

ALL-DIAGONAL SEVEN-SQUARES FROM THE OED

REX GOOCH

Letchworth Garden City, Herts, England

rexgooch@ntlworld.com

If I have found no 9-square with words for all its diagonals, and needed place names to produce all-diagonal 8-squares, then 7-squares can be produced solely from the OED. Omitting place names reduced the crucial elements from 4486 reversible words and 878 palindromes, to 584 reversible words and 661 palindromes. These sufficed to produce several thousand all-diagonal squares. A selection of these is presented below in three groups: in the first group, the squares each have about half-a-dozen OED headwords out of the 10 words; in the second group, every word is to be found in the OED somewhere; the third group consists of a single square in which some familiar words are to be found – readers may prefer this square to the others. In all groups, some squares were discarded. In the second group, some effort was made to include a variety of palindromes, and consequently a few place names from the Ordnance Survey were permitted. These may be the only all-diagonal seven-squares ever published: they are certainly the most accessible.

Following each square are the diagonals, as read from NE or SW, NW, and SE.

Note all five squares immediately below have the same diagonals:

D R A B B E S	drab 1, 1515q
R E T R U S T	
A T S I S T A	Pa (Latvian)
B R I S K E N	or BRISSEN
B U S K E L L	or BUSSELL
E S T E L L E	forename
S T A N L E Y	Stanley, OED headword
SSSSSSS	Pa, 1973 movie
DESSELY	
YLESSED	

Third square with ATSOSTA (Pa) and
BROSSEN

D R E D L E S	dreidel, 1934q
R E N U E N T	
E N S I E G E	
D U I S T R E	
L E E T E E L	Pa (Lee Teel)
E N G R E L E	
S T E E L E Y	US Census
SNESENS	Pa Danish, = of the score
DESSELY	
YLESSED	

D R A G M A S	drachma 1, 1614q
R E T R U S T	
A T S O S T A	Pa
G R O S S E N	
M U S S E L L	
A S T E L L E	shide, 1440q or ESTELLE
S T A N L E Y	
SSSSSSS	Pa, 1973 movie
DESSELY	
YLESSED	

Second square with DRAGMES (abate 3)

D I C K A S S	Dick-ass, see Dick
I R R I T E R	see haze
C R A N I C E	
K I N G N U T	king-nut, king
A T I N G L E	
S E C U L E R	secular
S R E T E R S	Pa, name
SEIGIES	Pa from telephone dir
DRAGGES	dragge
SEGGARD	

fam = family name. Pa is the Palindromicon.

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C R I S P U S	dock b: Rumex crispus
R A N T R E E	
I N L E E D E	inlead 1, 1382q
S T E D Y E R	operator 3a, 1597q
P R E Y E R E	see prayer
U E D E R E S	yepe 1, 1225q
S E E R E S S	
S E E D E E S	Yahudi, 1862q
C A L D E E S	plural of Caldee
S E E D L A C	seed-lac
S O U B A H S	plural of soubah
O E N O G E N	
U N D W E L Y	unduly 2, 1423q
B O W D L E D	
A G E L O N G	spider 10, 1954q Tolkien
H E L E N N E	heal 3, 1175q
S N Y D G E S	snodge, 1548q
S E E D E E S	Yahudi, 1862q
S E D D O N S	Seddon's, coaster 3b, 1907q, family name
S N O D D E S	snod, 1584q
S E A C O B S	sea-cob
E N L I V E N	
A L O N E L Y	
C I N D R E D	cinder, 1557q
O V E R D U E	
B E L E U E R	ask 16, 1544q
S N Y D E R S	either 4c, 1796q
S E E D E E S	Yahudi, 1862q
S N O D D E S	snod, 1584q
S E D D O N S	Seddon's, coaster 3b, 1907q, family name
S E A G O D S	sea-god
E N L E V E N	
A L O N E L Y	
G E N D R I D	arain, 1398q
O V E R D U E	
D E L I U E R	deliver I 1b, 1549q
S N Y D E R S	either 4c, 1796q
S E E D E E S	Yahudi, 1862q
S N O D D E S	snod, 1584q
S E D D O N S	Seddon's, coaster 3b, 1907q, family name

Six squares may be based on the above, using:
row 1: SEARODS (sea-rod)

row 4: GENDRYD (remiss 1b, 1412q),
RENDRID (render 9b, 1483q), RENDRIT
(render I 1, 1362q), RENDRYD (acceptation 1,
1483q), RENDRYT (render II 7, 1375q)
row 6: DELYUER (see deliver)
row 7: SNYTERS (sniter 1, 1382q)

S H A K E L S	shackle III 11, 1446q
H E R N S E U	see heronsew
A R N E M A N	vacant A 1 a, 1805q (family name)
K N E E E N D	knee-end, knee 13
E S M E U T E	
L E A N T E R	see lean-to
S U N D E R L	intermess, 1690q, abbrev. for Sunderland?
S E M E M E S	plural of sememe
S E N E U E L	senvy 1, 1265q
L E U E N E S	fire 7, 1250q
O P P I A N S	Oppian's, sea-hawk 1, 1722q
P I E D B O T	pied-bot, see butt
P E L Y O N E	see pillion
I D Y L L E R	
A B O L E T E	
N O N E T T O	see nonet
S T E R E O S	
S O O L O O S	cris, 1779q
O I L L E T S	plural of oillet
S T E L L I O	

Third Group: some popular words

S E B I L L A	
E T O N I A N	
B O R D A R E	see border
I N D A I G N	
L I A I S E S	
L A R G E S T	
A N E N S T E	anent 6, 1483q
A A A A A A A	Pa, shoe width
S T R A S S E	strass 2, 1926q (waxed straw)
E S S A R T S	plural of essart