

SAVE TIME AND YOUR SANITY: Increase your efficiency with Microsoft Word

ACES Conference 1 April 2016

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About me



- Microsoft Word user since early 1990s
- Since 2008, edited and formatted >2000 long, complex Word documents for a large team of authors (mostly environmental scientists)
- Written hundreds of 'how to' and troubleshooting blog posts on Word

 Note: All examples/file paths etc. in this presentation are from Windows 7 and Word 2010 and/or 2013. Mac users should be able to do similar things... but no guarantees.

What I'll cover

It's all about efficiency, so:

- Show everything
- Put your most-used functions close to you
- Automate as much as you can
- Use the power of find and replace

Show everything

Twitter Takeaway:

You can't fix what you can't see



Source: http://mrg.bz/qpVlqW

Show all general formatting marks

- ❖ Home tab > ¶ (pilcrow icon)
- Initially strange—try for two weeks
- Why show these marks?
 - Helps you troubleshoot Word formatting issues
 - Shows how the author formatted the doc
 - Shows inconsistencies in use of spaces, tabs, etc.

What the formatting marks mean

- Black squares (peach)—paragraph settings apply (e.g. Keep With Next)
- Arrows (yellow)—tab; auto (e.g. outline numbering) and manual look the same
- Dots (green)—space between words
- Left-turn arrow (red)—soft line break
- 'Degree' (cyan)—nonbreaking space between value and unit of measure
- Pilcrow (purple)—end of paragraph
- Breaks (pink)—double dotted line: section break; single dotted line: hard page break

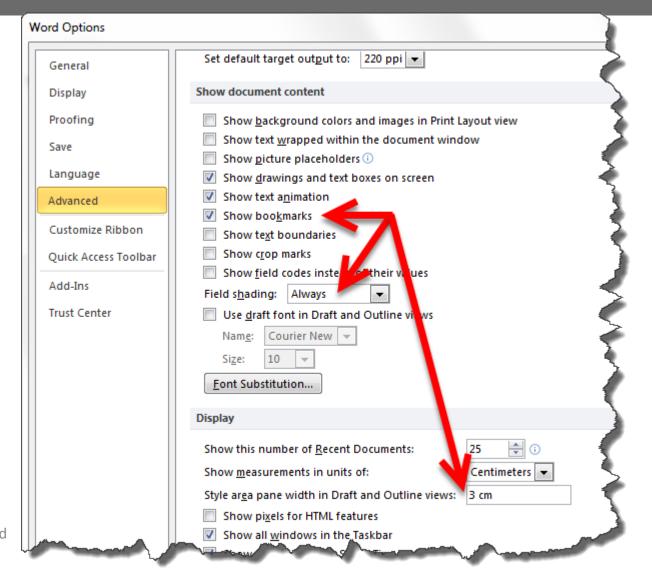
- 6.4 → Methods¶
- 6.4.1→Invertebrate·Sampling·Transect¶

Vegetation-based sampling will consist of vacuum samples will be run parallel along the pitfall trailing and to a maximum of 15°m to one side of the pitfal

Π	Section Break (Continuous
¶	
	Page Break

Show special formatting

File →
Options →
Advanced



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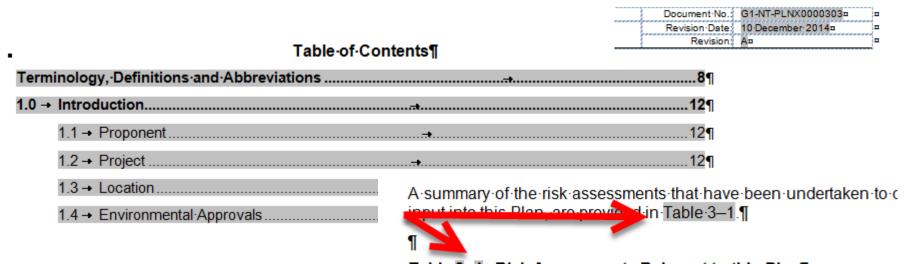
How bookmark formatting looks

 Light grey square brackets surround bookmarked text

Document-No:¤	[G1-NT-PLNX0000303]¤	Revision:¤	ĮΑ
Revision · Date:¤	[10·December·2014]¤	Copy·No:¤	¤
IP-Security:¤	[Company-Confidentia]¤	n	n

How field shading looks

- Grey shading shows behind anything that's a field:
 - Automated fields: contents, caption numbering, etc.
 - Manually inserted fields: header text from a bookmark, cross-references, etc.

