NETWORK NEWS

on the VAX/VMS system

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CONTENTS

1. Introduction 1

2. Reading news 2

3. Posting news 4

4. Default key mappings 5

5. Customising NEWS 6

6. Writing styles and conventions for messages and articles 10

7. Netiquette 12

8. Tips on how not to spend all day reading news 13

9. Concluding remarks 14

10. References 15

A. Appendix - list of active newsgroups 16

1. Introduction

Network News (netnews) is a computer-based bulletin board. As such, it has many similarities to a normal electronic mail delivery system (e-mail), as well as some major differences. Normally e-mail is typically a person-to-person communication. In such a system a third person cannot view the mail contents, and the mail is essentially a transaction between the sender and recipient. This e-mail model can be extended with the use of mailing lists. In this situation each user posts a mail item to a list of others, each of whom receives a copy of the mail. In this model the mail transaction is extended to include a group of users, but privacy is still intact to the extent that users who are not on the mailing distribution list cannot participate in the mail conversation. Bulletin Boards take the mailing list model one step further by allowing all users to have the ability to view all postings, and all postings made by users are public to all other users of the bulletin board (this is a simplification of many bulletin boards, which commonly provide functionality which encompasses all these models of communication, and more). Usually bulletin boards reside on one computer and users log into that particular computer or bulletin board to read or leave messages. The netnews 'board' floats around the world travelling from one computer on the network to another. Since new messages can be entered at any computer, the 'board' will usually look slightly different at every site.

The netnews community is quite large; there are thousands of sites and hundreds of thousands readers. Netnews is divided into hierarchical discussion groups, or newsgroups. As you move down the hierarchy generality decreases. As an example, the newsgroup for the appreciation and discussion of classical music is:

rec.music.classical

That is, the top level group is recreation (**rec**), the next is **music** and the last is **classical**. There are over a thousand newsgroups but only about 850 (as of Jan 1991) are distributed in Australia. Of course, there are many Australia only newsgroups. The topics covered include nearly all interests; both serious to whimsical, very technical to very non-technical. You may also participate in discussions by sending articles to newsgroups or by sending mail directly to someone who sent an article.

The most well known utilities for reading and posting news are those used on UNIX operating systems. There also are various utilities for reading and posting news on VMS/VMS systems. The one we use at this site is called NEWS, better known as ANU-NEWS as it was written and maintained solely be Geoff Huston from the Australian National University (now seconded to AARNet). ANU-NEWS provides support for DEC VT100 and VT200 series terminals and their respective keypads but also can be used without terminal screens (ie, lineprinters (ugh! :-))).

2. Reading news

To invoke an interactive session of NEWS, use the command:

```
$ NEWS
```

When beginning a session, NEWS will be in either of two modes. If your terminal supports SMG$ routines then NEWS will start automatically in screen mode, otherwise NEWS starts in line mode. You can also use the command

```
$ NEWS/NOSCREEN
```

to begin a session in line mode. When you invoke NEWS it will normally restore the screen to the state of the previous exit from NEWS.

At the highest level, users can obtain a directory of the available newsgroups using the command

```
NEWS> directory/all
```

which displays all the available newsgroups, or

```
NEWS> directory/register
```

which displays all the newsgroups which you have registered an interest in. The display will show the newsgroup name, index number and number of items within each newsgroup. You can browse through the list of newsgroups by, in screen mode, using the arrow keys or previous and next screen keys, or in line mode, hitting the <*return*> key to see the next screenful of newsgroups, or using the commands

```
NEWS> top          or          NEWS> bottom
```

Once you have found the newsgroup you wish to read, move the screen pointer down or up to the newsgroup and hit the <*return*> key, or use the command

```
NEWS> select <news.group.name>
```

where upon you will enter the items in the newsgroup can be displayed - automatically in screen mode or, in line mode, by using the command

```
NEWS> directory/item
```

The display will have information about the news item title, index number, sender, size (lines) and date. Once again you can browse through the items in a similar fashion to looking at the newsgroups and choose the item you wish to read by, again, moving the screen pointer down or up to the item number and hit the <*return*> key, or by using the command

```
NEWS> read <n>
```

where <*n*> is the item number.

The news item text will scroll through on the screen and hit the return key to continue reading. There is also a option to use the editor in read-only mode to display the text. This will allow you to scroll up and down, search for strings, and other editor search and display operations on the text. At any stage the text display can be aborted, and you may reset the screen to either display the list of news items or newsgroups. There are also commands to go forward, back and skip news items as you are reading them.

Since the number of newsgroups can be quite large, there is a facility to subscribe to a small number of newsgroups. You can do this by using the command

```
NEWS> register <news.group.name>
```

or moving the pointer to the newsgroup and just type `register`. Then you can use

```
NEWS> dir/reg      or      NEWS> newsgroups
```

commands to list the subscribed newsgroups. Once you have chosen your newsgroups then you can quickly check for new or unread items by the command

```
$ NEWS/SCAN        or      $ NEWS/UNSEEN
```

the difference being: `/SCAN` will only print a one line message indicating the number of new items and `/UNSEEN` will immediately enter a NEWS session if there are any unread items. Items themselves can be tagged to facilitate retrieval at a later date by using the command

```
NEWS> mark
```

which marks the current news item.

3. Posting news

There are two commands which allow the user to create a NEWS posting:

```
NEWS> post          or          NEWS> followup
```

where `post` implies that the item refers to a new subject which has not been discussed before and `followup` implies that the user is posting a follow-up item to the current item. `Post` invokes a text editor to create a news item and you will be prompted for the newsgroup or newsgroup list to which the item will be posted, and you will be prompted for the title of the posting.

NEWS also supports two commands which interface to VMS MAIL. This allows the user to forward NEWS items to other users via MAIL and also send direct person-to-person mail to the original poster of the news item. The commands

```
NEWS> forward       or          NEWS> mail
```

are synonymous; the *current* news item is extracted and posted to the addresses you supply. The default is: the item text is loaded into an edit buffer for editing before sending the mail - this may be omitted by using the `/noedit` qualifier with the command.

The command

```
NEWS> reply
```

extracts the *From:* address (or *Reply-To:* address, if specified) from the current news item and invokes the editor to create a reply which will be directed to the sender of the news item. This command differs from the `followup` command in that your response to an original posting is a private response whereas `followup` posts a public response through the NEWS network.

Some newsgroups are moderated. Moderated groups are ones that have one or more individuals acting as editors or moderators who approve messages before they are published on the net. Moderators ensure that all messages conform to the rules of the newsgroup. This might mean that discussion messages are removed from newsgroups that forbid them, and that software is checked before publication on software newsgroups. Postings cannot be sent to moderated newsgroups directly, rather the messages are posted to the moderator for them to post to the newsgroup. ANU-NEWS posts items destined for moderated groups to a central computer (*munnari.oz.au*) that automatically determines the appropriate network address of the moderator.

4. Default Keypad Definitions

NEWS commands are, by default, configured into the VT keypad as follows:

Key	Command	Gold Command
PF1	GOLD key	
PF2	help	
PF3	skip	
PF4	skip/newsgroup	skip/followup
kp0	read/new	read/new/header
kp1	read	read/header
kp2	down	bottom
kp3	read/next	read/next/header
kp4	dir	
kp5	up	top
kp6	directory/registered	
kp7	GOLD key	print
kp8	help	extract
kp9	skip	extract/all
minus (-)	skip/newsgroup	extract/append
comma (,)	directory/all	
period (.)	read/new/followup	read/new/followup/header

The LK201 edit block is also defined in NEWS, with the keys as follows:

Key	Command	Gold Command
Find	search	
Insert	register	
Remove	deregister	
Select	select	close
Previous Screen	previous screen	top
Next Screen	next screen	bottom

5. Customising NEWS

It is possible to customise NEWS in a number of ways. This includes changing the definitions of keys on the terminal, and changing the editor invoked by NEWS to the one of your choice. Customization can be done using three mechanisms: setting your keypad; using `set profile` command; and defining logical names. As there is some overlap in what these methods can define, the order of precedence is firstly any setting performed interactively overrides profile settings, which in turn override logical name settings.

Key Mappings

The default set of key mappings is given in the previous section. These defaults may be altered in two ways: using the

```
NEWS> define/key <key> <command>
```

command to bind a NEWS command to a key, or defining the logical name NEWS_INI to a file containing a sequence of `define/key` lines (which will be executed on startup of NEWS). **NOTE:** there are six keys which should not be DEFINED from the standard NEWS values: the four arrow keys and the PREV and NEXT SCREEN keys (this restriction is due to VMS).

