

NINE-SQUARE ROUND-UP

REX GOOCH

Letchworth Garden City, Herts, England

rexgooch@ntlworld.com

This article briefly surveys previous findings, then presents new quality nine-squares. Next, it presents squares with diagonal words to add to those previously published by me. Finally, it looks at the most popular top row words, and also at the the most popular words in any position.

Brief History

Granted that I have found 2000 ten-squares, but 300,000 nine-squares from fewer than half the number of words, it might be concluded that finding good nine-squares is easy. Not so!

The first nine-square I am aware of was produced in 1897 by Arthur Holt. By 1965 (the date of Borgmann's *Language on Vacation*), hundreds of squares had been produced, including the ISOSCELAR square by Rufus Strohm, in which all words come from dictionaries, though one was a phrase. In the century since, little progress has been made, despite the widespread use of computers and the application of many well-known logological brains [including Palmer Peterson, before June 1979 (see WW81-121); Darryl Francis in WW81-121; and Jeff Grant in WW80-195 and WW89-109 (Kickshaws)]. In WW91-199, Eric Albert advanced the art by producing the NECESSISM square, which has all solid words, but one is a genus name, so has an initial capital: this square is also single-source (see main body of this article). Major efforts since include Richard Sabey in WW97-13, with NEOPLASIA (one hyphen), and DISLEAVED (obsolete and derived); and Chris Cole in WW01-271, who made an interesting attempt at using modern words (some only to be found on the Internet), but all the squares have at least one phrase. Finally, I published what I believe to be the first diagonal nine-squares.

Quality Nine-Squares

From a vocabulary of rather over 300,000 words (largely excluding place names), the formula of Chris Long (WW93-5) predicts 1.8 million squares, though his program, run against my actual list, suggested 390,000. In fact, the word list yielded rather fewer than 320,000 squares, slightly more than one nine-square per word, and among these I sought a "perfect" square. Such a square would have all solid words (no hyphens or phrases); no foreign words (unless very well-known in English); no proper nouns (ie no places, personal names, or genus names); and no words from the interior of a dictionary (ie words must appear as headwords or variants, or be regularly derivable therefrom). The rigid application of such rules is not always felicitous: for example, why ban very well-known names of religious or philosophical movements; or pharmaceuticals like Viagra, but not aspirin?

Finding squares with no blemishes turned out to be very difficult, although there were many squares with just one minor defect. In a situation where no wonderful square exists (all *familiar* lower-case words), it is very tricky to rank the almost-wonderfuls. However, I divide what I found into those which have no real blemishes, and those that have just one minor blemish. To save space, some alternative (sometimes blemished) words are given for blemish-free words. Where a word can be derived from a headword (eg by adding -ness), the word is counted as blemish-free, even though it may only appear in the OED text.