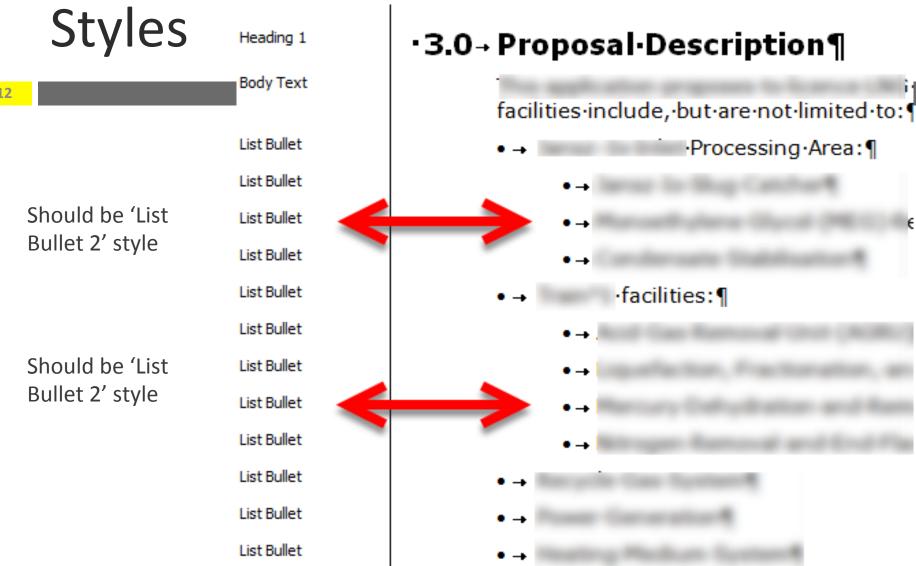


Rhonda's rule:

Don't touch the grey stuff!!

Show styles

- When checking author's formatting, display styles for each paragraph on the side:
 - Open the Styles pane (Ctrl+Shift+Alt+S)
 - Set a value in File → Options → Advanced → Display subsection → Style area pane width... (e.g. 1 in, 3 cm)
 - Switch to Draft mode:
 - Word 2010: Icon at bottom right of window
 - Word 2013: View tab (or Ctrl+Alt+N)
 - Look for incorrect styles
- Note: Styles within tables and text boxes are not shown



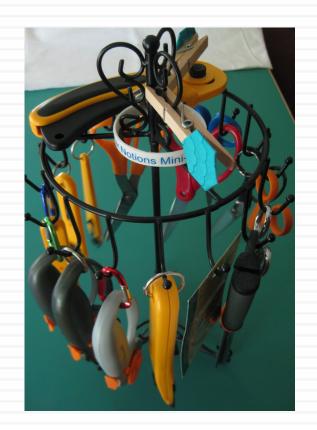
Show track changes

- Show track changes (Review tab):
 - Insertions and deletions
 - Comments
 - Turn off formatting track changes unless told otherwise (+ accept all formatting changes)
 - Use Next/Previous to jump to each change
- Flip between views:
 - Word 2010: Final and Final Showing Markup
 - Word 2013: No Markup and All Markup

Set up your workspace

Twitter Takeaway:

Put your most-used tools near your work area



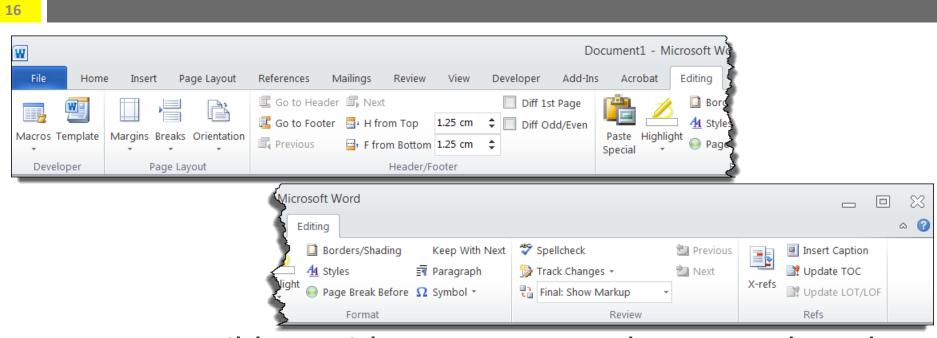
Workspace: Quick Access Toolbar



- Put your most-used commands onto your QAT
- Put your QAT below the ribbon for easier access
- How:

https://cybertext.wordpress.com/2014/07/15/microsoft-office-quick-access-toolbar-productivity-benefits-how-to-customize-it/

Workspace: Your own ribbon



- Create a ribbon with your most-used commands and arrange how you want
- * How:
 https://cybertext.wordpress.com/2015/02/02/word-create-a-custom-tab-for-your-most-used-tools/

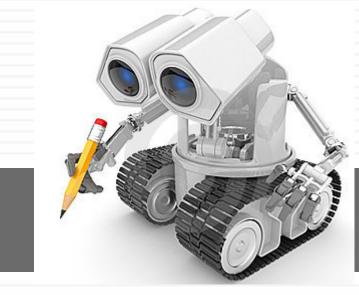
Workspace: Status Bar

- Customize your status bar (limited selection)
- Right-click in the status bar to show this list

Customize Status Bar				
	Formatted Page Number	1		
	S <u>e</u> ction	1		
V	Page Number	1 of 1		
	<u>V</u> ertical Page Position	2.5cm		
	Line Num <u>b</u> er	1		
	<u>C</u> olumn	1		
V	Word Count	0		
V	Number of <u>A</u> uthors Editing			
V	Spelling and Grammar Check			
V	<u>L</u> anguage	English (Australia)		
V	Signatures	Off		
V	Information Management Policy	Off		
V	<u>P</u> ermissions	Off		
	<u>T</u> rack Changes	Off		
	Caps Loc <u>k</u>	Off		
	<u>O</u> vertype	Insert		
	Selection Mo <u>d</u> e			
V	<u>M</u> acro Recording	Not Recording		
V	<u>U</u> pload Status			
V	Document <u>U</u> pdates Available	No		
V	<u>V</u> iew Shortcuts			
V	<u>Z</u> oom	100%		
V	Zoom Slider			

Workspace: Share your settings

* Backup your ribbon/QAT:
http://www.howtogeek.com/72670/how-to-backup-and-restore-your-office-2010-ribbon-and-quick-access-toolbar-customizations/



Automate tasks

Twitter Takeaways:

- Key to efficiency is automating routine tasks
- Life's too short to do something manually if you can automate it
- BUT: Not everything can—or should—be automated

Types of automation

Table of contents (list of figures/tables)

AutoCorrect

Quick Parts and AutoText

KB shortcuts (in-built; own; for macros)

Macros (own; others')

Automatic table of contents etc.

Use heading styles, auto captions, and Word functions to automate insertion of TOC, lists of figures/tables

References tab has insert and update options

TIP: Copyedit headings/captions via TOC etc. (often missed in main edit) – Ctrl+click page # in TOC to change

Select **Update entire table** option to update page numbers AND any text changes in headings/captions

Update TOC etc. as one of final steps

AutoCorrect is your friend



AutoCorrect = consistent EVERY time

Word 2010/2013: File → Options → Proofing →
 AutoCorrect Options

 Set up once in Word to work across ALL Office programs

AutoCorrect is your friend



- Use codes/abbreviations that you will remember
- Add a symbol (e.g. period, underscore):
 - if the code is also a real word or abbreviation (e.g. .epa instead of epa for 'Environmental Protection Agency')
 - to place the entry at the beginning of the list
- Use for words/phrases AND paragraphs
 - Alternative: AutoText under Quick Parts
- Option to retain formatting (works in Word only)
 - e.g. superscript, subscript, bold, italics

AutoCorrect examples

Names

(e.g. depts, orgs, companies, products, projects, places, docs...)