Logical Names

There are a number of *logical names* which users may define to alter the behaviour of NEW. All these logical names are intended to be defined on pre-process basis as process logical names. This would normally be configured within the LOGIN.COM file:

NEWS_INI This can be defined as a file name which contains a set of `define/key` commands to change the default binding of news, eg:

```
$ DEFINE NEWS_INI SYS$LOGIN:NEWSKPD.DEFS
```

NEWS_EDIT This logical name can be used to link an editor to NEWS. The editor is used to generate new postings, and to edit forwarded mail, and (optionally) in readonly mode, to scan the item contents (ie, `read/editor`). By default NEWS links the TPU editor, using the value of the logical name TPU$SECTION as the section file to use. The logical name is used to either:

- use the TPU editor with a section other than the default:

```
$ DEFINE NEWS_EDIT "TPU/SECTION=mysection"
```

- use EDT as the configured editor:

```
$ DEFINE NEWS_EDIT CALLABLE_EDT
```

- call any other editor using a command procedure in a subprocess:

```
$ DEFINE NEWS_EDIT "@dev:[dir]my_editor.com"
```

whereupon NEWS will SPAWN the command:

```
$ @dev:[dir]my_editor.com filename
```

see below for an example of *my_editor.com* command procedure.

NEWS_VIEW This logical name is only required if you are using a local editor command procedure such as NEWS_EDIT. In this case a second procedure is required which invokes the same editor in read_only mode:

```
$ DEFINE NEWS_VIEW "@dev:[dir]my_reader.com filename"
```

whereupon NEWS will SPAWN the command:

```
$ @dev:[dir]my_reader.com filename
```

When TPU or EDT is configured as the editor, then NEWS will automatically add the /READONLY to create a readonly version of the editor.

NEWS_SCANSIZE NEWS will normally display the text of a news item on a page-by-page basis. When scanning through items it is often useful to only display the first few lines of an item, to decide whether to view the complete text. If the NEWS_SCANSIZE is defined as a number (*n*), then the first *n* lines of each new item will be displayed, and you will be prompted if you wish to see more of this item. Commonly, a value of between 8 and 12 is most useful.

MAIL_SIGNATURE This logical name may be defined as the name of your mail signature file. If this logical name is defined, then the contents of this file will be automatically appended to all postings and mailings made from within NEWS.

NEWS_DEFAULT_DIRECTORY NEWS will normally remember the last newsgroup directory setting across invocations of the program (ie, if you had executed `dir/new` before exiting NEWS, then when you next run NEWS, the initial newsgroup directory state will be restored to `dir/new`). It is possible to specify a constant initial directory state be defining this logical as one of the strings:

ALL NEW REGISTER SINCE SINCE=*vms_date*

NEWS_POST_CC This logical name directs NEWS to generate MAIL carbon-copies of NEWS postings. The logical name value is interpreted by NEWS as the name of a CC control file. This file consists of lines of the form:

```
newsgroup    address
```

The newsgroup name starts in column 1, and may be the name of a single newsgroup, or may specify a set of newsgroups be including the wildcard match character ("`*`"). The address is the address to receive a carbon copy of the posting. It is separated from the newsgroup name be at least one space character. The address may be a DECnet or internet-format address. The interpretation of the file is such that any postings you make into any of the specified newsgroups will also generate mail to the matching address.

NEWS_PERSONAL_NAME Sets the personal name string. This name is appended to your network address in all NEWS postings. If this logical name is not defined, your VMS MAIL profile is examined to copy your MAIL personal name as your NEWS personal name.

NEWS_EDIT Command Procedures

An example command procedure to invoke an editor from NEWS is as follows:

`editor_example.com`

```
$!
$!    Example command procedure to invoke an editor for NEWS
$!
$!    inputs:
$!          P! = file name
$!
$!    Note that this procedure is run in the context of a subprocess.
$!    LOGIN.COM is not executed.  However, all process logical names
$!    and DCL global symbols are copied.
$!
$!    The default directory is the same as the parent process
$!
$!    Note that this will only be invoked if the user has placed in
$!    LOGIN.COM (or similar):
$!
$!          $ DEFINE NEWS_EDIT "@dev:[dir]newsedit_example.com"
$!
$ DEFINE/USER SYS$INPUT 'F$TRNLNM("SYS$OUTPUT")'
$ IF P1.EQS."" THEN EXIT
$ EDIT/EDT 'P1'
$ EXIT
```

In connection with the definition of a personal profile the following message from Reg Quinton, <reggers@uwovax.BITNET> is relevant:

> *" Many news users of ANU-NEWS (especially those new to VAX/VMS) have great difficulty posting their first article. The problem is that NEWS assumes you know a bit about VAX/VMS already -- in particular that you know about the default editor. This is often a faulty assumption and naive users are rightly distressed when they find themselves put into a strange environment. Composing text can, and should be simpler than that!*
>
> *We have therefore defined a procedure for entered text which is easier to use but without all the power of a VAX/VMS editor). We would encourage all beginning users to set their profile as follows:*
>
> ```
> NEWS> set profile/editor=@news_manager:noedit
> ```
>
> *There are several other profile settings discussed in both the help and manual. If you have set your profile as above then the* `post` *command will use this procedure for composing you message -- the procedure will say:*
>
> ```
> Enter text, end with ^Z (Control-Z)
> -----
> ```
>
> *You may then enter you message a line at a time with the usual line editing features of VMS. You end your text with a Control-Z character which is constructed by typing a 'Z' while holding down the 'Control' key.*
>
> *Once you have learned an editor on the VAX/VMS environment you can set your profile accordingly, for example:*
>
> ```
> NEWS> set profile/editor=emacs "
> ```

The following command procedure was submitted:

`news_manager:noedit.com`

```
$!    The most primitive editor for news -- read from your console
$!
$!    Reg Quinton <reggers@uwovax.BITNET>;  1-Aug-89
$!
$ if p1.eqs.""
$ then
$     write sys$output "Oops ... missing parameter"
$     exit
$ else
$     write sys$output "Enter text, end with ^Z (Control-Z)"
$     write sys$output "-----"
$     copy sys$command 'p1'
$ endif
```

6. Writing styles and conventions for messages and articles

There are certain styles and conventions used in netnews communications of which you should be aware. Some of the more common styles are covered here but for a fuller treatment, see '*A primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community*' and '*Hints on Writing Style for Usenet*', both in the **news.announce.newusers** newsgroup.

Most netusers have a signature that they place at the end of their posted news message. The signature is meant to convey who you are, what your affiliation is, and what you network address is. Some users have created very elaborate signatures, but in general long signatures are considered to be in bad taste. The following sample signatures break the rules, but they are pretty:

```
  o,  ,,   ,       | Bernie Bernstein                        |  ,    ,,
  L>o/  \,/ \    , | University of Colorado at boulder       | / \,,/  \
 o./  ,  / . `, /  | office: (3030) 492-1218                 |     /   \
,/   /  ,      '   | email: benard@boulder.colorado.edu      |  /
```

```
' ) ) )      /          /)    ' )  )    ' )   /    _/_
 / / / o _. /_  __. _  //      /--'      / / / __. /  _   ____
/ ' (_(_(__/ /_(_(_(<_(/_     /  \ o    (_(_/ (_(_(__/_)_(_) /)
```

```
              Arpa:    mwatson@nswc-oas.arpa
              Usenet:  uunet!nsw-oas.arpa!mwatson
```

A signature should not be more than four lines long. Apart from your name and institution, the signature should contain your international network address. If you are posting an article to a newsgroup, and you are expressing an opinion on a project or service, you are expected to disclose you association and pecuniary interests. This is commonly done as a disclaimer at the foot of the message.

Humour plays a strong role in electronic communications, and it is used to make the printed message more human. This is often achieved by the use of the smiley face '`:-)`'. If it doesn't look like a smiley face to you, tilt your head over to the left and look again. It means that something is being said in jest, as in:

```
"... and both are 'documented' (read 'buried' :-))
 within the manual."
```

There are some other types of smiley in common use. This is a sad smiley face '`:-(`'. It is used to express personal dismay as in:

```
"... however 'Snowflakes' (white chocolate 'Flakes')
 are only available in NZ :-("
```

The winking smiley '`;-)`' is also used to mean that something has been said in jest.

The embarrassed smiley '`:-}`' is used when you have made a *faux pas*.

Of course if someone has just told you off and your nose has really been put out of joint, you use '`:^(`'.

Another way of introducing persona into an electronic message is to use stress marks. The most common stress mark is '`*`', and it is put around the word you want stressed.

```
"... but MPW is *the* power development system."
```

Abbreviations are also used in electronic communications. The most common are BTW (by the way) and FYI (for your information). Others which you may come across include: IMHO (in my humble opinion), WRT (with respect to), and RTFM (read the f***ing manual - an admonishment to an enquiry or complaint that could have been answered by looking in the right place first).