Squares with no blemishes

Some familiar words in ACHALASIA

ACHALASIA	OED	APPETISES	The Electronic Alveary, OED has appetize vb
CRENIDENS	OED karanteen, <i>Crenidens crenidens</i> , or the larger bamboo-fish	PARSONESE	OED parson
HEXANDRIC	OED	PRECISION	OED; or PROCISION OED
ANABOLITE	Chambers, under anabolism	ESCULENTA	Psoralea esculenta, Chambers bread, breadroot
LINOLENIN	Web2	TOILETTES	OSPD
ADDLEHEAD	Web2, under addle	INSETTERS	OED insetter
SERINETTE	OED	SEINTEFIE	OED
INITIATOR	OED	ESOTERIZE	OED
ASCENDERS	OED ascender; or ASCENDERE OED ascension, Latin precursor	SENASSEES	OED senassee
FOSSICEPS	<i>Aenictogiton fossiceps dilutum</i> , ITISa	GAMETANGE	OED gametangium
OCTAGONAL	OED	ANALYZORS	Stedman analyser, analysor
STERNESSE	OED sternness; or STURNESSE OED sternness	MALAROMAS	OSPD (singular common in word lists)
SARKINITE	OED	ELAEOLATE	elæolate, OED
IGNICOLOR	<i>Duellmanohyla ignicolor nuda</i> , ITISa	TYROCIDIN	OED tyrocidine
COENOSARE	TC*, ?mis-spell of <i>cœnosarc</i> , OED	AZOLIMINE	$C_{10}H_{11}N_3O$, LPS, also allegedly Stedman
ENSILAGES	OED ensilage, noun & vb	NOMADISES	The Electronic Alveary; *
PASTORESS	OED	GRATINEES	gratinées, OSPD, or OED gratiné, feminine gratinée in text
SLEERESSE	OED slayeress	ESSENESSE	Palindromicon II
* Wordsworth word list		* or NOMADIZES	(OED nomadize vb)
LEUCAURIN	hyperdictionary.com/dictionary, or Pulliam	MISBELEAD	OED
EURYCRENE	<i>Helicopsyche eurycrene hentscheli</i> , ITISa	INTENABLE	OED
UROCRISIS	Stedman	STINGBULL	Chambers sting
CYCLOPITE	OED	BENGUELAE	<i>Atlantocuma benguelae munroi</i> , ITISa
ACROPOLIS	NB not the Acropolis, Chambers	ENGULFING	OED
URIPOSIAS	Stedman, uriposia	LABEFACTA	<i>Phryganea labefacta mucronata</i> , ITISa
RESILIATE	OED	EBULICION	OED ebullition
INITIATES	OED initiate vb	ALLANTOIC	OED
NESESSEST	W93-100, Murray Pearce	DELEGANCE	concours d'élégance, Chambers concours
NASSICOLA	<i>Gynaecotyla nassicola leucurus</i> , ITISa	NONGRADED	OSPD
ANTIDORON	OED	OPERABILY	in Web2 wordlist
STAGELAND	Web2	NEGATIVES	OED negative, noun
SIGNALLEE	OED	GRACILIMA	<i>Paraxiopsis gracilimana mucronata</i> , ITISa
IDEATIONS	OED	RATICIDES	OED
COLLINGEI	<i>Xyletobius collingei suturalis</i> , ITISa	ABILIMENT	OED
ORALOGIST	Web2 oralogy	DIVIDENTE	OED dividend
LONENESSE	OED loneness	ELEMENTAR	Web1
ANDESITES	OED andesite noun	DYSASTERS	OED disaster

POSTNASAL	OED	PROMISETH	Shakespeare, Henry IV Part I, V-4
OOPHROMA	common on Web, oophor- in Web2	REVENTURE	Web2
SPRINGLES	OED springle, noun	OVEREAGER	Web2
THIRTEENS	OED thirteen	MERESTEAD	OED
NONTANNIN	Web2	INESSENCE	OED
ARGENTITE	OED	STATELETS	OED statelet
SOLENITIS	Web2	EUGENESIS	OED
AMENITIES	OED amenity noun	TREACTISE	OED
LASSNESSE	OED less (lass) + -nesse, or moreness 14..q 'morenesse and lassnesse of numbir'	HERDESSES	OED herdess

There are some common words in these two squares:

RAITCHEVI	Trichoniscus raitchevi -inversella, ITISa	RECAPTORS	OED recaptor
ANORHEPES	Lepidostoma anorhepes beddeci, ITISa	EPITARSAL	Stedman†
IDOAMINO	*	CIGARETTE	OED
TROILISTS	troilist, see OED troilism	ATACAMITE	OED
CHALCOTIC	Stedman chalcosis	PARAMETER	OED
HEMIOBOLE	hemiobole, under OED hemi-	TREMELINE	Pulliam¶
EPISTOMAL	epistom(e) OED, or Web2	OSTITISES	OED ostitis
VENTILATE	OED; or VENTILARE OED ventilate (Latin precursor)	RATTENERS	rattener, under OED ratten
ISOSCELES	OED	SLEERESSE	OED, Buffy of old!

* eg A micromethod for...determination of **iodoamino** acids..., Journal of Endocrinology, April 1997, Volume 153, Issue 1

† Implantation of a gold weight on the **epitarsal** surface...of the upper eyelids... www.southeasterneyecenter.com

¶ or Melissa **Tremeline**, married, alive, <http://www.geocities.com/~nancy-cyr-bush/html/dat161.htm>

SCULPTILE	OED	TETANICAL	OED tetanic
CURARINES	OED curarine	EXAMINATE	OED
URINEMICS	allegedly Stedman, or by analogy with purinemia, purinemic	TAXICOLOR	Budorcas taxicolor, Chambers takin
LANERETTE	OED laner	AMIDOXIME	Stedman, amidoximes
PREROSION	Chambers	NICOTIDIN	OED
TIMESHARE	Usually hyphenated in dictionaries but mainly not in usage, esp. computer timesharing	INOXIDIZE	OED
INITIATES	OED initiate noun	CALIDIPES	Cnemidophorus calidipes ponticus, ITISa
LECTORESS	OED lector	ATOMIZERS	OED atomize noun
ESSENESSE	Palindromicon II	LERENESSE	OED leer + nesse, eg leerness, 1398q

