

## 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
alabāſter	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-riſg	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	demande
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	Castlereagh (gh)	classed	downcast
blanch, -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	gasping	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
exampleled	glasswort	Lancet	outlast, -s
examplimg	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	prancing	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	raft, -s	shan't	telegraph, -s
past	rafted, -s	slander, -s	telegraphed
pastime, -s	rafter, -s	slandered	telegraphing
past-master, -s	raftered	slande-rer	the-reafter
pastor, -s	rafting	slande-ring	topmast <sup>2</sup>
pasto-ral, -s	rascal, -s	slande-rous, -ly	trance, -s
pasto-ralism	rascalities	slande-rousness	transplānt, -s
pasto-rate, -s	rascality	slant, -s	transplantable
pastu-rage	rascally	slanted	transplanted
pasture, -s	rasp, -s	slanting, -ly	transplanting
pastured	rasped	slantwise	trespass, -es <sup>2</sup>
pastu-ring	rasping	staff, -s	trespassed
path, -s	raspbe-rries	staffed	trespasser, -s
pathfinder, -s	raspbe-rry	staffing	trespassing
Pathfinder	raspiness	stagecraft	unstanch
pathless	raspy	stanch, -es	unsurpassed
pathway, -s	rather	stanchd	upcast, -s
perchance	recast, -s	stanching	vantage, -s
planch, -es	recasting	stanchion, -s	vast
planchette, -s	repass, -es	statecraft	vaster
plant, -s	repassed	steadfast, -ly	vastest
planted	repassing	steadfastness	vastly
planter, -s	repast, -s	stedfast	vastness
planting	repasture	supplant, -s	vasty
plaster, -s	reprimand, -s	supplanted	waft, -s
plastered	reprimanded	supplanter, -s	waftage
plaste-rer, -s	reprimanding	supplanting	wafted
plaste-ring	salve, -s ** (anoint)	surpass, -ed, -es	wafting
prance, -s	salved **	surpassing, -ly	witchcraft
Prance	salving **	taft, -ed, -s	wrath ( ʁ or ɔ* in RP)
pranced	sample, -s	tafting	wrathful, -ly
prancer, -s	sampled	task, -s	

\* In North American speech and in British RP, "quaff" and its derivatives usually are pronounced *'kwaɪf* 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-rating  
haft ranch rancher "trans-" prefixes moustache masque-rade