When answering someone's query, or clarifying a point made by another, it is conventional to quote from the message so that other readers do not have to refer to the original. This is called quoting. The quote should be kept as short as possible, prefixed with the '>' citation character or indented to show that it is a quote, and original author and article should be referenced. ANU-NEWS automatically does this for you when you use the `followup` or `reply` command to a news item.

7. Netiquette

Netiquette, as you may have surmised, is the etiquette of using the net. There are approximately 80,000 host computers on the net world-wide. A message posted to a newsgroup will travel to most and sometimes all of those sites. It is important that the messages are relevant and of general interest, and that duplication is avoided. For these reasons we have netiquette.

Some of the rules and customs of netiquette have already been covered above under Writing Styles and Conventions for Messages and Articles. Here are some others that are of general importance.

a) If you respond to a news item, consider responding direct to the author with mail. Don't clutter up the network with information that is not widely required, or that my be duplicated by other responders.

b) If you post a news item asking for information, encourage responders to respond by mail and offer to summarise the responses in a follow-up news item. That is, have:

```
"Please respond to me directly, and I will
 summarise."
```

within the body of your news item.

c) If you are summarising, summarise! Don't just concatenate all your responses. Remove duplicated information, edit what you get so it is succinct, and include thanks and credit to everyone that responded. It is also useful to include parts of the original request for those readers who didn't see it. When posting a summary, some netfolk make the subject the original descriptive title preceded by the word

```
"Summary:"
```

d) Give some thought to the descriptive title you put on the subject line of your posting. General terms such as '`Fortran problem`' are not as helpful as '`Fortran index file read problem`' but keep the descriptive title short as it will be truncated at 40 characters.

e) Select the most appropriate newsgroup for your news item. Don't post to more than one group unless it is absolutely necessary.

f) Don't post controversial statements that are likely to start a flaming session. eg,

```
"It's obvious that automobiles are dangerous and
 should be banned."
```

Spelling mistakes also annoy some people, so check your message before posting it.

8. Tips on how not to spend all day reading news

The problem with reading news is that there is so much of it - megabytes daily. The trick to reading news quickly is to not read it all. Hence the first step is to only subscribe to those newsgroups that are of vital importance to you. When you need to, you can still look at other groups by using the news command:

```
NEWS> directory/all
```

The second tip refers to how often you read news. About once a week is usually adequate. It means that your reading time is confined to one slot per week and it puts an upper limit on how long you can spend reading. Decide how much time you are willing to spend reading news, and do it all in one session.

Third tip: be selective about what you read. Every news item has a subject line that indicates (to a lesser or greater degree) what the item is about. Obviously, you don't read the items that you are not interested in, but skipping from one item to the next can seem slow especially when generally you could expect to read between two and five percent of the items. That's right! 2-5%

Fourth tip: read moderated newsgroups in preference to unmoderated newsgroups, if one is available. As one moderator from **comp.sys.mac.digest** put it,

```
"one of the goals of a moderated [newsgroup] is to reduce the
 signal-to-noise ratio in the postings we send out"
```

And take my word for it, there is a lot of junk on some of the unmoderated newsgroups. Moderated newsgroups take a number of forms. One, the digest, is a compendium of news items put out as a periodical. For example, **Comp.risk** is a digest which is put out three times a week, and consists of news items about risks to the public from computers and users that have been mailed to the moderators. A digest appears as a single item and the article can be quite long, typically 3-400 lines.

Tip five: share the work of accessing the net with colleagues. If the digest meets the needs of a group of people, then having one person print the digest, and then circulating it, is much more time efficient than all members of the group accessing the same digest online. In any case, it's quicker to scan a printed document that it is to scan a digest on the screen.

The sixth tip relates to extracting news items on a specific topic. Sometimes you will only be interested in the follow-up articles to a specific news item, eg, someone asks a question to which you would also like to know the answer, so you want to pick out all the follow-up articles that relate to that question. You can use the

```
NEWS> search <target>
```

command with various qualifiers to contain the search list.

The seventh and last tip is from a long time user of the net. His strategy is to only read articles with subjects lines beginning with 'Re:'. This is based on the premise that if no-one has responded to the item then its probably not that interesting, and the follow-up articles are always in context since they quote from the original. It is a good idea in theory.

9. Concluding remarks

Participating in the netnews can be a lot of fun, as well as being useful in the pursuit of knowledge and in obtaining current information. As an introduction to news, try following a newsgroup for a while before attempting to post a message. You may feel silly sending an erroneous message to a colleague, but that will be nothing compared with doing the same thing in front of your peers all over the world.

One important aspect of news that has not been covered in this document is the access to public domain software. The net is an extremely rich source for UNIX, VAX/VMS, MS-DOS, Macintosh, and other computer systems software.

10. References

Sections of this document have been partly or wholly plagarised from the following:

Online:

```
$ help news

NEWS> help
```

NetNews:

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Dave Taylor, 1986. *Personalising the impersonal (and other tales of communication in the computer age).* ;login: (Newsletter of the USENIX Association), vol 11, No 6, 1986.

Geoff Huston, Oct 1990. *ANU News v6.0 documentation.* pp 1-183.

A. Appendix

List of Active Newsgroups, Jan 1991.

NEWSGROUP	DESCRIPTION
alt.activism	Activities for activists.
alt.alien.visitors	
alt.angst	Anxiety in the modern world.
alt.aquaria	The aquarium & related as a hobby.
alt.artcom	Artistic Community.
alt.atheism	Discussions of atheism.
alt.atheism	People without religious holidays.
alt.bbs	Computer BBS systems & software.
alt.bbs.ads	Ads for various computer BBS's.
alt.bbs.internet	
alt.bbs.waffle	The Waffle UUCP BBS.
alt.binaries.multimedia	
alt.books.technical	
alt.brother-jed	
alt.callahans	Callahan's bar for puns and fellowship.
alt.censorship	Discussion about restricting speech/press.
alt.child-support	?
alt.co-ops	Discussion about co-operatives.
alt.cobol	Programming for the old-fashioned.
alt.cobol	Use of the programming language COBOL.
alt.config	Alternative subnet discussions and connectivity.
alt.conspiracy	Be paranoid -- they're out to get you.
alt.cosuard	Council of Sysops & Users Against Rate Discrimination.
alt.cult-movies	Movies with a cult following (e.g., Rocky Horror PS).
alt.cyb-sys	Cybernetics and Systems.
alt.cyberpunk	High-tech low-life.
alt.cyberpunk.chatsubo	
alt.cyberpunk.tech	Cyberspace and Cyberpunk technology.
alt.desert-shield	?
alt.dev.null	The ultimate in moderated newsgroups. (Moderated)
alt.dreams	What do they mean?
alt.drugs	Recreational pharmaceuticals and related flames.
alt.ernie-pook	
alt.evil	?
alt.exotic-music	Exotic music discussions.
alt.fan.dave_barry	Electronic fan club for humorist Dave Barry.
alt.fan.dice-man	
alt.fan.furry	
alt.fan.mike-jittlov	Mike Jittlov Fandom.
alt.fan.monty-python	Fans of Monty Python.
alt.fandom.cons	CONS fandom.
alt.fandom.misc	Misc fandom.
alt.fax	Faxing documents -- protocols, equipment, etc.
alt.fax.bondage	
alt.fishing	Fishing as a hobby and sport.
alt.flame	Alternative, literate, pithy, succinct screaming.
alt.folklore.computers	Stories & anecdotes about computers (some true!).
alt.folklore.urban	Urban legends, ala Jan Harold Brunvand.
alt.forgery	One place for all forgeries -- crossposting encouraged.
alt.fractals	Fractals in math, graphics, and art.
alt.fractals.pictures	
alt.games.gb	The Galactic Bloodshed conquest game.
alt.gourmand	Recipes & cooking info. (Moderated)
alt.graphics	
alt.graphics.pixutils	Discussion of pixmap utilities.
alt.great-lakes	Discussions of the Great Lakes and adjacent places.
alt.hackers	Descriptions of projects currently under deveopment. (Moderated)
alt.horror	The horror genre.
alt.humor.oracle	
alt.hypertext	Discussion of hypertext -- uses, transport, etc.
alt.individualism	Philosophies where individual rights are paramount.