Squares with a single blemish (a selection)

BRASSARTS	OED brassard	CORUSCARE	Chambers coruscate, Latin
RECKEVERE	OED	OMENTALIS	bursa omentalis (noun)*
ACOEMETIC	Web2	READERESS	OED reader
SKEVINAGE	OED	UNDERPUKE	Web2, under b
SEMINOLES	Seminole, OED	STERCORIN	OED
AVENOLITH	Web2	CARPOGONE	OED carpo- (solid)
RETALIATE	OED	ALEURODES	Aleurodes, Web2; or ALEURONES OED
TRIGETTUR	OED tregetour	RISKINESS	OED
SECESHERS	OED secesher	ESSENESSE	Palindromicon II

* "an isolated part of the peritoneal cavity..." define.ansme.com/words/

DEADMARCH	dead-march, Chambers dead	DEFORCING	OED deforce vb
ENNEAMERA	Crematogaster enneamera marielinum, ITISa	EVITERNAL	OED
ANACLASES	plural, Stedman, anaclasis	FILOSETTA	OED
DECRETIST	OED	OTOCONITE	OED oto-, but otoconite is solid
MALETOLTE	OED maletolt	RESONATES	OED resonate vb
AMATORIAL	OED; or AMATORIAN OED	CRENATURE	OED
RESILIATE	OED	INTITULER	OED intitule vb, or French, = entitle
CRESTATUS	Eudyptes crestatus occidentalis, ITISa; or CRISTATUS Chambers crest, crested tit	NATTERERI	OED Natterer's bat, Myotis nattereri
HASTELESS	OED	GLAESERIA	Glaeseria vermiformis pacifica, ITISa
FEASTINGS	OED feasting under feast	GLASSCALM	glass-calm, OED glass 16
ECUMANIAC	OED	LINTEARIA	Lagetta lintearia discoideus, ITISp
AURORALLY	OED	ANNECTANS	Plagithmysus annectans hirsutus, ITISa
SMOKEBOAT	smoke-boat, OED smoke	STEALAGES	OED stealage
TAREFITCH	Web2	SECLAZONE	*
INABILITE	OED	CATAZANER	OED
NILOTICUM	Monomorium niloticum niloticum, ITISa	ARAGONITE	OED
GALACTURA	Cyprinella galactura espei, ITISa	LINENETTE	OED
SCYTHEMAN	OED	MASSEREEN	OED

* Seclazone: http://dtpws4.ncifcrf.gov/FTP/CNAMES/CHNAME_77.TXT, line 294833, also allegedly Stedman

One square plus five variations, and one square akin to FEASTINGS above:

GLEMARECI	Pseudolaophonte glemareci paraminuta, ITISa	IEASTINGS	Shakes. Pass. Pilgr. vi
LAMINARAN	OED	ECUMANIAC	OED
EMANATIST	Emantist, OED	AURORALLY	OED
MINIROSEA	Ocenebra minirosea atlantica, ITISa	SMOKEBOAT	smoke-boat, OED smoke 11
ANARCOTIN	Web2	TAREFITCH	Web2
RATOONING	OED ratoon	INABILITE	OED
ERISTICAL	OED	NILOTICUM	Monomorium niloticum biminiense, ITISa
CASEINASE	an exoenzyme, common on Web; or CASEINATE Web2	GALACTURA	Cyprinella galactura espei, ITISa
INTANGLED	or INTANGLES or INTANGLER, OED entangle, verb	SCYTHEMAN	Chambers, scythe
IMPERSIST	Stedman impersistence	ISMATICAL	OED ism
MARRONGIE	Kupellonura marrongie beringia, ITISa	STANOLONE	Stedman
PRAISINGS	OED praising	MARABENTA	Bloomsbury Thes. (dance, Mozambique)
ERIZEPINE	LPS 23.4.2001	ANABROSES	pharmaol.narod.ru/EPeoplAppl.htm. Singular anabrosis is common on Internet
ROSEPETAL	rose-petal, OED rose 23a	TOBROCENE	Wulfstan, Sermo Lupi ad Anglos
SNIPEBILL	Web2	ILEOCECAL	Stedman
IGNITIBLE	OED	CONSECUTE	OED
SIGNALLER	OED	ANTENATUS	OED esnecy (Latin)
TESELLERS	OED teaseler	LEASELESS	OED

The -IZE variant of the NECESSISM square was first found by Eric Albert, who said all the words were in Web2 (as they are also in the OED).

