Word Ways readers may recall that I presented in the November 1971 issue a collection of forms (solid crossword puzzles having simple geometrical shapes, such as squares, triangles and rhombuses) in which state names were intertwined with state nicknames. The editor suggested that I might wish to try my hand at a related problem— the construction of forms having the names of states and their capitals.

This article presents forms for 43 out of the 50 states; seven—New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, South Carolina, Indiana, Missouri and (I blush to admit it) South Dakota—proved too refractory.

Although many words in these forms are extremely unusual, all are bona fide and can be found in English-language dictionaries or reference books of this or the last century. In the interest of brevity, I have omitted references for specific words; readers who wish to know the origin of any word can write and ask me for it.
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TOA
PERS
R
TEXAS
RA
AUSTIN
ZET
WOGE
AL AIAIA
HELENA
MONTANA
BEN
BERT
ARAMA
O
AVERAN
CU
WYOMING
TAT
CHEYENNE
BOPS
PAPI
BONITA
P
OOLACAN
PA
MARYLAND
MEG
AN APOLIS
GAPE
MINTA
TENDON
R
VERMONT
CE
CORTINAE
GYE
CORALLATE
KARN
MONTPELIER
CELES
CREICH
FAINTER
PARNASSI
SORTITION
CA
TAR
RESH
CATTI
ARMERY
OLYMPIA
CORNILLS
HOSAINALI
WASHINGTON
N
MA
SUS
WASH
NATIV
MEDICI
GENERAL
VENDRELL
TENNESSEE

IGNORAMUS
SELABINA
BOSANCI
RINNIN
ATENT
USAP
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MAIN
AUGUST

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CUBA
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MADIS
WIS CON

AA
ARC
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ARKAN
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M
LA
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TYRA
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NORTH

S
PO abstract
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
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<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Madison</td>
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</table>

**Additional Information**

- AA: Arcq, Artilad, Arkansas, Little Rock
- B: Sac, Salad, Jackson, Kauritree, Mississippi
- C: Columbuss, Salt, Ahaankara, Utah, Pictures Lake, Hoseless City
- D: Asmon, Rumania, Shara, Anoling, Salem, Derbeta, Alagi, Metaled, Ceton, Avonlea, Using New York
- E: Topeka, Marcaj, Ocaran, Rasulu, Paying, Ascian, Erisssi, Cuisse, Kansas, Alaska, Angish, Juneau
- F: Phalanx, Boucons, Aenaria, Artim See, Arizona, Arizona, Phoenix

**Note:** The table format is used to list states and cities in alphabetical order for ease of reference. Each state is paired with at least one major city, providing a comprehensive overview of the United States.
The inconsistencies of English spelling have been a target for reformers for more than a century, enlisting the efforts of such famous personages as Charles Darwin, Isaac Pitman, Alfred Tennyson, Andrew Carnegie and Theodore Roosevelt. A short history and summary of the simplified spelling movement was presented by Kenneth Ives in the February 1971 Word Ways. Since there are more than 26 different vowel and consonant sounds, any system that firmly links sound and spelling must either use bigrams (combinations of two letters) to represent some sounds, or else invent new symbols. Sydney George Lund, a Buffalo octogenarian, has taken the latter approach in devising a visible sound alphabet consisting of 21 consonants (the usual ones, plus an N-with-a-hook to represent ng in "sing") and 21 vowels (represented by an assortment of lines and squiggles). Word Ways readers who are interested in obtaining a copy of his alphabet should send him 25¢ and a self-addressed stamped envelope at 1405 Cortes Drive, Englewood, Florida 33533.