alt.irc	
alt.kids-talk	A place for the pre-college set on the net.
alt.lang.cfutures	Discussion of the future of the C programming language
alt.lang.intercal	
alt.magic	
alt.models	Model building, design, etc.
alt.msdos.programmer	For the serious MS/DOS programmer (no for sale ads).
alt.mud	Discussion of Multi-user dungeon programs.
alt.mud.tiny	For Tiny Mud discussions.
alt.native	?
alt.pagan	Discussions about paganism & religion.
alt.paranormal	
alt.party	
alt.peeves	Discussion of peeves & related.
alt.personals	Personals.
alt.politics.homosexuality	As the name implies
alt.postmodern	Postmodernism, semiotics, deconstruction, and the like.
alt.prose	Postings of original writings, fictional & otherwise.
alt.prose.d	Discussions about postings in alt.prose.
alt.rap-gdead	Fans of The Grateful Dead and Rap. Really.
alt.recovery	For people in recovery programs (e.g., AA, ACA, GA).
alt.religion.computers	People who believe computing is "real life."
alt.restaurants	Serious consideration of the art of restauranting.
alt.rhode_island	Discussion of the great little state.
alt.rissa	For discussing the one and only rissa.
alt.rmgroup	For the people who like to rmgroup/newgroup things.
alt.rock-n-roll	Counterpart to alt.sex and alt.drugs....
alt.rock-n-roll.metal	For the headbangers on the net.
alt.rock-n-roll.metal.metallica	
alt.romance	Discussion about the romantic side of love.
alt.security	Unmoderated security discussions.
alt.security.index	Pointers to good stuff in alt.security. (Moderated)
alt.sewing	Working with needle and thread.
alt.sex	Postings of a prurient nature.
alt.sex.bestiality	Happiness is a warm puppy.
alt.sex.bondage	Postings about dominance/submission.
alt.sex.carasso.snuggles	
alt.sex.graphics	
alt.sex.pictures	Lewd pictures consuming net bandwidth.
alt.sex.pictures.d	Discussion group for
alt.sex.pictures.	
alt.sex.wanted	Probably not what the name implies...
alt.skate	Rollerskating and skateboarding.
alt.skinheads	The skinhead culture/anti-culture.
alt.slack	Posting relating to the Church of the Subgenius.
alt.society.ati	? (Moderated)
alt.society.cu-digest	Postings about the Computer Underground. (Moderated)
alt.sources	Alternative source code, unmoderated. Caveat Emptor.
alt.sources.amiga	Technically-oriented Amiga PC sources.
alt.sources.d	Discussion of posted sources.
alt.sources.index	Pointers to source code in alt.sources.*. (Moderated)
alt.sources.patches	Reposted patches from non-.bugs groups.
alt.sources.wanted	Requests for source code.
alt.sport.bungee	
alt.sport.paintball	
alt.startrek.creative	Something about Startrek...
alt.stupidity	Discussion about stupid newsgroups.
alt.suicide.finals	
alt.suicide.holiday	Talk of why suicides increase at holidays.
alt.support	
alt.surfing	
alt.sys.pc532	
alt.sys.sun	Technical discussion of Sun Microsstem products.
alt.tasteless	Canibalism
alt.tennis	The game & sport of tennis.
alt.test	Alternative subnetwork testing.
alt.text.dwb	
alt.thrash	Skateboards and thrashlife
alt.toolkits.xview	The X windows XView toolkit.
alt.tv.muppets	The Muppets TV show.
alt.tv.prisoner	Number 6.
alt.tv.simpsons	The Simpsons TV show.
alt.tv.tiny-toon	

alt.tv.twin-peaks	Discussion about the popular (and unusual) TV show.
alt.weemba	Talk & flames about the one & only Weemba.
aus.aarnet	Issues related to the Australian Academic Net
aus.acsnet	Discussions of ACSnet (incl bug reports)
aus.ai	AI discussions
aus.archives	Announcements of available software
aus.auug	AUUG Inc - Australian Unix User Group
aus.aviation	Planes, gliders, flying, etc.
aus.bicycle	Push bikes
aus.bizarre	
aus.comms	Discussion about communications in general
aus.computers	Misc computer types
aus.computers.amiga	Discussions about Commodore Amiga computers
aus.computers.ibm-pc	Discussions about the IBM pc & clones
aus.conserve	Information and discussion of conservation issues.
aus.culture.china	soc.culture.china redistributed ...
aus.films	Movies, Cinema, TV
aus.flame	Abusive noise, posted by morons.
aus.followup	Followups to aus.general & aus.wanted articles
aus.forsale	Announcements of items for sale.
aus.fps	Fast Packet Switching
aus.games	Discussions of games.
aus.games.roleplay	Discussions of role playing games.
aus.general	General information, announcements, etc
aus.genstat	Genstat Stats Package
aus.hi-fi	Hi Fi Issues.
aus.jobs	Jobs available & wanted
aus.jokes	Jokes, humour, and boring trivia
aus.jokes.d	Discussions of why that joke was no good
aus.kermit	The KERMIT file transfer protocol
aus.lp	Logic Programming
aus.mac	The Apple Macintosh computer
aus.mail	Mail systems, addressinc, &c
aus.map	ACSnet maps (Moderated)
aus.mbio	Molecular biology
aus.music	Music and related issues.
aus.netstatus	Status of local & international net links
aus.news	The news system
aus.parallel	Parallel processing
aus.photo	Photography, video, etc.
aus.politics	Politics, debates, rational(?) arguments.
aus.pyramid	Pyramid computers
aus.radio	Amateur Radio
aus.radio.amsat	Amateur Radio Satellites
aus.religion	Discussions of, or related to, religions
aus.scheme	Scheme
aus.sf	Australian discussion of SF&F literature,media,fandom
aus.sources	Sources
aus.sport	Generic discussions of sport
aus.stats.s	Discussions of the S data analysis and graphics software
aus.sun-works	Sun Workstations
aus.tex	The TeX typesetting system
aus.wanted	Requests for sources, information, ...
bionet.agroforestry	Discussion of Agroforestry.
bionet.general	General BIONET announcements.
bionet.general	General BIOSCI discussion.
bionet.genome.chrom22	Discussion of Chromosome 22.
bionet.jobs	Scientific Job opportunities.
bionet.journals.contents	Contents of biology journal publications.
bionet.molbio.ageing	Discussions of cellular and organismal ageing.
bionet.molbio.bio-matrix	Computer applications to biological databases.
bionet.molbio.embldatabank	Info about the EMBL Nucleic acid database.
bionet.molbio.evolution	How genes and proteins have evolved.
bionet.molbio.genbank	Info about the GenBank Nucleic acid database.
bionet.molbio.genbank.updates	Hot off the presses! (Moderated)
bionet.molbio.gene-org	How genes are organized on chromosomes.
bionet.molbio.genome-program	Discussion of Human Genome Project issues.
bionet.molbio.methds-reagnts	Requests for information and lab reagents.
bionet.molbio.news	Research news of interest to the community.
bionet.molbio.pir	Info about the PIR protein sequence database.
bionet.molbio.proteins	Research on proteins and protein databases.
bionet.molbio.swiss-prot	Discussion on the SWISS-PROT Database.
bionet.population-bio	Technical discussions about population biology.

