

## REMOVING COMMON LETTERS FROM 2-WORD PHRASES

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The word which occurs most often as the result of removing the common letters in a 2-word phrase is IO, one of the moons of Jupiter:

CLIP CLOP, CRISS CROSS, DING DONG, FLIP FLOP, HIP HOP, PING PONG,  
SHIRE HORSE, SING SONG, TICK TOCK, TIP TOP, TWIN TOWN, WIND DOWN

The results, in **A - Z order**, of removing common letters in other 2-word phrases are:

fn = first name sn = surname

LAND LINE - **A**DIE (sn), TEA TIME - AIM, APPLE PIE -ALI, DEAD END - AN,  
TALE TELLER - AR (a place), TEA SET - AS

BREAK RANKS - **B**ENS, BOW WINDOW - BIND

CANNON BONE - **C**ABE (Scot. sn), CRAMP RING - CAMPING, CLOSE SEASON - CLAN,  
COAT TAILS - COILS, CON MAN - COMA

INDIAN INK - **D**AK (a place), DALAI LAMA - DIM, GOOD GOING - DIN,  
DIET SHEET - DISH, DOG LEG - DOLE, RED ROSE - DOS, PIED PIPER - DR

SIDE DISH - **E**H, SEA SAND - END, PETIT POINT - EON, OPEN PRISON - ERIS (a Greek god)

FREE RANGE - **F**ANG, FIRE EATER - FIAT, FINE GAEL - FINGAL

GOLDEN OLDIE - **G**NI (sn)

HAIR DRIERS - **H**ADES, THE EAST - HAS, HEMP PALM - HEAL,  
HELLO DOLLY - HEDY(fn), HAS IDEAS - HIDE, HOME MADE - HOAD (sn),  
HOUSE RULES - HORL (sn), HORSE SENSE - HORN

BIG BANG - **I**AN, MAIDEN NAME - ID, FAIL SAFE - ILSE (fn), AIR ARM - I'M,  
RACING CAR - ING (dial. 'meadow'), DEMI MONDE - ION, BIBLE BELT - IT

JED'S ODES - **J**O

ASK SEAN - **K**EN

LAST THING - **L**ASHING, LEAGUE GAME - LUM (a chimney)

MAIN LINE - MALE, MOVING OVER - MINGER, MEAT EATER - MR, MINUS SIGN - MUG

NEAR BEER - NAB, NAIL FILE - NAFE (sn), GREEN GRAPE - NAP, LINO TILE - NOTE,

COAL CELLAR - OER, TOILET SET - OILS, POT PLANT - OLAN (a curry),  
LONG LEG - ONE, DOE EYED - OY

POTATO ROT - PAR, PEAR TREE - PAT, PIED NOIR - PEDNOR (a place),  
CAPE CART - PERT, GRAPE SUGAR - PESU (sn), POKER WORK - PEW,  
PITH HAT - PIA (fn), PUT OUT - PO, PLAY ALONG - PYONG (fn)

QUIET TED - QUID

ROLL ALONG - RANG, TORE INTO - REIN, BROAD BASED - ROSE, CAR COAT - ROT

SEA EEL - SAL, STEP PARENT - SARN (a place), SEA CAT - SECT, SPARE PART - SET,  
SIDE WIND - SEWN, WASH AWAY - SHY, SINK UNIT - SKUT (sn),  
SNAIL LIKE - SNAKE RUSH HOUR - SO, SHELL HOLE - SO, STEEL PLATE - SPA,  
FIRST FRUIT - SU (a place), TEST TUBE - SUB

PUT UPON - TON, TOE PIECE - TOPIC, AGENT ORANGE - TOR,  
TOWN END - TOWED, CITRIC ACID - TRAD

GUN DOG - UNDU

ABOVE BOARD - VERD, LEAVE ALONE - VON

LOW LOADER - WADER, WEAK KNEED - WAND, WELL HOLE - WHO,  
WELL LINED - WIND

VI'S VIXENS - XEN (fn)

FLY FLAP - YAP

AMAZED MA - ZED

Rarely, the 3 words together make a phrase, as in BOOT BOY - TY and BIRD BRAIN - DAN !