## Homophones

Definition: homophone n. One of two or more words that have the same sound, but differ in spelling and meaning.

Those troublesome little homophones. My how often they seem to confuse us! When we choose the wrong word in writing it will confuse or destroy the sense of our intended meaning, perhaps even leaving our readers wondering what we meant, or where we went to school. The most commonly misused seem to be: their, there, and they're, with to, two, and too running a close second, and your, you're, right in there for top honors. Unfortunately, spell checkers don't pick up on these as they are not misspelled, but misused. Here is more:

accede, exceed	blew, blue	cell, sell	die, dye	in, inn
acclamation,	bloc, block	censer, censor,	dine, dyne	ha, haw, hah
acclimation	blond, blonde	sensor	discreet, discrete	hail, hale
accrue, ecru	body, bawdy	chard, charred	done, dun	have, halve
ad, add	bogey, bogie	cheep, cheap	dough, doe, do	hay, hey
addition, edition	boll, bowl, bole	chic, sheik	droop, drupe	hair, hare
aid, aide	bored, board	chock, chalk	dust, dost	haul, hall
air, err, heir, ere	bore, boar	choose, chews	dual, duel	heart, hart
ant, aunt	born, borne,	choral, coral	equestrian,	heel, heal
appose, oppose	bourn	chord, cord	equestrienne	here, hear
ascent, assent	bot, bought, bott	chute, shoot	eye, aye, I	herd, heard
ate, eight	bow, beau	clack, claque	fail, faille	heroin, heroine
auger, augur	bowl, bole, boll	clause, claws	faint, feint	hew, hue
awe, ah, aw	brae, bray	click, clique	fakir, faker	high, hie, hi,
awl, all	brake, break	clime, climb	fare, fair	heigh
awn, on	braze, braise	close, clothes	fate, fete	hoar, whore, hor
ball, bawl	breech, breach	clue, clew	fawn, faun	hoarse, horse
bang, bhang	bruit, brute	coal, cole, kohl	faze, phase	hock, hawk
bard, barred	brunet, brunette	coat, cote	feet, feat	hoe, ho
baron, barren	bread, bred	coarse, course	fey, fay	hole, whole
base, bass	bur, burr	cock, caulk, calk	fiancee, fiancé	hoop, whoop
bask, Basque	bus, buss	coco, cocoa	fir, fur	horde, hoard
bat, batt	but, butt	coin, quoin	flee, flea	hour, our
bate, bait	bye, buy, by	come, cum	floe, flow	I'll, isle, aisle
bay, bey	calendar,	con, khan	flue, flew	in, inn
bail, bale	calender	coo, coup	forth, fourth	its, it's
baud, bawd	callus, callous	coop, coupe	foul, fowl	jam, jamb
bawdy, body	came, kame	cor, core, kor	four, fore, for	jest, gest, geste
be, bee	canon, cannon	cot, caught, khat,	fort, forte	jive, gyve
beach, beech	cant, can't	kat	freeze, frieze	karat, carrot,
bear, bare	canvas, canvass	creak, creek	friar, fryer, frier	caret, carat
beau, bow	carat, carrot,	crummy, crumby	gaff, gaffe	kernel, colonel
been, bin	karat	currant, current	gait, gate	key, quay
beet, beat	carpal, carpel	dam, damn	gaud, god	knight, night
bin, been	cart, kart	dawn, don	gel, jell	knit, nit
bit, bitt	cash, cache	day, dey	gene, jean	lac, lack
bite, bight	cast, caste	days, daze	gib, jib	lade, laid
bell, belle	caster, castor	deer, dear	got, ghat	lain, lane
berth, birth	cede, seed	dew, do, due	grate, great	lam, lamb

lama, llama lay, lei lead, lied lean, lien led, lead leek, leak leech, leach liar, lyre lie, lye lief, leaf limb, limn links, lynx lo, low lock, loch locks, lox lode, load lone, loan loot, lute lumber, lumbar lune, loon mach, mock madam, madame made, maid mail, male maize, maze mall, maul, moll mane, main mask, masque mean, mien medal, meddle meet, meat, mete metal, mettle marry, merry might, mite miner, minor mol, mole mode, mowed moral, morel moo, moue moose, mousse mordent, mordant more, moor morn, mourn morning, mourning mote, moat mow, mot mown, moan

mucous, mucus muscle, mussel naval, navel nay, nee, neigh need, knead, kneed new, knew, gnu nice, gneiss no, know nose, knows not, knot, naught, nought nun, none, one, won, or, ore, oar oriole, aureole O, oh, owe pain, pane pail, pale palate, palette, pallet par, parr paw, pa pause, paws, pa's pea, pee peak, peek, pique pear, pare, pair pearl, purl peal, peel pew, phew picks, pyx pie, pi pier, peer pique, piquet place, plaice plate, plait pole, poll pour, poor, pore premier, premiere prey, pray prize, pries prier, prior plaice, place plain, plane

plum, plumb

quean, queen

queue, cue

rabbit, rabbet rack, wrack rah, raw rain, reign, rein raise, raze, rays real, reel red, read reed, read reek, wreak rest, wrest retch, wretch rhyme, rime roc, rock roe, row rode, road roll, role rood, rude room, rheum root, route, rout rough, ruff rung, wrung sac, sack sal, sol sale, sail sane, seine scald, skald sea, see, si sear, cere, seer seek, sikh seem, seam seen, scene sense, cents sent, cent, scent serf, surf sheer, shear shire, shier shofar, chauffeur shoo, shoe shore, sure sic, sick sine, sign site, sight, cite slay, sleigh slew, slough, slue sloe, slow so, sew, sow sole, soul some, sum

son, sun sore, soar sorry, sori sot, sought spits, spitz staff, staph steak, stake steal, steel stile, style stock, stalk stoop, stoup strait, straight Sunday, sundae surf, serf surge, serge swath, swathe sweet, suite sync, sink tail, tale, tael taw, tau tea, tee team, teem tear, tier tear, tare tern, turn there, their, they're threw, through throe, throw tic, tick time, thyme tit, teat toad, toed, towed to, too, two toe, tow toll, tole tolled, told ton, tun top, taup tort, torte tot, taught, taut tour, tore, tor toxin, tocsin tray, trey turnup, turnip urn, earn, erne, ern vale, veil

vane, vain, vein vary, very vice, vise vile, vial wain, wane wait, weight wale, whale, wail walk, wok waste, waist wave, waive way, weigh, whey weave, we've we, wee week, weak weal, wheel, we'll wen, when wether, weather, whether wheel, wheal where, ware, wear whet, wet while, wile whir, were whirl, whorl whit, wit whose, who's win, whin wine, whine wise, whys wiz, whiz witch, which with, withe woe, whoa won't, wont wood, would worst, wurst wrap, rap wright, rite, right, write wrought, rot wrote, rote wry, rye yoke, yolk you, ewe, yew your, you're, yore Copyright©2003 James A. Lofthouse