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American/British Spellings of Patent Terms

Both American and British spelling is found within the Derwent World Patent Index (DWPI) collection. It is important to take this into account when searching in the Topic field or when constructing queries. If in doubt which spelling to use, search for both options (for example, **TIRE or TYRE**). The list below provides a few examples of some of the differences between American and British terms and spelling.

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American Term	British Term
A	
airplanes	aeroplanes
aluminum	aluminium
anesthetics	anaesthetics
anesthetizing	anaesthetising
analyzed	analysed
analyzers	analysers
analyzing	analysing
anodizing	anodising
armor	armour
armored	armoured
armoring	armouring
astronautic	cosmonautic
astronautics	cosmonautics
atomizers	atomisers
atomizing	atomising

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C	
calibers	calibres
calipers	callipers
carbonization	carbonisation
carburetors	carburettors
carburizing	carburising
carcasses	carcases
cauterization	cauterisation
cauterizing	cauterising
center	centre
centers	centres
centering	centring
color	colour
colored	coloured
coloring	colouring
cozies	cosies
colters	coulters
cross-linking	crosslinking
crystallizing	crystallising
curb	kerb
cyclization	cyclisation

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D	
decarburizing	decarburising
decolorizing	decolourising
demagnetizing	demagnetising
deodorizing	deodorising
depolarizing	depolarising
depolymerizing	depolymerising
desensitizers	desensitisers
destacking	unstacking

desulfurizing	desulfurising
dikes	dykes
downspouts	downpipes

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E

economizers	economisers
encyclopedias	encyclopaedias
equalizing	equalising
esophageal	oesophagal
esophagoscopes	oesophagoscopes

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F

fertilization	fertilisation
fertilizer	fertiliser
fertilizing	fertilising
fiberglass	fibreglass
fibers	fibres
flavoring	flavouring
fluidized	fluidised
fluidizing	fluidising
fold lines	foldlines

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G

galoshes	goloshes
galvanizing	galvanising
gasoline	petrol
gear cutting	gearcutting
graphitizing	graphitising
groins	groynes
gynecology	gynaecology

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H

hand tools	handtools
harbor	harbour
hematein	haematein
hemorrhage	haemorrhage
hemorrhoids	haemorrhoids
homogenizing	homogenising

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I

immobilized	immobilised
immunizing	immunising
ionization	ionisation
ionized	ionised
isomerizing	isomerising

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J

jails	gaols
jewelry	jewellery
joy stick	joystick

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K

katathermometers	catathermometers
kit bags	kitbags
knuckle-dusters	knuckledusters

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L

land mine	landmine
limbing	delimbing
localizing	localising
lumber jackets	lumberjackets
lustres	lustres
lustering	lustring

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M

macadamized	macadamised
magnetization	magnetisation
magnetizing	magnetising
magneto therapy	magnetotherapy
malleableizing	malleabilising
maneuvering	manoeuvring
matchetes	machets
mercerizing	mercerising
metacenters	metacentres
metalizing	metallising
mineralization	mineralisation
minimizing	minimising
miter	mitre
mollusks	molluscs
molded	moulded
molding	moulding
molds	moulds
multicolor	multicolour

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N

nebulizers	nebulisers
neutralization	neutralisation
neutralizing	neutralising

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O

occurring	occurring
odor	odour
optimization	optimisation
oxacillins	oxapenicillins
oxidizing	oxidising
ozonizing	ozonising

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P

pajamas	pyjamas
pantyhose	panti-hose
paper currency	papercurrency
parlor	parlour
pasteurizing	pasteurising
phanastrons	phantastrons
phase changing	phasechanging
plasticizers	plasticisers
plowing	ploughing
polarization	polarisation
polarized	polarised
polyethylene	polyethene
polymerizable	polymerisable
polymerized	polymerised
practicing	practising
program	programme
pruning shears	secateurs
pulverizing	pulverising

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R

recognizing recognising

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S

selvage	selvedges
sensitizing	sensitising
stabilizers	stabilisers
sterilization	sterilisation
streetcars	tramways
subsidizing	subsidising
sulfates	sulphates
sulfites	sulphites
synchronization	synchronisation
synthesizing	synthesising

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T

tableting	tableting
theater	theatre
tire	tyre
tracklayers	platelayers

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U

unauthorized	unauthorised
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V

vaporizers	vaporisers
vapor	vapour

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W

windshields	windcreens
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