LEASTINGS	OED leasting	NECESSISM	OED
ECUMANIAC	OED	EXISTENCE	OED
AURORALLY	OED	CIRCUMFER	OED
SMOKEBOAT	smoke-boat, OED smoke 11	ESCARPING	OED escarp, vb
TAREFITCH	Web2	STURNIDAE	Sturnidae, OED starling
INABILITE	OED	SEMPITERN	OED
NILOTICUM	Monomorium niloticum gracilicorne, ITISa	INFIDELIC	OED
GALACTURA	Cyprinella galactura espei, ITISa	SCENARIZE	OED scenario; or -ise (Chambers)
SCYTHEMAN	OED	MERGENCES	OED mergence

Two of the OLIVIFORM squares are all-OED:

NUMERATUS	Chambers numerate (Latin)	OLIVIFORM	OED
UNELEGANT	OED	LAMINARIA	OED; or LUMINARIA Chambers limber (Latin)
MELITEMIA	Web2	IMPOSITOR	OED
ELIMINANT	OED	VIOLURATE	OED
RETINERVE	Microcentrum retinerve thomae, ITISa	INSULANTS	OED insulant; or INSURANTS, OED insurant
AGENESIAS	OED agenesia	FAIRATION	OED
TAMARINDI	OED tamarind	ORTANIQUE	OED
UNINVADED	OED	RIOTTOURS	OED rioter
STATESIDE	OED	MARESNEST	mare's-nest, OED

Another square with familiar words:

OPTICISTS	OED optician	PECTOROSA	Pteromicra pectorosa nycticorax, ITISa
PERMANERE	Chambers permanent (Latin)	EXHALENTS	OSPD; also OED exhalant B, 1805q
TRAILSMAN	Web2	CHELICERS	OED chekiler
IMITATING	OED	TALAVERA	Palaemon talaverae mammillodactylus, ITISa
CALAMINAR	OED calaminary	OLIVENESS	OED
INSTIGATE	OED	RECENTEST	OSPD, also OED recent 3a 1535q
SEMINARIE	OED seminary	ONEREELER	one-reeler, OED one 35
TRANATION	OED	STRASSENI	Synonchus strasseni americana; or -RI Illyrionethes strasseri quarta, both ITISa
SENGREENS	OED sengreen noun	ASSESTRIX	OED

POSTFURCA	OED	POSTREMAS	postrema common on Web*
OPERATORS	OED operator noun	OSTEOTOMY	OED
SERICITIC	OED sericite	STETSONED	Stetsoned, OED Stetson
TRIHILATE	OED	TETRAMINE	Web2
FACILITES	OED facility	ROSANILIN	Stedman
UTILIDORS	Utilidor OED (no initial cap in quotes)	ETOMIDATE	Stedman
ROTATORIA	Rotatoria, OED definition 3 of rotator (plant)	MONILARIS	Tharyx monilaris beringia, ITISa
CRITERION	OED	AMENITIES	OED amenity noun
ASCESSANT	Web1, ascessancy	SYDENESSE	OED side (syde) + -NESSE, also sideness 1440q

* eg "The area **postrema** modulates hypothalamic Fos responses"

RABBISSHE	OED rabbish	RARIPILIS	Meranoplus raripilis polyacantha, ITISa
ADRENITIS	Dorland adrenalitis	ALINIDINE	drug, many refs on Web
BRITTIEST	OED brittle, superlative	RIPPERMAN	Web2
BETNOVATE	electronic Medicines Compendium	INPATIENT	Web2
INTONATOR	OED	PIETRANEL	OED
SILVACOLA	Beameromyia silvacola columbiani, ITISa	IDRIALINE	Web2
STEATOMYS	Steatomys, genus of mouse, Chambers fat	LIMENITES	Venezillo limenites aestiva, ITISa
HISTOLYSE	OED histo- (solid)	INANENESS	Chambers inane
ESTERASES	OED esterase	SENTLESSE	hyphenated. sent (OED scent) + -lesse, eg scentless 1605q
SENECERE	Chambers senescent (Latin)	TAPADEROS	OED tapadero noun
EDENTATES	OED edentate noun	AGREEMONY	OED
NERTERIUS	Cambarus nerterius eruca, ITISa	PROGNOSED	OED prognose vb
ENTERPONE	OED	AEGROTARE	Chambers aegrotat (Latin)
STERCOLIN	Web2	DENOMINAL	OED
CARPOLITE	OED	EMOTIVITY	OED emotive 2c
ETIOLIPES	Camponotus etiolipes floridus, ITISa	ROSANILIN	Stedman
REUNITERS	OED erunite	ONERATING	OED onerate vb, also in Web1 under onerate
ESSENESS	Palindromicon II	SYDELYNGE	OED sideling

Diagonal Squares

I have previously published nine-squares with a diagonal word in the NE-SW (= SW-NE) direction, (May 2002), with a word in the NW-SE direction (November 2002), and with a word in the remaining direction, the SE-NW diagonal (May 2003).