bionet.sci-resources	Information about funding agencies, etc.
bionet.software	Information about software for biology.
bionet.technology.conversion	Use of technology to convert waste and biomass.
bionet.users.addresses	Who's who in Biology.
comp.ai	Artificial intelligence discussions.
comp.ai.digest	Artificial Intelligence discussions. (Moderated)
comp.ai.edu	Applications of Artificial Intelligence to Education.
comp.ai.neural-nets	All aspects of neural networks.
comp.ai.nlang-know-rep	Natural Language and Knowledge Representation. (Moderated)
comp.ai.philosophy	Philosophical aspects of Artificial Intelligence.
comp.ai.shells	Artificial intelligence applied to shells. (Moderated)
comp.ai.vision	Artifical Intelligence Vision Research. (Moderated)
comp.arch	Computer architecture.
comp.archives	Listings of archive site details. (Moderated)
comp.benchmarks	Discussion of benchmarking techniques and results.
comp.binaries.amiga	Encoded public domain programs in binary. (Moderated)
comp.binaries.apple2	Binary-only postings for the Apple II computer.
comp.binaries.atari.st	Binary-only postings for the Atari ST. (Moderated)
comp.binaries.ibm.pc	Binary-only postings for IBM PC/MS-DOS. (Moderated)
comp.binaries.ibm.pc.d	Discussions about IBM/PC binary postings.
comp.binaries.mac	Encoded Macintosh programs in binary. (Moderated)
comp.binaries.os2	Binary-only postings for OS/2. (Moderated)
comp.binaries.os2	Binary-only postings for OS/2. (Moderated)
comp.bugs.2bsd	Reports of UNIX* version 2BSD related bugs.
comp.bugs.4bsd	Reports of UNIX version 4BSD related bugs.
comp.bugs.4bsd.ucb-fixes	Bug reports/fixes for BSD Unix. (Moderated)
comp.bugs.misc	General UNIX bug reports and fixes (incl V7, uucp)
comp.bugs.sys5	Reports of USG (System III, V, etc.) bugs.
comp.cog-eng	Cognitive engineering.
comp.compilers	Compiler construction, theory, etc. (Moderated)
comp.databases	Database and data management issues and theory.
comp.dcom.fax	
comp.dcom.lans	Local area network hardware and software.
comp.dcom.lans.hyperchannel	Hyperchannel networks within an IP network.
comp.dcom.lans.v2lni	Proteon Pronet/V2LNI Ring networks.
comp.dcom.modems	Data communications hardware and software.
comp.dcom.sys.cisco	Cisco routers & terminal servers.
comp.dcom.telecom	Telecommunications digest. (Moderated)
comp.doc	Archived public-domain documentation. (Moderated)
comp.doc.techreports	Lists of technical reports. (Moderated)
comp.dsp	Digital sound processing (or something)
comp.editors	Topics related to computerized text editing.
comp.edu	Computer science education.
comp.edu.composition	Writing instruction in computer-based classrooms.
comp.emacs	EMACS editors of different flavors.
comp.fonts	Font info.
comp.graphics	Computer graphics, art, animation, image processing.
comp.graphics.digest	Graphics software, hardware, theory, etc. (Moderated)
comp.graphics.visualization	
comp.groupware	Hardware & software for facilitating group interaction.
comp.infosystems	Any discussion about information systems.
comp.ivideodisc	Interactive videodiscs -- uses, potential, etc.
comp.lang.ada	Discussion about Ada*.
comp.lang.apl	Discussion about APL.
comp.lang.asm370	Programming in IBM System/370 Assembly Language.
comp.lang.c	Discussion about C.
comp.lang.c++	The object-oriented C++ language.
comp.lang.clos	
comp.lang.clu	The CLU language & related topics. (Moderated)
comp.lang.eiffel	The object-oriented Eiffel language.
comp.lang.forth	Discussion about Forth.
comp.lang.forth.mac	The CSI MacForth programming environment.
comp.lang.fortran	Discussion about FORTRAN.
comp.lang.functional	Functional Programming, etc.
comp.lang.icon	Topics related to the ICON programming language.
comp.lang.idl	IDL (Interface Description Language) related topics.
comp.lang.idl-pvwave	IDL and PV-Wave language discussions.
comp.lang.lisp	Discussion about LISP.
comp.lang.lisp.franz	The Franz Lisp programming language.
comp.lang.lisp.x	The XLISP language system.
comp.lang.misc	Different computer languages not specifically listed.
comp.lang.modula2	Discussion about Modula-2.
comp.lang.modula3	

comp.lang.objective-c	The Objective-C language and environment
comp.lang.pascal	Discussion about Pascal.
comp.lang.perl	Discussion about Perl.
comp.lang.postscript	The PostScript Page Description Language.
comp.lang.prolog	Discussion about PROLOG.
comp.lang.rexx	The REXX command language.
comp.lang.scheme	The Scheme Programming language.
comp.lang.scheme.c	The Scheme language environment.
comp.lang.sigplan	Info & announcements from ACM SIGPLAN. (Moderated)
comp.lang.smalltalk	Discussion about Smalltalk 80.
comp.lang.visual	Visual programming languages.
comp.laser-printers	Laser printers, hardware & software. (Moderated)
comp.lsi	Large scale integrated circuits.
comp.lsi.cad	Electrical Computer Aided Design.
comp.mail.elm	Discussion and fixes for ELM mail system.
comp.mail.headers	Gatewayed from the ARPA header-people list.
comp.mail.maps	Various maps, including UUCP maps. (Moderated)
comp.mail.mh	The UCI version of the Rand Message Handling system.
comp.mail.misc	General discussions about computer mail.
comp.mail.multi-media	Multimedia Mail.
comp.mail.mush	The Mail User's Shell (MUSH).
comp.mail.sendmail	Configuring and using the BSD sendmail agent.
comp.mail.uucp	Mail in the uucp network environment.
comp.misc	General topics about computers not covered elsewhere.
comp.music	Applications of computers in music research.
comp.newprod	Announcements of new products of interest. (Moderated)
comp.object	Object oriented programming
comp.org.decus	DEC* Users' Society newsgroup.
comp.org.eff.news	News from the Electronic Frontiers Foundation. (Moderated)
comp.org.eff.talk	Discussion of EFF goals, strategies, etc.
comp.org.fidonet	FidoNews digest, official news of FidoNet Assoc. (Moderated)
comp.org.ieee	Issues and announcements about the IEEE & its members.
comp.org.sug	
comp.org.sug	Talk about/for the The Sun User's Group.
comp.org.uniforum	News/discussion about/from the UniForum organization.
comp.org.usenix	USENIX Association events and announcements.
comp.org.usenix.roomshare	Finding lodging during Usenix conferences.
comp.org.usrgroup	News/discussion about/from the /usr/group organization.
comp.os.aos	Topics related to Data General's AOS/VS.
comp.os.cpm	Discussion about the CP/M operating system.
comp.os.cpm.amethyst	Discussion of Amethyst, CP/M-80 software package.
comp.os.eunice	The SRI Eunice system.
comp.os.mach	The MACH OS from CMU & other places.
comp.os.minix	Discussion of Tanenbaum's MINIX system.
comp.os.misc	Miscellaneous OS discussions.
comp.os.msdos.apps	Discussion of applications that run under MS-DOS.
comp.os.msdos.misc	Miscellaneous topics about MS-DOS machines.
comp.os.msdos.programmer	Programming MS-DOS machines.
comp.os.os2	Discussions about the os2 operating system.
comp.os.os2.apps	Discussions of applications under OS/2.
comp.os.os2.misc	Miscellaneous topics about the OS/2 system.
comp.os.os2.programmer	Programming OS/2 machines.
comp.os.os9	Discussions about the os9 operating system.
comp.os.research	Operating systems and related areas. (Moderated)
comp.os.rsts	Topics related to the PDP-11 RSTS/E operating system.
comp.os.v	The V distributed operating system from Stanford.
comp.os.vms	DEC's VAX* line of computers & VMS.
comp.os.xinu	The XINU operating system from Purdue (D. Comer).
comp.parallel	Massively parallel hardware/software. (Moderated)
comp.periphs	Peripheral devices.
comp.periphs.printers	Information on printers.
comp.periphs.scsi	SCSI interface issues.
comp.protocols.appletalk	Applebus hardware & software.
comp.protocols.ibm	Networking with IBM mainframes.
comp.protocols.iso	The ISO protocol stack.
comp.protocols.iso.dev-environ	The ISO Development Environment.
comp.protocols.iso.x400	X400 mail protocol discussions. (Moderated)
comp.protocols.iso.x400.gateway	X400 mail gateway discussions. (Moderated)
comp.protocols.kerberos	The Kerberos authentification server.
comp.protocols.kermit	Info about the Kermit package. (Moderated)
comp.protocols.misc	Various forms and types of FTP protocol.
comp.protocols.nfs	Discussion about the Network File System protocol.
comp.protocols.pcnet	Don't know yet...

