

FONIX  
DECtalk<sup>®</sup>  
Software

Dictionary  
Build Tool



# Dictionary Build Tool

## Introduction

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Fonix DECTalk Software has two pronunciation dictionaries — a large internal (builtin) dictionary and a user-defined dictionary. With the large built-in dictionary, you can easily use many proper names and normally unpronounceable sequences, such as uppercase initials, in applications. With the user dictionary build tool, you can load application-specific words or cultural or language-specific terms into the user dictionary. A sample user-dictionary file is installed with the software.

[Menu description](#)

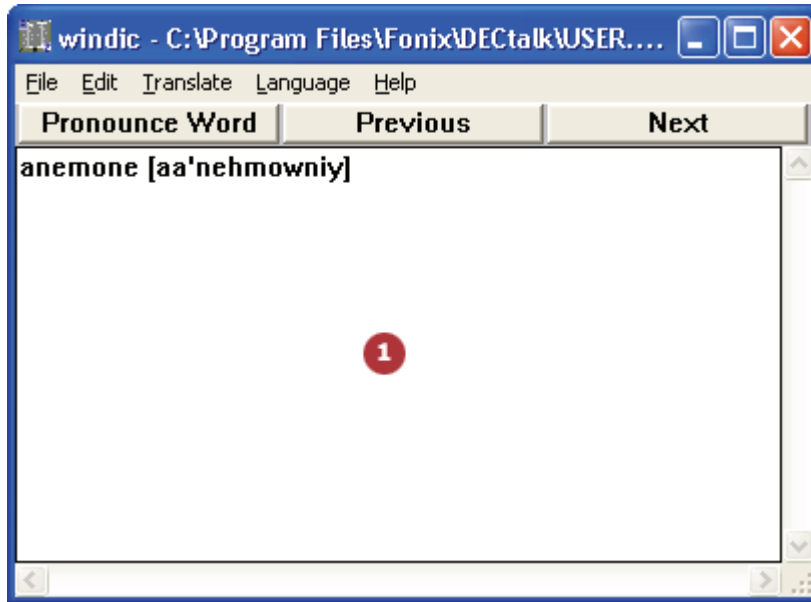
[Build a user dictionary](#)

## Menu description

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The User Dictionary Build Tool creates a dictionary (.dic) from a list of words and corresponding pronunciations. The User Dictionary Build Tool can also be used to create phonemic translations from words and/or phrases.

### Menus and Commands



### Legend

1. Edit Window (1)

In the edit window, type word-pronunciation pairs not predefined or not pronounced as desired in the DECTalk user dictionary. A word-pronunciation pair is a word, followed by its phonemic spelling enclosed in square brackets.

2. File menu

**Open:** A pop-up dialog box that opens up a dictionary definition file (\*.tab).

**Close:** Closes the dictionary definition file. If the entries in the edit window have been modified, a dialog box asks if you wish to save changes.

**Compile Dictionary:** Compiles the current file to a .dic file with the same name.

**Save:** A pop-up dialog box that saves the file and calls the compiler to create a dictionary file (\*.dic).

**Save as:** A pop-up dialog box that lets the user rename the file. This also calls the compiler to create a dictionary file (\*.dic).

**Exit:** Exits the program. If the entries in the edit window have been modified, a dialog box asks if you wish to save changes.