In just over 300,000 nine-squares in total, there was only one square with a diagonal pointing to the south-east, and only one with a diagonal pointing to the north-west. The two dozen or so squares with palindromic diagonals exaggerate their true frequency when compared with the other diagonals, because without the very broad catchment area of the Palindromicon II, I would have found perhaps three or fewer. I would say it is only a little easier to find a diagonal nine-square than an ordinary ten-square. Inclusion of foreign placenames would multiply the number of words by about 2.5, and would be expected to lead to a profusion of nine-squares, with probably many diagonal examples.

Throughout, squares made of words with a repeated letter (eg ZZZZZZZZZ) are ignored. Here are the remaining diagonal nine-squares:

Seven more with SAIASAIAS (Palindromicon II), most of quality superior to AISLELESS:

ISOSERUMS	"Iso serum engl.: isoserum" from Roche Lexikon Medizin, should be in Stedman
SANTAANAE	Catostomus santaanae -immaculatus, ITISa
ONYERBIKE	on yer bike, famous advice for jobless by Norman Tebbitt
STELLATED	OED
EARLSTARS	OED overbend 1886q (Gerard Manley Hopkins)
RABATINES	OED rabatine, noun
UNITANGLE	unit-angle, OED radian 1879q
MAKERELLE	OED
SEEDSSEED	W93-100, Chris Long, eg "crop rotation, healthy seedsseed" in http://www.gtz.de/proklima/doc/pub1998/mebr-2.pdf . (Sustainable Pest Management Systems, Jordan)

Half of the words in the SMOAKLESS square are familiar:

SCRAPLETS	OED scraplet	SMOAKLESS	OED smokeless, 1732q
CYANEIDAE	Cyaneidae pauper hyacinthata, ITISa	MELINIDAE	Tertiary Faunas
RAZORLIKE	razor-like, OED razor 3b	OLDREGIME	old regime, OED grand 10c, 1897 P. Warung Tales Old Regime
ANOCIATED	ETERNITY by Anwar Shaikh, Chapter 13*	AIRHEATER	air-heater, OED air II
PERISCIAN	OED	KNEESTONE	Web2
LILACROSE	B. W. Warhurst, Colour Dict. 1899. Lilac-rose is a dull rose (OED mauve)	LIGATURES	OED
EDITIONES	plural of editio princeps, OED	EDITORESS	OED under editor
TAKEASEAT	take a seat, Chambers	SAMENESSE	OED sameness, 1607q
SEEDNESTS	seed-nests, OED seed 9	SEERESSES	OED seeress

* "myriads of [star] clusters **anociate** to rank as a superstructure", also perhaps Stedman anociassociation.

An unusual example: the next three squares share two/three words with the others different:

STROMNESS	Stromness in Orkney Islands, Autostreet Lite	STRONGERS	OED
TAENIADAE	Taeniadae, OED hook 1b 1888q	TAENIADAE	Taeniadae, OED hook 1b 1888q
RETENTIFE	OED cell 1, 1430q	REVENGIVE	OED
ONESEATER	*	ONESEATER	*
MINESTONE	Chambers under mine	NINESPINE	ninespine sticklebacks, ITIS animals
NATATORES	Natatores, OED	GIGAPRONS	gig-apron, OED gig 4
EDITORESS	OED under editor	EDITIONES	plural of editio princeps, OED
SAFENESSE	OED safeness, 1639q	RAVENNESE	OED coupé 1834q
SEERESSES	OED seeress	SEERESSES	OED seeress

* Alfa's P3 was the first monoposto (**oneseater**) Grand Prix-car. www.histomobile.com/histomob/presmark.asp?ID=2&lan=2, OR one-seater, OED ultralight