- .da = Department of Agriculture
- .epa = Environmental Protection Agency
- .hhs = Department of Health and Human Services
- .us = United States
- .rob = Reverse Osmosis Brine Disposal via Ocean Outfall Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan

Commonly used text

- Copyright and other legal statements
- Regularly inserted editorial comments, such as:
 - .bs = Be specific
 - .spell = Spell out in full here and define in Terms list if this term is used more than once in the document
 - .term = Is this the correct word/term for this context?
 - .sense = This doesn't make sense as written. Words or punctuation missing or need to be added? Split sentence? Reword?

AutoCorrect: Share your settings

- Location of all ACL files: C:\Users\<username>\
 AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Office
- Copy the set of ACL files from one computer and replace the set in the same location on the other computer

```
Note: The MSO numbers indicate the language; e.g.:

MSO0127.acl = Math

MSO1033.acl = English (US)

MSO2057.acl = English (UK)

MSO3081.acl = English (Australia)

See <a href="https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/goglobal/bb964664.aspx">https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/goglobal/bb964664.aspx</a> for a full list of locale numbers
```

Quick parts

- ❖ Insert → Quick Parts for insertion of:
 - Building blocks
 - AutoText
 - Fields
 - Doc properties
- Create your own or use defaults
- Tip: Add underscore in front of name to place yours at top of list

Quick parts: AutoText

- Ideal for long passages of often-used text; e.g.:
 - Copyright and legal statements
 - Safety warnings
 - Notes
 - 'About' info for a company
- Select the text, then Insert → Quick Parts → AutoText → Save selection to AutoText Gallery
- ❖ To insert it later, Insert → Quick Parts → AutoText, then click the passage (even better, assign a shortcut key to it)

Quick parts: Example: Custom table

- 1. Create your table, applying styles, borders, shading, header row repeat, etc., but no text, unless you want it in every table!
- 2. Select your table.
- 3. On the **Insert** tab, click **Table**.
- 4. Click Quick Tables, then Save Selection to Quick Tables Gallery.
- 5. Complete the information on the **Create New Building Block** window:
 - Name: Tip: Add an underscore in front of the name to list it at the top
 - Gallery: Select Tables
 - Options: Select Insert content in its own paragraph.
- 6. Click OK.
- 7. You can now insert your custom table in your documents as often as you like:
 - Insert → Table → Quick Tables, then select your table; OR
 - Insert → Quick Parts → Building Blocks Organizer, sort by Category, select your table, and click Insert.

Quick Parts: Share your settings

https://lawyerist.com/40659/sharing-autotextand-quick-parts-with-others/

http://gregmaxey.mvps.org/word_tip_pages/ building_blocks_autotext.html (full discussion on Building Blocks, AutoText, etc.)

Keyboard shortcuts



Use them!

More efficient than hunting the ribbon for the command

More efficient than using the mouse to access the command and returning to where you were

More ergonomically sound to use your fingers and reduce 'mouse grip' stresses

Keyboard shortcuts: In-built

Examples of lesser-known shortcuts:

Press these keys	To do this
Ctrl+Shift+e	Toggle track changes on/off
Ctrl+Alt+m	Insert a comment
F4	Repeat immediate last action
Shift+F3	Toggle case
Ctrl+Shift+space	Insert a nonbreaking space
Ctrl+= / Ctrl+Shift+=	Make selection subscript / superscript
Ctrl+Shift+c / Ctrl+Shift+v	Copy / paste the selection's style
Ctrl+hyphen	Insert a nonbreaking hyphen

Keyboard shortcuts: List all in-built

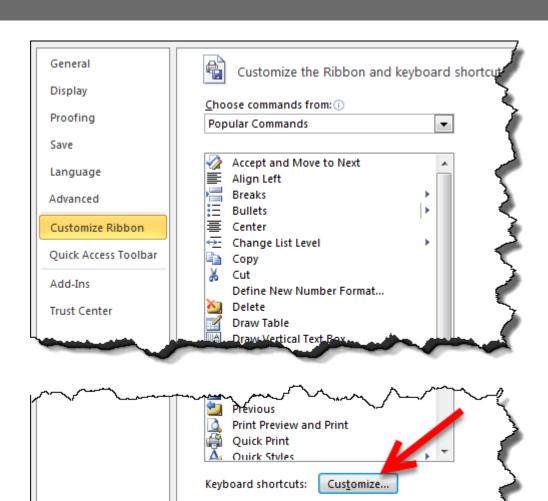
- 1. Open a blank document.
- 2. Go to View tab > Macros.
- 3. Select Word Commands from the Macros in list.
- 4. Select ListCommands.
- 5. Click Run.

