This table of file signatures (aka "magic numbers") is a continuing work-in-progress. I had found little information on this in a single place, with the exception of the table in *Forensic Computing: A Practitioner's Guide* by T. Sammes & B. Jenkinson (Springer, 2000); that was my inspiration to start this list in 2002. See also Wikipedia's [List of file signatures](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_file_signatures). Comments, additions, and queries can be sent to Gary Kessler at [gck@garykessler.net](mailto:gck@garykessler.net).

This list is not exhaustive although I add new files as I find them or someone contributes signatures. Interpret the table as a one-way function: the magic number generally indicates the file type whereas the file type does not always have the given magic number. If you want to know to what a particular file extension refers, check out [File Extension Seeker: Metasearch engine for file extensions](http://file-extension.net/seeker/).

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Some other useful information:

* My [software utility](https://www.garykessler.net/software/index.html#filesigs) page contains a custom signature file based upon this list, for use with FTK, Scalpel, Simple Carver, Simple Carver Lite, and TrID. There is also a raw CSV file and JSON file of signatures.
* Tim Coakley's [Filesig.co.uk](http://www.filesig.co.uk/) site, with Filesig Manager and Simple Carver. Also, see Tim's [SQLite Database Catalog](http://www.filesig.co.uk/sqlitedatabasecatalog/) page, "a repository of information used to identify specific SQLite databases and properties for research purposes."
* Marco Pontello's [TrID - File Identifier](http://mark0.net/soft-trid-e.html" \t "_blank) utility designed to identify file types from their binary signatures.
* The National Archives' [PRONOM](http://apps.nationalarchives.gov.uk/PRONOM/Default.aspx) site provides on-line information about data file formats and their supporting software products, as well as their multi-platform [DROID (Digital Record Object Identification)](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/information-management/manage-information/preserving-digital-records/droid/) software.
* Additional details on graphics file formats can be found at [The Graphics File Formats Page](http://www.dcs.ed.ac.uk/home/mxr/gfx/2d-hi.html) and the [Sustainability of Digital Formats Planning for Library of Congress Collections](http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/formats/fdd/still_fdd.shtml) site.
* Additional details on audio and video file formats can be found at the [Sustainability of Digital Formats Planning for Library of Congress Collections](http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/formats/fdd/browse_list.shtml) site