This is an attempt to list the longest English-language words of one or two syllables, beginning with each letter of the alphabet, according to listings and pronunciations in Webster's Second or Third editions. The -ED ending is permitted for verbs, and the -S ending for nouns, even when permission to pluralize is not explicitly given in Webster (as, for example, in various word lists in Webster's Second). However, hyphenated words have been excluded.

The suffix -PROOF presents an interesting problem. Webster's Second states that many such words are usable as verbs, but does not specify which. In particular, the doubtful MOOSETONGUES can be replaced by MOUSEPROOFED if the latter is a verb -- which it probably is. Other improvements are, no doubt, possible.

arched arched
broughams through
clinched frend
draughts earthed
flinched flameproofed
grouched greatmouthed
haunched hearthstones
itched inthralled
jounced Juneteenth
launched knickknacks
mooced lightmouthed
naughts mooetongues
oinked nightclothes
preached outstretched
quetched ploughwrights
reached quickthorns
scraunched scratchbrushed
thoughts throatstraps
umphed unstretched
vouched versewrights
wreathed wheatherough
ystas xanthines
yearned yourselves
Zouaves Zeitgeists