comp.protocols.pup	Probably Xerox PUP
comp.protocols.tcp-ip	TCP and IP network protocols.
comp.protocols.tcp-ip.domains	Topics related to Domain Style names.
comp.protocols.tcp-ip.ibmpc	TCP/IP for IBM(-like) personal computers.
comp.protocols.time.ntp	
comp.protocols.time.ntp	The network time protocol.
comp.realtime	Issues related to real-time computing.
comp.research.japan	(Moderated)
comp.risks	Risks to the public from computers & users. (Moderated)
comp.robotics	All aspects of robots and their applications.
comp.security.announce	Secutity announcements. (Moderated)
comp.simulation	Simulation methods, problems, uses. (Moderated)
comp.society	The impact of technology on society. (Moderated)
comp.society.futures	Events in technology affecting future computing.
comp.society.women	Women's roles and problems in computing (Moderated)
comp.soft-sys.andrew	The Andrew system from CMU.
comp.software-eng	Software Engineering and related topics.
comp.sources.amiga	Source code-only postings for the Amiga. (Moderated)
comp.sources.apple2	Source code-only postings for the Apple //. (Moderated)
comp.sources.atari.st	Source code-only postings for the Atari ST. (Moderated)
comp.sources.bugs	Bug reports, fixes, discussion for posted sources
comp.sources.d	For any discussion of source postings.
comp.sources.games	Postings of recreational software. (Moderated)
comp.sources.games.bugs	Bug reports and fixes for posted game software.
comp.sources.mac	Software for the Apple Macintosh. (Moderated)
comp.sources.misc	Posting of software . (Moderated)
comp.sources.sun	Postings of sources for SUN workstations. (Moderated)
comp.sources.unix	Postings of complete, UNIX-oriented sources. (Moderated)
comp.sources.wanted	Requests for software and fixes.
comp.sources.x	Sources related to the X window system. (Moderated)
comp.specification	Languages and methodologies for formal specification of computer systems.
comp.std.c	Discussion about C language standards.
comp.std.c++	Discussion about C++ language, library, standards.
comp.std.internat	Discussion about international standards.
comp.std.misc	Discussion about various standards.
comp.std.mumps	Discussion for the X11.1 committee on Mumps. (Moderated)
comp.std.unix	Discussion for the P1003 committee on UNIX. (Moderated)
comp.sw.components	Software components and related technology.
comp.sys.acorn	
comp.sys.alliant	Info and discussion about Alliant computers.
comp.sys.amiga	Commodore Amiga: info&uses, but no programs.
comp.sys.amiga.games	Discussion of games for the Commodore Amiga.
comp.sys.amiga.hardware	Amiga computer hardware, Q&A, reviews, etc.
comp.sys.amiga.tech	Amiga programming technical issues.
comp.sys.apollo	Apollo computer systems.
comp.sys.apple	Discussion about Apple micros.
comp.sys.apple2	Discussion about Apple II micros.
comp.sys.atari.8bit	Discussion about 8 bit Atari micros.
comp.sys.atari.st	Discussion about 16 bit Atari micros.
comp.sys.atari.st.tech	Technical discussions of Atari ST hard/software.
comp.sys.att	Discussions about AT&T microcomputers.
comp.sys.cbm	Discussion about Commodore micros.
comp.sys.cdc	Control Data Corporation Computers (e.g., Cybers).
comp.sys.celerity	Celerity Computers
comp.sys.concurrent	Concurrent (P/E Masscomp) computers. (Moderated)
comp.sys.dec	Discussions about DEC computer systems.
comp.sys.dec.micro	DEC Micros (Rainbow, Professional 350/380)
comp.sys.encore	Encore's MultiMax computers.
comp.sys.handhelds	Handheld computers and programmable calculators.
comp.sys.hp	Discussion about Hewlett-Packard equipment.
comp.sys.ibm.pc	Discussion about IBM personal computers.
comp.sys.ibm.pc.digest	The IBM PC, PC-XT, and PC-AT. (Moderated)
comp.sys.ibm.pc.hardware	XT/AT/EISA hardware, any vendor.
comp.sys.ibm.pc.misc	Discussion about IBM personal computers.
comp.sys.ibm.pc.programmer	IBM PC programmer issues?
comp.sys.ibm.pc.rt	Topics related to IBM's RT computer.
comp.sys.ibm.ps2.hardware	Microchannel hardware, any vendor.
comp.sys.intel	Discussions about Intel systems and parts.
comp.sys.intel.ipsc310	Anything related to Xenix on an Intel 310.
comp.sys.isis	The ISIS distributed system from Cornell.
comp.sys.laptops	Portable computers.
comp.sys.m6809	Discussion about 6809's.
comp.sys.m68k	Discussion about 68k's.

comp.sys.m68k.pc	Discussion about 68k-based PCs. (Moderated)
comp.sys.m88k	Discussion about 88k-based computers.
comp.sys.mac	Discussions about the Apple Macintosh & Lisa.
comp.sys.mac.announce	Important notices for Macintosh users. (Moderated)
comp.sys.mac.apps	Discussions of Macintosh applications.
comp.sys.mac.comm	Discussion of Macintosh communications.
comp.sys.mac.digest	Apple Macintosh: info&uses, but no programs. (Moderated)
comp.sys.mac.games	Discussions of games on the Macintosh.
comp.sys.mac.hardware	Macintosh hardware discussions.
comp.sys.mac.hypercard	The Macintosh Hypercard: info & uses.
comp.sys.mac.misc	General discussions about the Apple Macintosh.
comp.sys.mac.programmer	Discussion by people programming the Apple Macintosh.
comp.sys.mac.system	Discussions of Macintosh system software.
comp.sys.mac.wanted	Postings of "I want XYZ for my Mac."
comp.sys.mips	Systems based on MIPS chips.
comp.sys.misc	Discussion about computers of all kinds.
comp.sys.ncr	Discussion about NCR computers.
comp.sys.next	Discussion about the new NeXT computer.
comp.sys.northstar	Northstar microcomputer users.
comp.sys.novell	
comp.sys.nsc.32k	National Semiconductor 32000 series chips.
comp.sys.proteon	Proteon gateway products.
comp.sys.pyramid	Pyramid 90x computers.
comp.sys.ridge	Ridge 32 computers and ROS.
comp.sys.sequent	Sequent systems, (Balance and Symmetry).
comp.sys.sgi	Silicon Graphics's Iris workstations and software.
comp.sys.sun	Sun "workstation" computers. (Moderated)
comp.sys.super	Supercomputers.
comp.sys.tahoe	CCI 6/32, Harris HCX/7, & Sperry 7000 computers.
comp.sys.tandy	Discussion about TRS-80's.
comp.sys.ti	Discussion about Texas Instruments.
comp.sys.ti.explorer	The Texas Instruments Explorer.
comp.sys.transputer	The Transputer computer and OCCAM language.
comp.sys.workstations	Various workstation-type computers. (Moderated)
comp.sys.xerox	Xerox 1100 workstations and protocols.
comp.sys.zenith	Heath terminals and related Zenith products.
comp.sys.zenith.z100	The Zenith Z-100 (Heath H-100) family of computers.
comp.terminals	All sorts of terminals.
comp.terminals.bitgraph	The BB&N BitGraph Terminal.
comp.terminals.tty5620	AT&T Dot Mapped Display Terminals (5620 and BLIT).
comp.text	Text processing issues and methods.
comp.text.desktop	Technolgy & techniques of desktop publishing.
comp.text.sgml	ISO 8879 SGML, structured documents, markup languages.
comp.text.tex	TeX, LaTeX and related issues.
comp.theory	Theoretical Computer Science.
comp.theory.cell-automata	Discussion of all aspects of cellular automata.
comp.theory.dynamic-sys	Ergodic Theory and Dynamical Systems.
comp.theory.info-retrieval	Information Retrieval topics. (Moderated)
comp.theory.self-org-sys	Topics related to self-organization.
comp.unix	Discussion of UNIX* features and bugs. (Moderated)
comp.unix.admin	UNIX system administration.
comp.unix.aix	IBM's version of UNIX.
comp.unix.aux	The version of UNIX for Apple Macintosh II computers.
comp.unix.cray	Cray computers and their operating systems.
comp.unix.i386	Versions of Unix running on Intel 80386-based boxes.
comp.unix.internals	UNIX internals: kernel hacking, etc.
comp.unix.large	UNIX on mainframes and in large networks.
comp.unix.microport	Discussion of Microport's UNIX.
comp.unix.misc	General discussions regarding UNIX.
comp.unix.msdos	MS-DOS running under UNIX by whatever means.
comp.unix.programmer	UNIX programming.
comp.unix.questions	UNIX neophytes group.
comp.unix.shell	UNIX shell usage and programming.
comp.unix.sysv286	UNIX System V (not XENIX) on the '286.
comp.unix.sysv386	UNIX System V (not XENIX) on the '386.
comp.unix.sysv386	Versions of System V (not Xenix) on Intel 80386-based boxes.
comp.unix.ultrix	Discussions about DEC's Ultrix.
comp.unix.wizards	Discussions, bug reports, and fixes on and for UNIX.
comp.unix.xenix	Discussion about the Xenix OS.
comp.unix.xenix.misc	General discussions regarding XENIX (except SCO).
comp.unix.xenix.sco	XENIX versions from the Santa Cruz Operation.
comp.virus	Computer viruses & security. (Moderated)
comp.windows.misc	Various issues about windowing systems.