STROWLERS	OED stroller 1679q, initial cap in quote	TOPBLOCKS	top-block, OED top 34
TAENIIDAE	Taeniidae sepulchralis parafurciger, ITISa	ORALAUURAL	oral-aural, OED tactile 1978q (or oral/aural)
REUENGIUE	OED revengive, 1608q (King Lear)	PARENTILE	OED
ONESEATER	see above	BLENDABLE	OED blusher 1965q (Vogue)
WINESTONE	wine-stone, Chambers	LANDSCRIP	land-scrip, OED land 12
LIGATURES	OED	OUTACTIVE	out-active, OED
EDITORESS	OED under editor	CRIBRIFER	Porcellio cribrifer coronata, ITISa
RAUENESSE	OED raveness, 1623q (with initial cap)	KALLIVERE	Kallivere, Estonia, NIMA
SEERESSES	OED seeress	SLEEPERED	OED under sleeper

One with diagonal SETIFITES (Palindromicon II)

CAPSOMERS	Stedman capsomer
ABRAVANEL	Abravanel, OED 3a 1662q (family name)
PREFECTLY	OED
SAFARIHAT	safari hat, OED safari 3
OVERFLUSH	OED
MACILENTE	OED macilent
ENTHUNDER	OED
RELASTERS	Relasters, of the House of Relaster in Onnwal, a fantasy game on the Internet
SLYTHERST	Slytherst, OED yeoman 2a 1455q, family name

Two with SAGASAGAS, saga-sagas (Palindromicon II)

INSETTERS	OED insetter; or ONSETTERS, OED onsetter
NOCTURNAL	OED
SCLAREGIA	Sclaregia, OED clary 2a 1100q
ETARNALLY	OED eternally 2b 1664q
TURNSTILE	OED
TREATISOR	OED treatiser 1637q
ENGLISSCE	OED English 4a 1240q, all lower case
RAILLOCKS	on railcars, see www.besser.com/manuals/LSC100_INSTALL.pdf (Transfer Cars System)
SLAYERESS	OED - modern Buffy!

One with SEERTREES (seer-trees OED sere 1616q)

INTERPASS	OED
NURSETREE	nurse-tree, OED
TRACLEERE	OED treacler 1415q
ESCHARNIR	OED, Old French precursor of scorn
RELATEING	OED verderer 1710q
PTEREALER	?, pterea, Web2 below line, noun
ARENILITE	OED arenilitic
SERINETTE	OED
SEERGREEN	Seer Green, Bucks, England, or SeerGreen Way 95630 -- Folsom, Sacramento County

Two with TITTITTIT, tit-tit-tit (EDD)

SCHUCKERT	68113th family name in US Census, or Kap Schuckert, Greenland, 80°49', -64°55'
CHANOINIE	OED canonry, French precursor
HAGBUTTIS	OED hereat 2, 1557q
UNBITTEST	OED unbitt vb
COUTIEREI	Nereis coutierei acutifrons, ITISa
KITTELMAN	Kittelman 82899th family name in US Census; or KITTERMAN 13740th
ENTERMINE	OED
RIISEANUS	Atys riiseanus tahoensis, ITISa
TESTINESS	OED

Four with AAAAAAAAAA (Brooklyn antiques shop, Palindromicon II)

First is all-OED except diagonal

ABEASTOFA	a beast of a, OED beast 5b	CAMERIERA	Pulliam
BALCARRAS	OED Tory 1b 1651q (Lord Balcarras)	AVICENNAS	Avicenna's, OED fen
ELECTUARS	OED pothecar, 1480q	MILLSEATS	mill-seat, OED mill 12
ACCURANCE	OED	ECLATANTE	éclatante, OED preux, 1711q (French)
SATRANGIS	Satrangis, OED sitringee, 1969q (rug type)	RESTARTER	Chambers
TRUANDALS	OED truandal	INEARTHST	OED inearth, vb
ORANGARIE	OED orangery 1, 1664q	ENANTHATE	Stedman
FARCILITE	OED	RATTESTON	Suffolk, England*
ASSESEES	OED assessee	ASSERTENE	OED ascertain

* Ratteston: birthplace of Ursula Scott in 1596, <http://www.csolve.net/~nikf/geneal/1842.htm> = Rattlesden?

