

POSITION OF STRESS ACCENT IN CORNISH WORDS

What is regular stress position?

- A For single-core words (with or without affixes / endings – but see *di / dy* and *he* below), single stress on penult
- B For double-core words: primary stress on first core (same syllable as if stand-alone word), secondary stress on second core (same syllable as if stand-alone word) – the secondary stress is sufficient to block devoicing of final consonant but insufficient to trigger pre-occlusion: e.g. **mordardh** (not *mordarth*), **ewnran** (not *ewnrann/ewnradn*)

1. IRREGULAR END STRESS

INFERRED FROM ETYMOLOGY (LEXICALIZED PHRASES)

degensetê (de kyns ès dê), **dohajêdh** (dort ewha an jêdh), *perhaps nena* (i'n eur-na)

INFERRED FROM CORPUS SPELLING

degensetê (degens ytte), **droglabm** (drok lam), **hedre** (ha drevo), **tenow** (tnow)

Note also occasional

IGNORING OF CORPUS METRE IN FAVOUR OF LATER CORPUS PROSE SPELLING

wharê (often rhymed with words like **tressa**; but late spelling *whrea*)

INFERRED FROM DIALECT PRONUNCIATION

kedrydn

BY CATEGORY (MORPHO-PHONOLOGICAL RULE)

Prefix **a** (preposition repurposed – preposition separately survives): e.g. **aglêdh** (not *agleth*)

Prefix **di/dy** followed by single syllable (preposition repurposed – preposition does not separately survive but compare Latin *de* 'down from'): e.g. **dyberth**

Items in the **di/dy** category come under differential pressure in Revived Cornish to conform to rule for regular stress. Compare pressure in the other direction on disyllabic words with prefix *he*.

2. IRREGULAR INITIAL STRESS

BY ETYMOLOGY

tewolgow

IN LOAN-WORDS

fenester (borrowed from Latin before retraction of stress in Brythonic)

IN LOAN-WORDS THAT EVEN RESIST MORPHOLOGICAL DYNAMISM

fenestry, sawory (**sawor** borrowed from French before loss of penult stress in that language)

3. OTHER

SUFFIX **IETH**

Both syllables of suffix typically unstressed, so stress retracts to antepenult: e.g. **prydydhieth**

POLYSYLLABIC LOAN-WORDS (OFTEN OF RELATIVELY TECHNICAL NATURE)

When English has the exact same word, Cornish often keeps the same stress: e.g. **filosofy**

In *Gerlyver Kescows* and wordlists accompanying literature on the lovinglivingcornish website, words treated as double-core for the purpose of stress are marked ||, while for words with irregular stress the vowel of the stressed syllable is underlined.