comp.windows.ms	Window systems under MS/DOS.
comp.windows.ms.programmer	
comp.windows.news	Sun Microsystems' NewS window system.
comp.windows.open-look	Discussion about the Open Look GUI.
comp.windows.x	Discussion about the X Window System.
comp.windows.x.announce	X Consortium announcements.
comp.windows.x.motif	The Motif GUI for the X Window System.
ddn.mgt-bulletin	The DDN Management Bulletin from NIC.DDN.MIL (Moderated)
ddn.newsletter	The DDN Newsletter from NIC.DDN.MIL (Moderated)
gnu.announce	Status and announcements from the Project. (Moderated)
gnu.bash.bug	Bourne Again SHell bug reports and suggested fixes. (Moderated)
gnu.chess	Announcements about the GNU Chess program.
gnu.config	GNU's Not Usenet administration and configuration.
gnu.emacs	Editor/development environment and occasional sources.
gnu.emacs.announce	Editor/development environment notice. (Moderated)
gnu.emacs.bug	GNU Emacs bug reports and suggested fixes. (Moderated)
gnu.emacs.gnews	News reading under GNU Emacs using Weemba's Gnews.
gnu.emacs.gnus	News reading under GNU Emacs using GNUS (in English).
gnu.emacs.help	Help and general correspondence on GNU Emacs.
gnu.emacs.sources	Lisp and C sources for improving GNU Emacs.
gnu.emacs.vms	VMS port of GNU Emacs.
gnu.g++	Announcements about the GNU C++ Compiler.
gnu.g++.announce	Status/announcements about G++. (Moderated)
gnu.g++.bug	G++ and GDB+ bug reports and suggested fixes. (Moderated)
gnu.g++.help	Help and general correspondence on G++.
gnu.g++.lib.bug	G++ library bug reports and suggested fixes. (Moderated)
gnu.gcc	Announcements about the GNU C Compiler.
gnu.gcc.announce	Status/announcements about GCC. (Moderated)
gnu.gcc.bug	GNU C Compiler bug reports and suggested fixes. (Moderated)
gnu.gcc.help	Help and general correspondence on GCC.
gnu.gdb.bug	GNU C/C++ DeBugger bug reports and suggested fixes. (Moderated)
gnu.ghostscript.bug	GNU Ghostscript interpreter bugs. (Moderated)
gnu.gnusenet.config	gnUSENET configuration discussion and announcements.
gnu.gnusenet.test	gnUSENET distribution test messages.
gnu.groff.bug	Groff bug reports and suggested fixes. (Moderated)
gnu.misc.discuss	Serious discussion about GNU and freed software.
gnu.smalltalk.bug	GNU Smalltalk bug reports and suggested fixes. (Moderated)
gnu.test	GNU's Not Usenet alternative sub-network testing.
gnu.utils.bug	Bugs in GNU utility programs (e.g., gnumake, gawk). (Moderated)
misc.consumers	Consumer interests, product reviews, etc.
misc.consumers.house	Discussion about owning and maintaining a house.
misc.education	Discussion of the educational system.
misc.emerg-services	Forum for paramedics & other first responders.
misc.fitness	Physical fitness, exercise, etc.
misc.forsale	Short, tasteful postings about items for sale.
misc.forsale.computers	Computers and computer equipment for sale.
misc.handicap	Items of interest for/about the handicapped. (Moderated)
misc.headlines	Current interest: drug testing, terrorism, etc.
misc.invest	Investments and the handling of money.
misc.jobs.contract	Discussions about contract labor.
misc.jobs.misc	Discussion about employment, workplaces, careers.
misc.jobs.offered	Announcements of positions available.
misc.jobs.resumes	Postings of resumes and "situation wanted" articles.
misc.kids	Children, their behavior and activities.
misc.legal	Legalities and the ethics of law.
misc.misc	Various discussions not fitting in any other group.
misc.rural	Devoted to issues concerning rural living.
misc.security	Security in general, not just computers. (Moderated)
misc.taxes	Tax laws and advice.
misc.test	For testing of network software. Very boring.
misc.wanted	Requests for things that are needed (NOT software).
news.admin	Comments directed to news administrators.
news.announce.conferences	Calls for papers and conference announcements. (Moderated)
news.announce.important	General announcements of interest to all. (Moderated)
news.announce.newgroups	New group announcements. (Moderated)
news.announce.newusers	Explanatory postings for new users. (Moderated)
news.config	Postings of system down times and interruptions.
news.groups	Discussions and lists of newsgroups.
news.lists	News-related statistics and lists. (Moderated)
news.lists.ps-maps	Maps in postscript. (Moderated)
news.misc	Discussions of USENET itself.
news.newsites	Postings of new site announcements.
news.newusers.questions	Questions from news users.

news.software.anu-news	The ANU News system for VMS.
news.software.b	Discussion about B-news-compatible software.
news.software.nn	The NN newsreader.
news.software.nntp	NNTP news transfer mechanism.
news.software.notes	Notesfile software from the Univ. of Illinois.
news.sysadmin	Comments directed to system administrators.
rec.aquaria	Keeping fish and aquaria as a hobby.
rec.arts.animation	Discussion of various kinds of animation.
rec.arts.anime	Japanese animation fen discussion.
rec.arts.books	Books of all genres, and the publishing industry.
rec.arts.cinema	Cinema. (Moderated)
rec.arts.cinema	Discussion of the art of cinema. (Moderated)
rec.arts.comics	Comic books and strips, graphic novels, sequential art.
rec.arts.dance	All forms of dancing.
rec.arts.disney	Discussion of any Disney-related subjects.
rec.arts.drwho	Discussion about Dr. Who.
rec.arts.erotica	Erotic fiction and verse. (Moderated)
rec.arts.fine	
rec.arts.int-fiction	Discussions about interactive fiction.
rec.arts.misc	Discussions about the arts not in other groups.
rec.arts.movies	Discussions of movies and movie making.
rec.arts.movies.reviews	Reviews of movies. (Moderated)
rec.arts.poems	For the posting of poems.
rec.arts.sf-lovers	Science fiction lovers' newsgroup.
rec.arts.startrek	Star Trek, the TV shows and the movies.
rec.arts.startrek.info	Information about the universe of Star Trek. (Moderated)
rec.arts.theatre	Discussion of all aspects of stage work & theatre.
rec.arts.tv	The boob tube, its history, and past and current shows.
rec.arts.tv.soaps	Postings about soap operas.
rec.arts.tv.uk	Discussions of telly shows from the UK.
rec.arts.wobegon	"A Prairie Home Companion" radio show discussion.
rec.audio	High fidelity audio.
rec.audio.car	
rec.audio.high-end	High-end audio systems. (Moderated)
rec.autos	Automobiles, automotive products and laws.
rec.autos.driving	Driving automobiles.
rec.autos.sport	Discussion of organized, legal auto competitions.
rec.autos.tech	Technical aspects of automobiles, et. al.
rec.autos.vw	
rec.aviation	Aviation rules, means, and methods
rec.backcountry	Activities in the Great Outdoors.
rec.bicycles	Bicycles, related products and laws.
rec.birds	Hobbyists interested in bird watching.
rec.boats	Hobbyists interested in boating.
rec.boats.paddle	Talk about any boats with oars, paddles, etc.
rec.equestrian	Discussion of things equestrian.
rec.folk-dancing	Folk dances, dancers, and dancing.
rec.food.cooking	Food, cooking, cookbooks, and recipes.
rec.food.drink	Wines and spirits.
rec.food.recipes	Recipes for interesting food and drink. (Moderated)
rec.food.restaurants	Discussion of dining out.
rec.food.veg	Vegetarians.
rec.gambling	Articles on games of chance & betting.
rec.games.board	Discussion and hints on board games.
rec.games.bridge	Hobbyists interested in bridge.
rec.games.chess	Chess & computer chess.
rec.games.empire	Discussion and hints about Empire.
rec.games.frp	Discussion about Role Playing games.
rec.games.go	Discussion about Go.
rec.games.hack	Discussion, hints, etc. about the Hack game.
rec.games.misc	Games and computer games.
rec.games.moria	Comments, hints, and info about the Moria game.
rec.games.mud	Various aspects of multi-users computer games.
rec.games.pbm	Discussion about Play by Mail games.
rec.games.pinball	
rec.games.programmer	Discussion of adventure game programming.
rec.games.rogue	Discussion and hints about Rogue.
rec.games.trivia	Discussion about trivia.
rec.games.vectrex	The Vectrex game system.
rec.games.video	Discussion about video games.
rec.gardens	Gardening, methods and results.
rec.guns	Discussions about firearms. (Moderated)
rec.ham-radio	Amateur Radio practices, contests, events, rules, etc.

