

MDF Code reference

`\lx`

lexeme

also known as lemma or headword

```
\lx tuat
```

This is the key field or record marker that Toolbox uses to keep one entry separate from another. Bound morphemes are listed with a preceding or following hyphen

```
\lx -oli  
\lx nara-
```

For some languages it may be acceptable to give an inflectable citation form, such as the H-form given in Tetun for inflectable verb roots

```
\lx holi
```

representing the paradigm *koli, moli, noli, holi, roli*, where the linguist would tend to identify the root *-oli* but the community thinks in terms of *holi*.

Multiple word or phrasal lexemes are common.

This field is obligatory for each entry.

`\hm`

Homonym/homophone/homograph

```
\hm 1  
\hm 2  
\hm 3
```

Different homonyms must be in separate entries. These will sort correctly and format as subscripts using MDF. Use only if needed. Cross-references to one of these entries should include the number, e.g. `\cf asw2`. When the file is converted to WORD format for printing, MDF will subscript the homonym number, e.g. See: *asw*². Where they occur, MDF automatically references the homonym number in the reversed finderlists.

`\lc`

Citation form (lexical citation)

```
\lx nara-  
\lc naran
```

This gives a complete surface form of bound roots that will be printed as the headword in the final printout. The `\lc` form always replaces the `\lx` form for the printed dictionary. MDF prompts users to choose whether or not they want entries that use `\lc` to sort under the `\lc` form for the printed dictionary. If the entry is not sorted by the `\lc` form, it will sort under the `\lx`, but the printed headword will be the `\lc` form

```
\lx -angu
```

```
\lc (na) -angu
```

is printed between `\lx` ane and `\lx` aok; similarly

```
\lx -ao  
\lc (beke) -ao
```

is printed between `\lx` aok and `\lx` ape.

Use `\lc` only if the `\lx` form is inappropriate for the printed dictionary. MDF places the contents of the `\lx` field as follows:

```
\lx -hilu  
\lc na-hilu
```

is printed as na-hilu (from: -hilu).

`\ph`

Phonetic form (pronunciation)

An indication of pronunciation is needed only where phonetic information is underdifferentiated by the practical orthography. MDF will supply square brackets and print the contents of the `\ph` field as monospace Courier font

```
\lx enaka  
\ph ěnaka
```

is printed as *ěnaka*. The information on how to interpret the phonetic pronunciation of the practical orthography should be explained in the introduction to the dictionary. The `\ph` fields may also be used following the `\se` (subentry) field.