

Salve!

This website is dedicated to Latin language (and some Greek).



Dictionaries are encoded for desktop computers and mobile devices, the primary goals are GoldenDict (desktop) and Aard2 (Android). Formats and supported dictionary shells are explained in the [documentation](#).

I am open for cooperation. If you want to share your dictionary, join to a digitalization project, or have technical questions, feel free to [contact me](#).

Latin dictionaries

for computer and mobile, to
have full pleasure of reading
and writing Latin

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Announcement

I am looking for the “**Humanist Latin Dictionary**” made by **William Harris (1926-2009)**. It was sold in 1996-2002 as a computer application for MacOS 7-9 or Windows 3.1 by two distributors, Rob Latousek (Centaur Systems, US) and Julian Morgan (J-PROGS, UK). Also, it was included into the CD-ROM collections LatinStudio or Latina.

If you have a copy of this dictionary, please, share it with me. I will be grateful for any information about the Dr. Harris heirs: Min Harris (Shoreham, VT), James Harris (Somerville, MA), or John Harris (West Hartford, CT).

You can contact me by [e-mail](#), or on the web forums, [Textkit](#) or [Latin Discussion](#).

News

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Dictionary shells

Preface

Choosing dictionary shell, one need to take in account two questions:

1. Does the application support the format of the dictionaries you have?
2. Does it provide effective search through your collection?

We publish our dictionaries in a **XD XF**, **Slob**, **StarDict**, and **MDict** formats, so it is likely you will find compatible shell easily.

Concerning the second question, Hunspell library is the most advanced method to the date. For example, using Hunspell and querying for words “amare”, “amavistis”, “amabam”, user will receive the same article with canonical headword “amo”. Section “**Hunspell**” tells more about Hunspell.

Desktop

GoldenDict is leaving no alternative desktop dictionary shell. It works on Windows, Linux, and MacOS, and supports great variety of file formats. To the date it is the most functional application for work with dictionaries, and talking about Latin language you would not find more appropriate software. Read article “**Quick Start**” about initial configuration of the GoldenDict.

Mobile

Situation around mobile dictionary shells is not such good. Some of them correctly recognize dictionaries, but do not provide good search, or support one format very well but do not accept other files from your collection. Below we list some software but cannot recommend absolutely satisfying one:

- **Aard 2** (Android) – open source application. Use **Slob** format.
- **Alpus** (Android, iOS) – commercial, *Free Edition* works with up to 5 dictionaries. Interface is somewhat confusing, but it supports many formats and could import merely every Latin dictionary you could find in the Internet. We provide **XD XF** and **StarDict** files for this application.



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- [GoldenDict Mobile](#) (Android) – commercial, *Free* version limits number of active dictionaries to 5. Use **StarDict** files.
- [BlueDict](#) (Android) – Chinese application (see on [Google Play](#)) supporting only **MDict** format. However, it has morphology search (read “[Hunspell](#)” for details).

More mobile shells could be found in [this discussion](#). If you need some exotic format, please, [contact us](#).

Install GoldenDict

GoldenDict is a computer shell which can read and organize dictionaries of different formats.



- Windows: use [Early Access Builds](#).
- Linux: install application from the software manager on your system; choose Qt5-based version if there are options. Another variant is [ApplImage build](#).
- macOS: use [Early Access Builds](#).

The original GoldenDict was in a dormant state for a long period, though it still can be used. All new features are implemented in a fork supported by a user [@xiaoyifang](#). New versions of this edition are regularly released on [GitHub](#). However, be aware that some dictionaries from our collection, especially “html dictionaries”, are not yet compatible with xiaoyifang’s version. Files in Slob format should work fine though.

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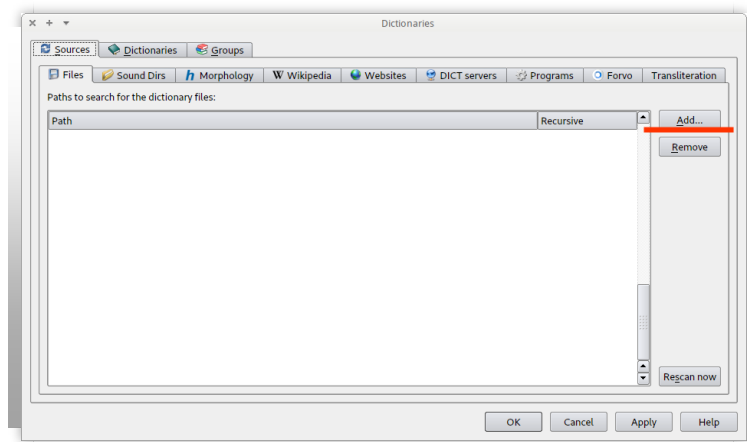
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Add dictionaries to GoldenDict

In order to use dictionaries from this website you should make few simple steps:

1. Take the most recent version of a dictionary from the [Release](#) section. Choose files with “zip” extension and ignore “Source code”.
2. Downloaded file is an archive which should be extracted. For example, dictionary [Dumesnil1819 v1.1.3](#) contains folder “Dumesnil1819”. Save this folder with files on your computer.
3. In GoldenDict, open menu Edit > Dictionaries.
4. Switch to the tabs Sources > Files (it should be shown by default; see image below).
5. Press button “Add...” and open the folder of the dictionary. Press “OK” to confirm, and you will see how the dictionary is being indexed.
6. Everything is ready and you could start looking for words, e.g. “amor”.



