some of these words are:

Alexander bastard bastardized bastardy contrast contrasting exaspe-rate exaspe-ring
haft ranch rancher "trans-" prefixes moustache masque-rade