

## COMMONLY MISPELLED WORDS

The following words are frequently misspelled in police reports. The words are listed alphabetically across the page.

### A

abandon	abdomen	abductor	abet	abortion	absence
absolutely	accelerate	acceptance	access	accessory	accidental
accommodate	accomplice	accosted	accused	acetylene	acknowledge
acquit	acquittal	adjourn	admissible	adolescent	adversary
affidavit	aggravate	aisle	alcohol	alias	alibi
Alzheimer's	amalgamation	ambulance	amended	ammunition	among
amphetamine	analyse	annual	anonymous	antiseptic	aorta
apparatus	apparent	appearance	appellant	apprehended	appropriate
arraignment	arrangement	arrear	arson	artefact	asphyxiate
assailant	assassin	assessment	assistant	asthma	attachment
attest	attorney	audible	autopsy	auxiliary	

### B

bail	bailiff	balaclava	ballistics	barbiturate	barrel
barricade	barrister	battalion	bayonet	bazaar	beginning
belligerent	beneficiary	bias	bludgeon	bona fide	boulevard
brilliant	bruise	bulletin	burglarise	business	bystander

### C

cadaver	caffeine	calendar	calibre	campaign	cancel
canine	cannabis sativa	capable	cardiac	cartridge	cassette
casualties	category	Caucasian	cancel	changeable	chattel
circumstantial	citation	civilian	cocaine	coerce	cognisance
coincidence	collateral	colleague	collusion	comatose	commission
commitment	committee	compel	competent	complainant	complicity
conceive	concurrent	condemn	confidential	confiscate	conjugal
consciousness	consensus	conspicuous	conspirator	constitutional	contagious
contempt	contraband	contraceptive	controversy	conviction	convulsion
coroner	corpse	correspondence	corroborate	counterfeit	courteous
credibility	cremate	culprit	custody	cylinder	

### D

data base	decapitated	deceased	decision	defendant	deferred
delegate	deliberate	delinquent	dependant	dependent	descend
description	detain	detention	deterrent	detonator	development
deviant	deviation	diabetes	diagonal	diarrhoea	dilemma
disagreeable	discrepancy	discriminate	dispatcher	disposition	divulge
domicile	dominant	drunkenness	duress	dynamite	dysfunction

### E

earnest	efficient	electrocution	elicit	eligible	eliminate
embezzle	eminent	enforceable	entirely	environment	epileptic
equestrian	equivalent	erratic	escalator	espionage	ethical
evangelist	evidence	exaggerate	excessive	excite	execution
exhausted	exhibit	extenuating	external	extradited	extremely

**F**

facility	fallacy	falsify	fatality	felon	fictitious
flexible	forceps	forcible	forehead	foreign	forensic
formula	fraudulent	fugitive			

**G**

gambling	gauge	genuine	geriatric	gonorrhoea	gouge
government	graffiti	grievance	grievous	grudge	guarantee
guerilla	gymnasium				

**H**

habitual	hallucinate	handcuff	harass	harbour	hazard
hazardous	heroin	homicidal	homicide	horizontal	hostile
hygiene	hypodermic	hysteria	hysterical	hallucinogen	

**I**

identical	ideology	illegitimate	illicit	illustrate	immediate
immigrant	imminent	impediment	impostor	inadmissible	incapable
incapacitate	incarcerate	incendiary	incessant	incite	incoherent
inconspicuous	incorrigible	incriminate	indecent	indictment	indispensable
inevitable	infanticide	informant	infringement	ingenious	initiate
injunction	inoculate	insolent	institute	insufficient	interpreter
interrogate	intoxicate	investigator	irrelevant	irresistible	itinerary

**J**

jamb	jealous	jeopardy	jewellery	judicial	jurisdiction
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**K**

khaki	kidnap	kidnapper	kleptomania	knife	knowledge
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**L**

laboratory	laceration	language	larceny	legislate	legitimate
lenient	liability	liaison	libellous	librarian	licentious
lien	litigant	lucid			

**M**

magazine	magistrate	maintain	malice	malign	management
mandatory	manila	manipulate	manoeuvre	marijuana	massacre
measurements	median	mediation	memorandum	menace	methadone
mileage	militia	minor	miscarriage	miscellaneous	misdemeanour
misspelled	mitigating	moccasin	monotonous	moratorium	morgue
mortal	mortgage	mortuary	mucous	municipal	mutilate
muzzle					

**N**

narcotics	necessary	negative	negligence	negotiate	neighbour
neutral	nominal	notary	notorious	nuclear	nuisance
nullify					

**O**

obedient	obligation	obscenity	occasion	occult	occupant
occurrence	official	omission	opponent	ordinance	orient
orthodox					

**P**

parachute	paraffin	parallel	paramedic	paraphernalia	pavilion
pedestrian	penitentiary	permissible	persistent	personal	personnel
pertinent	phallic	physician	plaintiff	playwright	polygraph
positive	possession	potential	precede	preliminary	premises
prescription	priority	probable	procedure	proceed	prohibition
projectile	prominent	propeller	prophylactic	prosecute	prosecutor
prostitute	prostitution	protester	psilocybin	psychiatrist	psychopathic
punitive	pursue	pyromaniac			

**Q**

quadrant	quadriplegic	quarantine	quarrel	query	questionnaire
quinine	quotation				

**R**

rabies	racketeer	reasonable	receipt	receding	recidivist
recognisance	recommend	reconcile	reconnaissance	reformatory	refute
reinforcement	relevant	religious	relinquish	remission	rendezvous
repeal	representative	reprieve	rescue	resident	residue
respiration	restaurant	resuscitate	ricochet	ritual	routine

**S**

sabotage	sacrifice	salvage	scenario	schedule	scheme
schizophrenic	seize	seniority	sentence	separation	sequence
sequester	sergeant	serial	severance	sexual	sheriff
siege	silhouette	simultaneous	skeleton	sociopath	solicit
solicitor	soluble	specimen	spectator	spontaneous	strenuous
subpoena	suffocate	suicide	suppress	surrogate	surveillance
susceptible	suspect	suspension	suspicious	symmetrical	symptom
synagogue	syphilis	syringe			

**T**

tactical	tariff	tattoo	taut	technique	temperament
tendency	terrorism	testify	testimony	thief	toboggan
torture	tournament	trajectory	tranquillizer	trauma	trespass
truancy	truly				

**U**

ultimatum	umbrella	unanimous	uncooperative	unlawful	unmistakable
urate	useful	utility	utilize		

**V**

vacuum	vagrancy	validate	vandal	variance	vehicle
vein	velocity	venereal	vengeance	verdict	verify
version	veterinarian	vicious	vigilante	violation	violence
vicinity	viscous	visible	volatile	voluntary	voucher

**W**

waiver	warrant	weapon	wedge	wholesale	wiretap
withdrawal	witness	worship	wound		

**X**

X-ray	Xerox
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**Y**

yacht	yield	youth
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**Z**

zealot	zinc	zircon
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Source: Jakob, K. (1991). *A guide to police writing*. Ontario: Carswell.