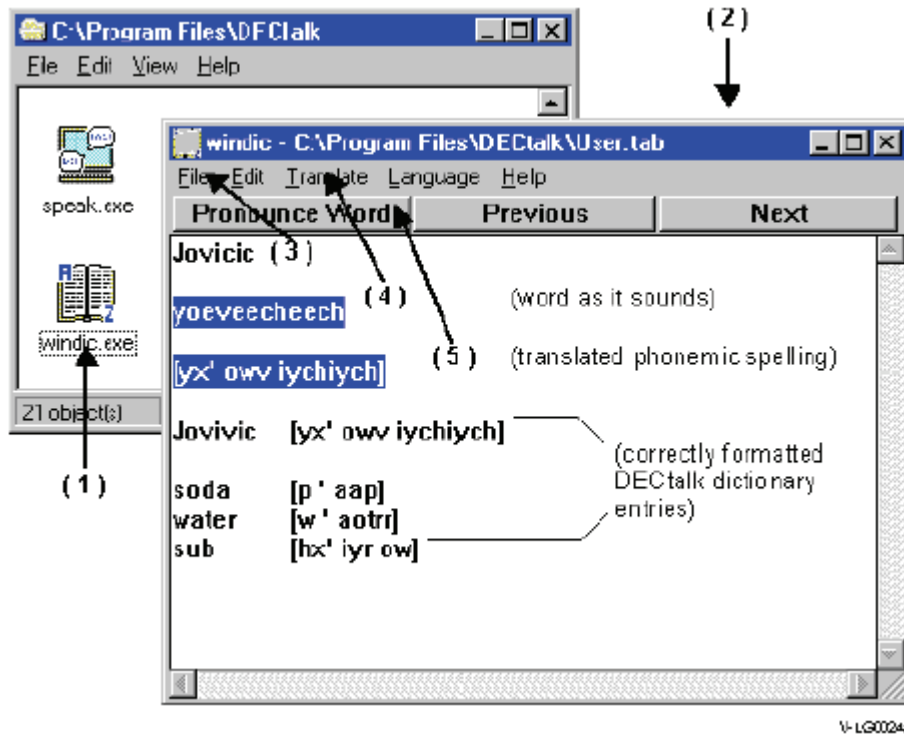
3. Edit menu
  - Undo:** Undo the previous command.
  - Cut:** Cut the selected region.
  - Copy:** Copy the selected region.
  - Paste:** Paste the selected region.
  - Delete:** Delete the selected region.
  - Select All:** Select all of the word-pronunciation pairs from the edit window.
  - Find:** A pop-up dialog box that prompts you to search for selected text.
4. Translate menu
  - Translates selected text into phonemic spelling.
5. Language menu
  - Lists the DECTalk languages. Uninstalled languages are grayed out.
6. Help menu
  - Selects the online help.
7. Pronounce Word button
  - When clicked, the selected text in the edit window is spoken. If a word-pronunciation pair is selected, the phonemic pronunciation is used. If only the word is selected, the currently stored pronunciation is used.
8. Previous button
  - When clicked, the previous word-pronunciation pair in the list is spoken.
9. Next button
  - When clicked, the next word-pronunciation pair in the list is spoken.

## Build a user dictionary

### Building a User Dictionary

Building a user dictionary is a two-step process. First, you create a .tab source file with the User Dictionary Build Tool to define the pronunciation of special words you want to place in the dictionary.

### Creating or Modifying a User Dictionary



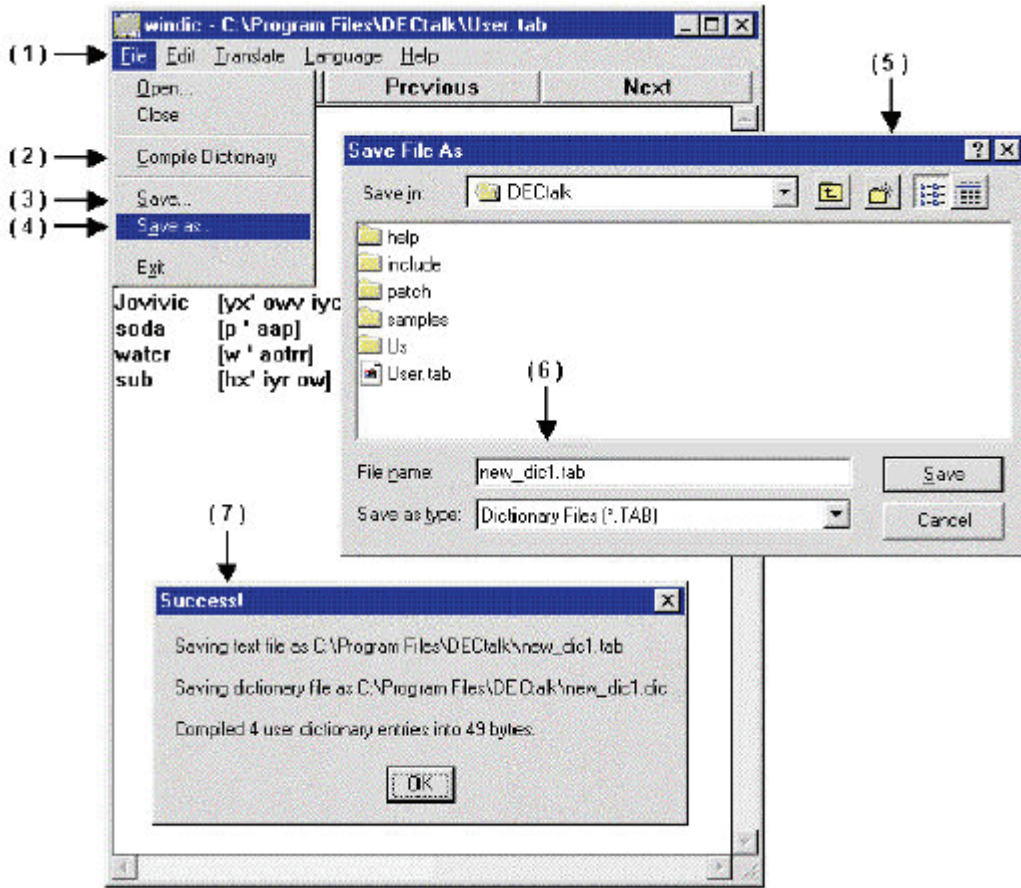
Task/Location	Action		Result
DECTalk (1) program group	Step 1.	Double click on the User Dictionary icon.	The DECTalk Dictionary Builder dialog is displayed. (2)
	Step 2.	Select Open to open an existing dictionary definition (.tab) file. You can also create a new dictionary definition file by entering words	The Open a File dialog box is displayed (not shown). The file you select is