HAHAMISHA	Ma'aleh Hahamisha, Israel, 31°49', 35°07', NIMA	HOTCHACHA	hot-cha-cha, OED hotcha
ARAMINTAS	Araminta's, OED slatternly 2, 1801q	OXALEMIAS	oxalemia, Stedman
HAGISLARS	Hagislars, OED hadji, 1585q	TAGALIANS	Tagalian, OED Tagalog, 1704q
AMIDWARDE	OED amidward, 1400q	CLAMPARDE	OED clamper, 1545q
MISWANDER	Web1	HELPABLER	OED helpable, adj
INLANCEST	OED inlance, vb	AMIABLEST	OED amiable, superlative (also in quote)
STARDELTA	star-delta, OED star 20	CIARLETTA	Ciarletta, US Census
HARDESTER	US Census	HANDESTER	OED hanaster
ASSERTARE	OED assert, Latin precursor	ASSERTARE	OED assert, Latin precursor

Six with SASASASAS, sasa sasas (orchids, Palindromicon II)

MARISSHES	OED uncultured 1, 1555q; OR PARISSHES	OED clergy 4, 1382q
AMICITIAE	OED show 7c, 1681q (Latin)	
RIMELESSE	OED rimeless, 1532q; OR RITELESSE	OED riteless, 1611q
ICESKATER	ice-skater, Chambers	
SILKSTARE	silk stare, OED silk 10d	
STEATITES	OED steatite	
HISTATUS	= ephedrine, http://www.mythos.com/pharmacy/Index_GenericName.aspx?L=E&P=1TC	
EASERESSE	OED easer, 1631q	
SEERESSES	OED seeress	

RAMUSCLES	OED ramuscle	
ARENARIAE	Web2	
MEANNESSE	OED meanness 2, 1556q	
UNNEGATED	Web2	
SANGSTERS	Sangsters, OED refained, 1969q (family name)	
CREATORS	OED turn 22, 13..q, or Latin plural of creator; OR CREATURES	OED creature
LISTERISE	Listerise (disinfect), Chambers	
EASERESSE	OED easer, 1631q	
SEEDSSEED	W93-100, eg "crop rotation, healthy seedsseed" in http://www.gtz.de/proklima/doc/pub1998/mebr-2.pdf .	

Three with SATARATAS (eg Thomas SATARATA, Palindromicon II)

Three familiar words or phrases:

MISAWARDS	misaward vb, OED		
ICEGATEAU	ice-gateau, OED cassata		
SETOUTTUB	set-out tub, OED set-out 4		
AGONYAUNT	agony aunt, OED agony 1a		
WAUYRYNGE	OED sparpling, 1434q		
ATTAYNDER	OED attainder		
RETUNDERE	Chambers retund, Latin precursor		
DAUNGERES	OED glove 1f, 1430q; OR DAUNGERUS	OED gorge 5, 1575q; OR DAUNGERYS	OED danger 5a, 1538q
SUBTERESA	Bolitophila subteresa distincta, ITISa		

One with DEEPSPEED, deep speed (American football, Palindromicon II)

PRESTHOLD	OED
RANCHEREE	OED rancheria
ENGRALEST	OED engrail, vb
SCRIMPIER	OSPD
THAMSELUE	tham-selue, OED thoughtful 1b, 13..q (th is a thorn)
HELPEALES	helpe-ales, OED ale A3, 1687q
OREILLERS	OED oreille, 1523q (French)
LESEUERII	Juncus leseuerii fonticola, ITIS plant
DETRESSIT	OED detressed, 1500q

Most Popular Top Row Words

The most popular top row word among the nine-squares was SHAPFACED (shap-faced, OED shap, 1882q), heading about 0.7 in every thousand squares. Some good examples of its use (including a pair of all-OED squares) are:

SHAPFACED	shap-faced, OED shap, 1882q	SHAPFACED	shap-faced, OED shap, 1882q
HARRISONI	eg Stauroneis harrisoni gracilis, ITISp	HYDROVAN	OED
ARMORINGS	OED orgone, 1949q	ADHERENTS	OED adherent
PROLEPTIC	OED	PRESENTER	OED
FIRESHINE	OED fire, 1871q	FORESTORE	OED fore-, 5b (solid)
ASIPHONEA	Web1 (mollusc)	AVENTURLY	OED adventurously
CONTINUES	OED continue	CANTORIAN	OED
ENGINEERS	OED engineer	ENTERLACE	OED; OR ENTERLADE OED
DISCEASSE	OED decease, verb	DESREYNER	OED deraign, 1292q (really French)

This could alternatively end with:

ENGINEERY	OED
DISCEASYD	OED disseise 1494q

The next most popular top row words were many to be found heading about 0.4 in every thousand squares:

RASPISHER	OED raspish adj
WASPISHER	OED waspish adj
FLATCAPPD	flat-capp'd, OED wall 16, 1821q
RESPASSES	OED respass
DOSPASSOS	Dos Passos, 1930s author of eg Big Money, 42nd Parallel
MISCHIEVD	mischiev'd, OED mischeive 3, 1649q, and others
HADIWISTS	OED hadiwist
SPISCATED	OED spissated, 1779q
STRABISME	OED strabism, 1661q
ECREVISSE	OED écrevisse
FASTPACED	fast-paced, OED give 37d, 1964q
etc	

The following abbreviations are used throughout the article: ITIS = Integrated Taxonomic Information System of the USDA; ITISa = ITIS animal; ITISp = ITIS plant; LPS = Lists of Pharmaceutical Substances which qualify for Duty-free Treatment, Official Journal of the European Communities; NIMA = (US) National Imagery and Mapping Agency; WWyy-pag = Word Ways year and page.

Words most commonly found (ergo most useful?) in nine-squares

Readers may like to compare the words in the list below with the theoretically best words *for each row* as calculated *from a particular word list* by Chris Long (WW93-100).

1 ass's steps 71.5 2 acerineae 73.6 3 recarrier 71.2 4 reedenter 71.2 5 treegeese 71.7
6 triradial 71.4 7 niaiserie 73.2 8 ensentede 74.7 9 seedsseed 76.9

The values represent suitability. My overall winners were:

ESSENESSE Palindromicon II (Finnegan's Wake) found in 3% of squares
SEERESSES OED often last line (1.4%)
ENTERESSE OED interest, often last or penultimate line (1.2%)
ASSESEST OED assess verb, often last line (1.0%)
SESSENEST W93-100 Murray Pearce list of words in 9-squares, often last or penultimate (1%)
NESESSEST W93-100 qv (0.9%)

The plurality of the letter S in most of these is obviously helpful as a last word, allowing plurals for many words. None of the next most popular words are especially familiar, except perhaps ASSESSEES.

Towards a heterogrammatic square

As good nine-squares (though not perfect ones) are easy to find, a further challenge, after diagonal squares, might be posed by looking for squares made of words in which each letter is different. From a vocabulary largely excluding place names, the best squares contained only five heterograms: the best two of the three found were:

MULECARTS	mule-cart, OED mule	RHODESITE	OED
UNIPOLARE	OED glioblastoma 1926q	HAMULUSES	OED hamulus
LIPIDURIA	Medical, occurs many times on Web, allegedly in Stedman	OMINALEST	superlative of OED ominal
EPIDEMICS	OED epidemic	DUNESCITY	Dunes City, 43°54'N 124°05'W, West Oregon
CODELIGHT	Web2 below line	ELASTICUM	OED pseudo-, many quotes near end
ALUMINEOR	Old French precursor of alluminor	SULCINODA	Leptogenys sulcinoda piceatus, ITISa
RARIGENDE	OED roar 1a, 1000q	ISEICONIC	Dorland Medical Dict, same as isoiconic
TRICHODEA	Usnea trichodea rubiginea, ITIS fungi	TESTUDINO	OED, vault 2, 1440q
SEASTREAM	sea-stream, OED	ESTYMACON	OED estimation

An extended vocabulary (with placenames) of 750,000 words produces almost 69,000 heterograms, which compares to a support level of 62,000 from Chris Long's formula. Unfortunately, his program raises the support level to 139,000, and it does transpire that the closest to a heterogrammatic square are the following, which use heterograms for all bar the last row (which is not a word):

BLOWREACH	blow-reach, OED blow 1871q	EASTBUNGO	East Bungo, Thailand, 7°45', 98°37'
LATRONCHE	Latronche, France, 45°18', 2°14'	ARKHINGOL	Arkhin Gol, Mongolia, 50°11', 102°10'
OTMICGRAD	Otmic Grad, Croatia, 45°13', 15°39'	SKOUNDERI	Skounderi, Greece, 38°32', 23°49'
WRINKLEDY	Web2	THUNDERAX	thunder ax, Web2
ROCKNAMES	rock-names, OED oceanite 1923q	BINDERUPA	Binderup A, Denmark, 57°01', 9°40' (water)
ENGLAMORS	Americanisation of englamours in OED en-, 1864q	UNDERTWIG	Web2 undertwig, see "under"
ACREMONTS	Bois des Acremonts, Belgium, 50°24', 4°54'	NGERUWIKL	Ngeruwikl, Palau, 7°28', 134°36'
CHADERTON	Chaderton (place)*	GORAPIKET	Gora Piket, Russia, 44°20', 38°55'†
		† OR GORAPIKUY	Gora Pikuy, Ukraine, 48°50', 23°00'

* or 86881th family name in US Census