

# Keep your English up to date

## Euro

Professor David Crystal

No named part of the world has introduced more new words into English than Europe. It's all happened of course in the last 10 or 20 years, and it's this 'euro' prefix that's caused all the attention to be focussed upon the area of Europe.

The euro of course is the most obvious thing; the actual unit of money which became so popular in Europe a few years ago. And now everybody talks about it. But, it's not just that. It's the prefix 'euro' being used as a blend word along with all sorts of other things.

I mean early on, for instance, people talked about 'euro-currency' and 'euro-money', and then the 'euro-fighter' came along, the Defence Establishment's development.

And now, everything has a 'euro' possibility and so one of the commonest ways of creating new words in English these days is take a perfectly ordinary word and just shove 'euro' in front of it. So, you can have 'euro-butter' for regulations to do with butter and 'euro-eggs' and 'euro-chickens' and 'euro-fireworks' and 'euro - anything you like really!'



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