		directly.	displayed in the edit window.
	Step 3.	<p>Enter words that are not predefined or pronounced as desired in the DECTalk user dictionary. DECTalk needs to know both the word and the phonemic spelling you want to associate with it.</p> <p>If you know the phonemic spelling, enter it using the following format:</p> <p><b>word[phonemic spelling]</b></p> <p>If you do not know the phonemic spelling, enter the word as it sounds, rather than as it is spelled.</p>	
	Step 4.	<p>Select the word and click Translate. (4) For example, the Yugoslavian name Jovicic sounds like "Yoeveecheech."</p>	<p>The User Dictionary Build Tool converts what you entered into a phonemic spelling. The User Dictionary Build Tool converts the name to: [yx' owv iychiych]</p>
	Step 5.	<p>To hear how DECTalk interprets the phonemic spelling, select it, and click</p>	<p>DECTalk speaks the word.</p>

		Pronounce Word. (5).	
	Step 6.	<p>Besides pronunciation, you can also define word usage.</p> <p>For example, to define the word soda to be equivalent to pop; define water to be pronounced with a New England accent; and to take into account the dialectic regional preferences so that the word sub is called a hero, you would use the following pronunciation pairs:</p> <p><b>Soda [p ' aap]</b>  <b>water [w ` aot rr]</b>  <b>sub [hx' iyr ow]</b></p> <p>Refer to the Reference Tables and to Using In-Line Commands (available in the Reference Guide and in online help) for more information on modifying and enhancing pronunciation, including a complete list of phonemic, stress, and syntactic symbols</p>	

After you create the .tab source file, you compile the .tab file to produce a .dic file as shown in Figure 2-7 and Table 2-6.

### **Saving and Compiling the Dictionary**



### New Dictionary

Task/Location	Action		Result
File menu (1)	Step 1.	Display the file menu If you have not yet given your file a name, choose one of the following: Compile Dictionary (2) Save (3) Save As... (4)	The Save dialog box is displayed in all three cases. (5)
Save as dialog box	Step 2.	Navigate to the location where you want to save the dictionary session and	A success message (7) is displayed, indicating that both the text file (in .tab format) and a



	enter a file name. (6)	dictionary file (in .dic format) have been saved.
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**Existing Dictionary**

Task/Location	Action	Result
File menu (1)	Step 1. Choose Open from the File menu to open an existing file.	The Open a File dialog box is displayed (not shown). The dictionary file (.tab file type) you choose is displayed in the edit window.
	Step 2. Edit the file as described in Table 2-5 on page 37	
File menu (1)	Step 3. To save the changes you have made to the .tab file without compiling the dictionary, pull down the File menu (1) and click Save (3).	The changes you have made are saved.
File menu (1)	Step 4. To save your changes and compile the dictionary, pull down the File menu (1) and click Compile Dictionary. (2)	A success message (7) is displayed and indicates that both the text file (in .tab format) and a dictionary file (in .dic format) have been saved.