# Crammer Help

## Introduction

The purpose of Crammer is to speed up the process of memorizing vocabularies or any kind of information that can be expressed through questions and answers. This is achieved through a   
technique originally based on studies of cognitive processes and how the human memory works.

Depending on a user’s answers to questions posed, the content is shuffled in a way which optimizes moving information from short-term to long-term memory.

## How it Works

First of all, you need to build up your own database containing the information you want to memorize. You can create as many such databases as you want, open one up and answer OK' or 'Don’t Know' depending on if you know the answer to the information or word which is presented to you. You verify your answers by pressing a 'Verify' button. (You can also use the shortcut keys: Left-button for Don’t Know, right button for OK and up button for Verify).

What is important to remember is that you need to answer truthfully - otherwise the technique described above will not work.

## Creating a Database

Start the program and select the *Manage Dictionary* menu button and *New...* or press Ctrl+N. You will be presented with a wizard which helps you through the steps required to create a dictionary. First you need to provide a title. Press Next and you will be given the option of creating a dictionary based on a text file with the information you would like to memorize. The format of such a text file is simple - just put a hash or pound character '#' between the question and the answer and divide the entries with a line-feed like the following example for e.g. cramming the multiplication table:  
  
3 \* 7#21  
2 \* 10#20  
9 \* 6#54  
4 \* 9#36  
  
However, this step can be skipped and you can press Next to go to the last tab. Here you specify where you want to store the dictionary. Press the ... button and find a suitable location for storing it. It's perfectly OK to amend the name if you don't like the suggested one. When you're done, press 'Finish' and select *Manage Dictionary/Open…* or press Ctrl+O to open the database just created.   
If this was created blank, you need to start adding information into it. For this you select Manage Dictionary/ Edit Dictionary or press F4.

## How to Use the Commands

As you go through a Crammer dictionary checking yourself, you can either press the three buttons in the main window, or you can use the keyboard with keys: Right-Arrow for *OK*, Left-Arrow for *Don't Know* and Up-Arrow to verify your answer.

Crammer provides additional functionality for sorting, randomly shuffling the sequence etc.

## Changing Fonts and Colors

If you prefer different fonts and colors than what is provided by the application, you can go to Manage Dictionary/Dictionary Settings or press F3 and there change font, size and color settings per dictionary.

## Session State

You can choose to quit a session by closing Crammer. The application will remember where you left off and which database you worked on. On startup, the program will automatically launch the most recent database and go to exactly the location you last worked on.