Note: if you organized dictionaries into groups (menu Edit > Dictionaries, tab Groups), then the new dictionary will not be added automatically. In such a case, on the step 4 in place of “OK” press “Apply”, then on the tab Groups add new dictionary into the desired group.

HTML dictionaries

This type of dictionaries works similar to websites:

1. Download the most recent version of the dictionary.
2. Extract files from the archive.
3. In GoldenDict, open menu Edit > Dictionaries.
4. Switch to the tab Websites.
5. Press button “Add...” and fill new item:
 - enabled: ☒ (on);
 - as link: ☒ (on);
 - name: on your choice (does not matter);
 - address: `file:///C:/Users/user/Documents/Eulexis-html/index.html` (adapt it to the real path to “index.html”; it should start with ‘file:///’; use “forward” slashes instead of backslash).

Updating dictionary

If you are updating an old dictionary, simply replace it with files from new release. Then open menu File > Rescan Files.

Hunspell: words normalization



Latin is an inflected language, so a word could have several forms but dictionaries usually contain only its normal form, such as nominative singular for nouns. For this reason, one cannot simply copy an unknown word into GoldenDict, but has to manually type its correct form.

Hunspell is a spell checking system, also able to produce lemmas, i.e. normal forms of the words, so, for example, word “puellam” will be transformed to “puella”, which significantly simplifies work with dictionaries. Other examples of normalization are ligatures, “pæne” > “paene”, and diacritics, “curâ” or “malè”.

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Note: Hunspell helps finding lemmas of Latin language, but it does not work so with Ancient Greek.

Hunspell by itself needs a dictionary. To the date we could choose between two variants:

1. Dictionary by [Karl Zeiler and Jean-Pierre Sutto](#)
2. Dictionary by [Konrad Kokoszkiwicz](#) (at the very bottom of the page)

The first dictionary is the most universal, the second contains strictly classical lexicon (to the end of 2nd century AD). Each dictionary should work fine with GoldenDict. Additionally, they could be used for spellchecking in LibreOffice, Chrome, Firefox, &c.

Setting up

GoldenDict (desktop)

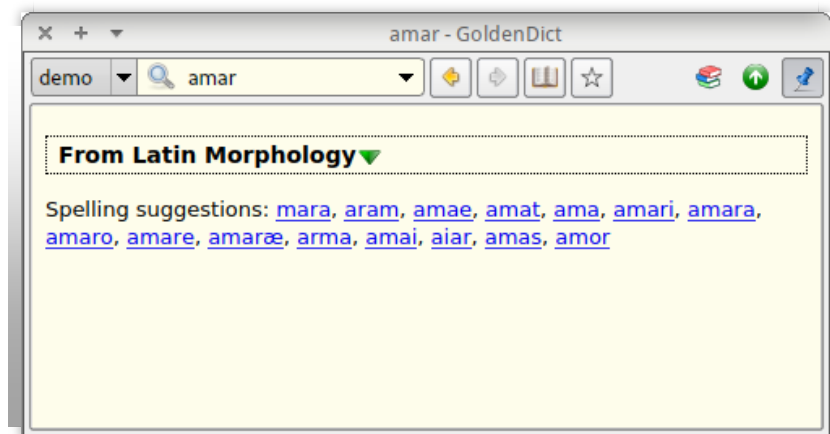
Note: Users of Linux could install Hunspell dictionaries as ordinary applications (see Software Center or something alike). For example, Arch Linux [provides a package](#) based on the dictionary of Karl Zeiler and Jean-Pierre Sutto. After installing, follow the step 3 in the list below, or start from beginning if your distributive has no Hunspell dictionary for Latin language.

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Procedure is simple:

1. [Download the dictionary](#) and extract files (Karl Zeiler's variant).
2. Start GoldenDict, open menu Edit > Dictionaries, tab Sources > Morphology.
3. Change "Path to a directory with Hunspell/Myspell dictionaries" to the folder where you saved the files. (**Linux**: if you installed dictionary as package, then the correct path will be "/usr/share/hunspell".)
4. Enable (check on) "Latin Morphology" in the list.
5. Press OK. Try typing an incorrect word, you should see the list of spelling suggestions (see image).
6. If not, open settings (Edit > Dictionaries), and on the tab Groups add "Latin Morphology" to the group.



GoldenDict Mobile

Copy files `la_LA.aff` and `la_LA.dic` to the phone's SD card, into the GoldenDict folder. Run application, it will recognize them as a new dictionary.

BlueDict (mobile)

Mobile application [BlueDict](#) for Android could use special [morphology dictionary](#). Registration is required for download from the website (all in Chinese). Probably, this file could be used in other applications reading MDict format, but it was not tested.

MDict (mobile)

MDict supports unmodified Hunspell dictionaries. Files `la_LA.aff` and `la_LA.dic` should be copied into the `"/mdict/data/"` folder.