Also:

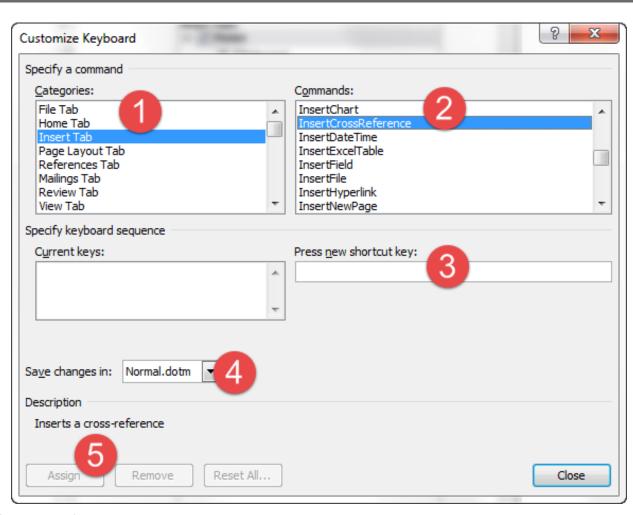
https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Keyboard-shortcuts-for-Microsoft-Word-9a2e0234-e682-49ff-a4aa-999f07b51bf3

Keyboard shortcuts: Your own

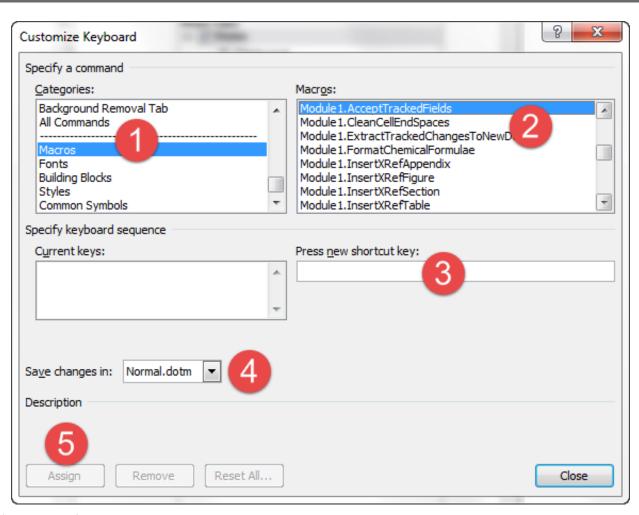
- You can add a keyboard shortcut for any command that doesn't already have one, including macros
- File → Options →
 Customize Ribbon



Keyboard shortcuts: Your own



Keyboard shortcuts: For macros



Macros (summary tips only)

Start small

Learn how to record small repetitive tasks (e.g. table header row formatting)

Find others (R&D)

- Google
- Acknowledge source in comment text

Test

• On *backup* copies of your documents first

Store together

- Put in a single file (e.g. macros.dotm) in STARTUP folder (C:\Users \<username>\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Word\STARTUP):
 - Available to all docs
 - Easy to transfer this file to another computer
- Preserved if normal.dotm gets corrupted and is rebuilt by Word
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Use the power of find/replace

Twitter Takeaways:

- More find and replace (F&R) options than you probably knew
- Spend time learning how to use wildcards
- Be careful of 'Replace all'