rec.ham-radio.packet	Discussion about packet radio setups.
rec.ham-radio.swap	Offers to trade and swap radio equipment.
rec.humor	Jokes and the like. May be somewhat offensive.
rec.humor.d	Discussions on the content of rec.humor articles.
rec.humor.funny	Jokes that are funny (in the moderator's opinion). (Moderated)
rec.mag	Magazine summaries, tables of contents, etc.
rec.mag.fsfnet	A Science Fiction "fanzine." (Moderated)
rec.mag.otherrealms	Edited science fiction & fantasy "magazine". (Moderated)
rec.martial-arts	Discussion of the various martial art forms.
rec.misc	General topics about recreational/participant sports.
rec.models.rc	Radio-controlled models for hobbyists.
rec.models.rockets	Model rockets for hobbyists.
rec.motorcycles	Motorcycles and related products and laws.
rec.music.beatles	Postings about the Fab Four & their music.
rec.music.bluenote	Discussion of jazz, blues, and related types of music.
rec.music.cd	CDs -- availability and other discussions.
rec.music.classical	Discussion about classical music.
rec.music.country.western	C&W music, performers, performances, etc.
rec.music.dementia	Discussion of comedy and novelty music.
rec.music.dylan	Discussion of Bob's works & music.
rec.music.folk	Folks discussing folk music of various sorts.
rec.music.gaffa	Progressive music (e.g., Kate Bush). (Moderated)
rec.music.gdead	A group for (Grateful) Dead-heads.
rec.music.makers	For performers and their discussions.
rec.music.misc	Music lovers' group.
rec.music.newage	"New Age" music discussions.
rec.music.synth	Synthesizers and computer music.
rec.nude	Hobbyists interested in naturist/nudist activities.
rec.org.sca	Society for Creative Anachronism.
rec.pets	Pets, pet care, and household animals in general.
rec.pets.dogs	Any and all subjects relating to dogs as pets.
rec.photo	Hobbyists interested in photography.
rec.puzzles	Puzzles, problems, and quizzes.
rec.pyrotechnics	Fireworks, rocketry, safety, & other topics.
rec.radio.noncomm	Topics relating to noncommercial radio.
rec.radio.shortwave	Shortwave radio enthusiasts.
rec.railroad	Real and model train fans' newsgroup.
rec.running	Running for enjoyment, sport, exercise, etc.
rec.scuba	Hobbyists interested in SCUBA diving.
rec.skiing	Hobbyists interested in snow skiing.
rec.skydiving	Hobbyists interested in skydiving.
rec.sport.baseball	Discussion about baseball.
rec.sport.basketball	Discussion about basketball.
rec.sport.cricket	Discussion about the sport of cricket.
rec.sport.football	Discussion about American-style football.
rec.sport.football.college	
rec.sport.hockey	Discussion about hockey.
rec.sport.misc	Spectator sports.
rec.sport.pro-wrestling	Discussion about professional wrestling.
rec.sport.soccer	Discussion about soccer (Association Football).
rec.travel	Traveling all over the world.
rec.video	Video and video components.
rec.windsurfing	Riding the waves as a hobby.
rec.woodworking	Hobbyists interested in woodworking.
sci.aeronautics	The science of aeronautics & related technology.
sci.aquaria	Only scientifically-oriented postings about aquaria
sci.astro	Astronomy discussions and information.
sci.bio	Biology and related sciences.
sci.bio.technology	Any topic relating to biotechnology.
sci.chem	Chemistry and related sciences.
sci.crypt	Different methods of data en/decryption.
sci.econ	The science of economics.
sci.edu	Science education.
sci.electronics	Circuits, theory, electrons and discussions.
sci.energy	Discussions about energy, science & technology.
sci.engr	Technical discussions about engineering tasks.
sci.engr.chem	
sci.environment	Discussions about the environment and ecology.
sci.geo.fluids	Discussion of geophysical fluid dynamics
sci.lang	Natural languages, communication, etc.
sci.lang.japan	The Japanese language, both spoken and written.
sci.logic	Logic -- math, philosophy & computational aspects.
sci.math	Mathematical discussions and pursuits.

sci.math.num-analysis	Numerical Analysis.
sci.math.stat	Statistics discussion.
sci.math.symbolic	Symbolic algebra discussion.
sci.med	Medicine and its related products and regulations.
sci.med.aids	AIDS: treatment, pathology/biology of HIV, prevention. (Moderated)
sci.med.physics	Issues of physics in medical testing/care.
sci.military	Discussion about science & the military. (Moderated)
sci.misc	Short-lived discussions on subjects in the sciences.
sci.nanotech	Self-reproducing molecular-scale machines. (Moderated)
sci.philosophy.meta	Discussions within the scope of "MetaPhilosophy."
sci.philosophy.tech	Technical philosophy: math, science, logic, etc.
sci.physics	Physical laws, properties, etc.
sci.physics.fusion	Info on fusion, esp. "cold" fusion.
sci.psychology	Topics related to psychology.
sci.psychology.digest	Psychology Digest. (Moderated)
sci.research	Research methods, funding, ethics, and whatever.
sci.skeptic	Skeptics discussing psuedo-science.
sci.space	Space, space programs, space related research, etc.
sci.space.shuttle	The space shuttle and the STS program.
sci.virtual-worlds	?? (Moderated)
soc.college	College, college activities, campus life, etc.
soc.couples	Discussions for couples (cf. soc.singles).
soc.culture.african	Discussions about Africa & things African.
soc.culture.african.american	Discussions about Afro-American issues.
soc.culture.arabic	Technological & cultural issues, *not* politics.
soc.culture.asean	Countries of the Assoc. of SE Asian Nations.
soc.culture.asian.american	Issues & discussion about Asian-Americans.
soc.culture.australian	
soc.culture.bangladesh	Issues & discussion about Bangladesh.
soc.culture.british	Issues about Britain & those of British descent.
soc.culture.celtic	Group about Celts (*not* basketball!).
soc.culture.china	About China and Chinese culture.
soc.culture.esperanto	The neutral international language Esperanto.
soc.culture.filipino	
soc.culture.french	French culture, history, and related discussions.
soc.culture.german	Discussions about German culture and history.
soc.culture.greek	Group about Greeks.
soc.culture.hongkong	Discussions pertaining to Hong Kong.
soc.culture.indian	Group for discussion about India & things Indian.
soc.culture.iranian	Discussions about Iran and things Iranian/Persian.
soc.culture.japan	Everything Japanese, except the Japanese language.
soc.culture.jewish	Jewish culture & religion. (cf. talk.politics.mideast)
soc.culture.korean	Discussions about Korean & things Korean.
soc.culture.latin-america	Topics about Latin-America.
soc.culture.lebanon	
soc.culture.misc	Group for discussion about other cultures.
soc.culture.nepal	Discussion about Nepal and Nepasese society.
soc.culture.nordic	Discussion about culture up north.
soc.culture.pakistan	Topics of discussion about Pakistan.
soc.culture.polish	Polish culture, Polish past, and Polish politics.
soc.culture.sri-lanka	Things & people from Sri Lanka.
soc.culture.taiwan	Discussion about things Taiwanese.
soc.culture.turkish	Discussion about things Turkish.
soc.culture.vietnamese	Issues and discussions of Vietnamese culture.
soc.feminism	Discussion of feminism & feminist issues. (Moderated)
soc.history	Discussions of things historical.
soc.human-nets	Computer aided communications digest. (Moderated)
soc.men	Issues related to men, their problems & relationships.
soc.misc	Socially-oriented topics not in other groups.
soc.motss	Issues pertaining to homosexuality.
soc.net-people	Announcements, requests, etc. about people on the net.
soc.politics	Political problems, systems, solutions. (Moderated)
soc.politics.arms-d	Arms discussion digest. (Moderated)
soc.religion.christian	Christianity and related topics. (Moderated)
soc.religion.eastern	Discussions of Eastern religions. (Moderated)
soc.religion.islam	Discussions of the Islamic faith. (Moderated)
soc.rights.human	Human rights & activism (e.g., Amnesty International).
soc.roots	Genealogical matters.
soc.singles	Newsgroup for single people, their activities, etc.
soc.women	Issues related to women, their problems & relationships.
su.general	General discusion at Sydney University
su.net	Network related discusion at Sydney University
su.ucs	Sydney University Computing Service discussion and announcements

syd.seminar	
to.bain3	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.beta	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.bunyip	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.cavs	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.comperex	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.csunb	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.dramba	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.exicom	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.foetus	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.gestetner	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.grivel	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.ipso	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.kylie	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.metro	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.munnari	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.natmlab	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.nuts	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.ob1	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.osiris	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.otc	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.physiologic	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.pta	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.saleven	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.sigma21	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.sulaw	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.sunaus	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.toshiba	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.tpl68k0	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.triton	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.usage	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.utscsd	local testing and ihave/sendme
to.wyvern	local testing and ihave/sendme
vmsnet.admin	Administration of the VMSnet newsgroups
vmsnet.announce	General announcements of interest to all (Moderated)
vmsnet.announce.newusers	Orientation info for new users (Moderated)
vmsnet.mail	Electronic mail on VMS systems
vmsnet.mail.pmdf	PMDF email system, gatewayed to ipmdf mailing list
vmsnet.misc	General VMS topics not covered elsewhere
vmsnet.sources	Source code postings ONLY
vmsnet.sources.d	Discussion about or requests for sources
vmsnet.sources.games	Recreational software postings
vmsnet.sysmgt	VMS system management
vmsnet.tcp.multinet	Multinet TCP/IP software for VMS
vmsnet.test	Test messages
vmsnet.uucp	DECUS uucp software, gatewayed to vmsnet mailing list