## THE ASK-LIST OF WORDS

These words have three standards of pronunciation:

a In Good Speech in classic texts

æ In General American

a: In British RP

abaft advance, -s advanced advancement, -s advancing advantage, -s advantaged aft after gafter-g prefixes aftermath, -s afternoon afterward, -s aghast alabäster Alabaster alas ( æ in RP) answer, -s answe-rable answe-rably answered answe-rer, -s answe-ring ask, -s [ask newt æ] asked asking aunt, -s auntie, -s autograph, -s avalanche, -s avast bask, -s basked basket, -s basketball,-s basketful, -s basketry basket-work bath, -s bath-brick, -s bath-chair, -s bathroom, -s behalf blanch, -es

Blanche

blanched

blanching

blast, -s

blasted blasting blast-furnace, -s blastment, -s blast-pipe branch, -es Branch branched branching. branchless brass, -es brass-band, -s brass-founder brass-hat, -s brassie, -s (golf) brassier (more brassy) brassiest brassy broadcast, -s calf calf's-foot calf-skin calve, -s calved calves'-foot calve-skin, -s calving can't cask, -s casked casket, -s casking cast, -s castaway, -s caste, -s caster Castelnau casting, -s casting-net, -s casting-vote, -s cast-iron castle, -s Castlebar Castlerea (gh) Castleton castoff, -s castor, -s: Castor castor-oil cenotaph, -s

chaff, -s chaff-cutter, -s chaffed chaffer, -s (n) [chaffer (v) æ] chaffiness chaffing, -ly chaffless chaffy chance. -s chanced chancel, -s chancelle-ries chancelle-rv chancellor, -s Chancellor chancellorship, -s chancer chance-ries chance-ry Chance-ry chancier chanciest chancing chancy chandler, -s Chandler chant, -s chanted chanter, -s chantey chanties chanting Chantrey chantries chantry Chantry chanty clasp, -s clasped clasping clasp-knife, -ves class, -es classed classier classiest classiness classing classman

classmate classmen classroom, -s classwoman classwomen classy command, -s commanded commander, -s commanding, -ly commandment, -s commando, -s counterblast, -s countermand. -s countermanded countermanding craft, -s craftier craftiest craftily **craftiness** craftsman, -men "-craft" suffixes daft dafter daftest daftly daftness dance, -s Dance danced dancer, -s Dancer dancing deathmask, -s demand. -s demanded demanding disadvantage, -d, -s disaster. -s disastrous, -ly disastrousness distaff. -s downcast downdraught, -s draft, -s drafted drafter, -s drafting

## THE ASK-LIST OF WORDS, Cont.

draftsman, -men draught, -s "draught-" prefixes draughtier draughtiest draughtily draughtiness draughty draughtsman, -men encephalograph, -s enchant, -s enchanted enchanter. -s enchanting enchantment enchantress, -es enclasp, -s enclasped enclasping engraft, -s engrafted engrafting engraftment enhance, -s enhanced enhancement, -s enhancing ensample, -s entrance, -s (v) entranced, -ly epigraph, -s epitaph, -s everlasting, -ly everlastingness example, -s exampled exampling Falstaff fast, -s fasted faster, -s fastest fasting fastness fast-day, -s fasten, -s fastened fastener, -s fastening fastness, -es "-fast" suffixes flåbbergåst, -s flabbergasted

flabbergasting Flanders flask, -s flasket, -s forecast, -ed, -ing, -s forecaster, -s France Frances Francies Francis freelance, -s, -d gasped, -s gasped gasping ghastlier ghastliest ghastliness ghastly gi-raffe, -s glance, -s glanced glancing, -ly glass, -es glass-blower, -s glass-blowing glass-cutter, -s glassful, -s glass-house, -s glassier glassiest glassily glassiness glass-paper, -s glassware glass-work, -s glasswort glassy graft, -s "-graft" suffixes grafted grafter, -s grafting grant Grant granted grantee, -s granting grantor, -s graph, -s '-graph" suffixes G<u>r</u>asmere grasp, -s

grasper, -s grasping, -ly grass, -es grass-cutter, -s grassed grass-green grasshopper, -s grassier grassiest grassing grass-land grass-widow, -s grass-widower. -s grassy half "half-" prefixes halve, -s halved halves halving handic<u>r</u>aft, -s hasp, -s hasped hasping headmaster. -s he-reafter impassable, -bly implant, -s, -ed indraught, -s lance, -s Lance lanced lance-corpo-ral, -s lancer, -s lancet, -s Lancet lancing Lancing last. -s lasted lasting, -ly lastly lath, -s, -y lather, -s lathered lathe-ring lathwork lathy laugh, -s laughable laughableness laughably laughed

laugher, -s laughing, -Iv laughing-gas laughing-stock -= laughter mask, -s masked masking masque, -s mast, -s master, -s "master-" prefixes "-master" suffixes mastered masterful, -ly masterfulness maste-ring masterpiece, -s maste-ry mast-head, -s mastiff, -s (æ in RP mischance, -s mooncalf mooncalves nastier nastiest nastily nastiness nasty outcast, -s outcaste, -s outcasted outcasting outclass, -es outclassing outlast, -s outlasted outlasting overcast overglance, -d, -s overtask, -ed, -ing, -s pa-ragraph, -s pa-ragraphed pa-ragraphing pass,-es passed passable, -ness passably pass-book, -s passer, -s [passer sparrow æ] passer-by passers-by

grasped

## THE ASK-LIST OF WORDS, Cont.

passing pass-key, -s quaff, -s* sampling tasking passman, -men quaffed * schoolmaster, -s task-mistress, -es passport, -s quaffing * Shaftesbu-ry telecast, -s passport, -s quaffing * Shaftesbu-ry telecast, -s pass-word, -s raft, -s shan't telegraph, -s telegraphed telegraphing telegraphed telegraphing sampler, -s shan't telegraphing telegraphed telegraphing sational telegraphing stande-rer the-reafter pastor, -s rafting stande-rous, -ly trance, -s rascal, -s stande-rous, -ly trance, -s pasto-rale, -s rascality stanted transplanted transplanted transplanted transplanted transplanted transplanted transplanted transplanting rasped startifing startifing trespass, -es 2 trespassed trespassing		nos, conc.		
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prace-ring salve, -s ** (anoint) surpass, -ed, -es wafting prance, -s salved ** surpassing, -ly witchcraft Prance salving ** taft, -ed, -s wrath ("") or "") in RP) pranced sample, -s tafting wrathful, -ly prancer, -s sampled tasks		<u>reprimanding</u>		wafted
Prance salved ** surpassing, -ly witchcraft  Prance salving ** taft, -ed, -s wrath ( 20 or 0 in RP)  pranced sample, -s tafting wrathful, -ly  prancer, -s sampled tasks		salve, -s ** (anoint)		
pranced salving ** taft, -ed, -s wrath ( $\mathcal{D}$ or $\mathcal{D}$ in RP) pranced sample, -s tafting wrathful, -ly prancer, -s sampled tasks		salved **		witchcraft
pranced sample, -s tafting wrathful, -ly prancer, -s sampled tasks		salving **	taft, -ed, -s	
prancer, -s sampled task, -s — ,		sample, -s	tafting	wrathfullv
	prancer, -s	sampled	task, -s	

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

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  $\alpha$ : as in "father." In addition to these words, there are a few words pronounced with  $\alpha$ : by many British RP speakers, while  $\alpha$  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  $\alpha$ ; 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