Find and replace: Basic: Ctrl+F

Opens
Navigation pane

Basic search, with some options

Has contextual highlighting

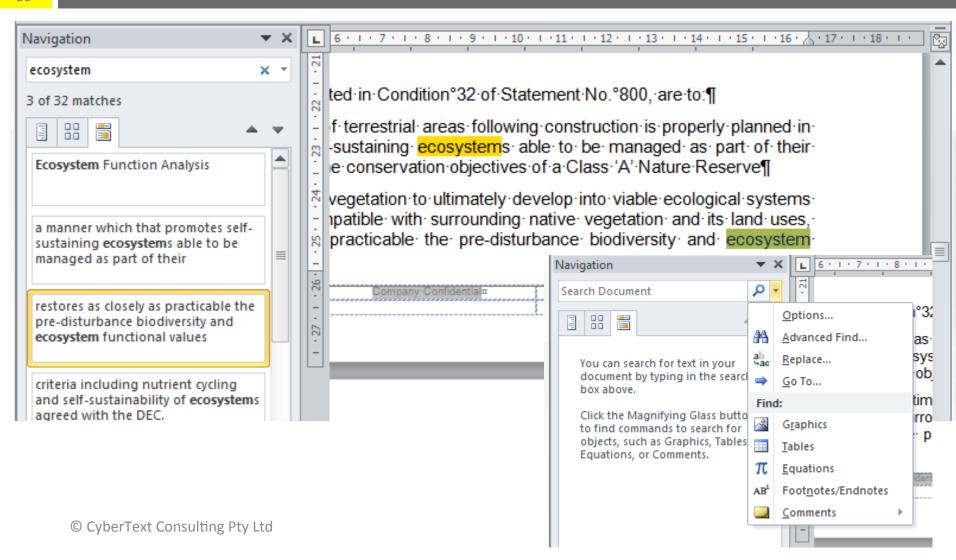
Click contextual results list item to jump to location

Click arrows to jump to next/ previous

Click tabs to navigate by headings or thumbnails

Click search icon for some options that used to be on Object Browse button (e.g. tables, images)

Example: Basic Find



Find and replace: Intermediate: Ctrl+H

Opens F&R window

Click **More** to get other options

Can match case

Can specify single words only

Can search for specific formatting, incl. styles

Can search for special characters

Can search for similar sounding words

Can search for all (grammatical) forms of a word

Can combine many of these

Find and replace: Advanced

Use Wildcards
option is under
More in F&R
window (Ctrl+H)

Uses 'regular expressions' to perform F&R

Very powerful

Test on a COPY of the doc until satisfied

Check results with Find Next before replacing

Much safer to use Replace than Replace All

Wildcards take a while to learn – but worth it!

Find and replace: Wildcards: Examples

Simple

- Find any numeral followed by a space followed by a specified unit of measure (mm). Replace the space with a nonbreaking space.
 - * Find what: ([0-9])()(mm)
 - * Replace with: \1^s\3

There's a single space here

More complex

- Find two or more spaces after any specified punctuation. Replace with a single space.

 There's a single
 - * Find what: ([.,;-:])({2,9})
 - * Replace with: \1

There's a single space here

And a single space after the \1

Warning!

Be careful of 'Replace All' – can make unintended global changes to text, styles, formatting

Other automation tools

Twitter Takeaways:

- Word doesn't have everything
- Use the best tools for your job

Other tools

Perfectlt (http://www.intelligentediting.com)

EditTools (http://www.wordsnsync.com)

PhraseExpress (the power of auto correct for ALL your programs, not just Office programs; http://www.phraseexpress.com)

Helpful links/resources

- https://cybertext.wordpress.com/category/ software/word/
- https://cybertext.wordpress.com/tag/keyboard-shortcuts/
- https://cybertext.wordpress.com/tag/macros/
- https://cybertext.wordpress.com/tag/find-and-replace/
- https://cybertext.wordpress.com/tag/wildcards/
- https://cybertext.wordpress.com/tag/toc/
- https://cybertext.wordpress.com/2011/03/08/word-usethe-power-of-autocorrect-to-save-heaps-of-time/

These slides

A variation of this set of slides (but not the demos) is available:

- on my website: http://cybertext.com.au/tips.htm
- * on SlideShare: http://www.slideshare.net/rbracey/presentations
- on the 2016 ACES Conference website (after the conference)

Thank you...

Any questions?

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