

The Oracle Engine in Godot

You may have seen the [python version of this](#) which was based on a tkinter interface. It worked fine but looked like something from the early days of computing. I was keen to make use of Godot to create a much more user-friendly version which could be deployed on Linux and Windows. You can find out all about it here, and use the links below to download the files.

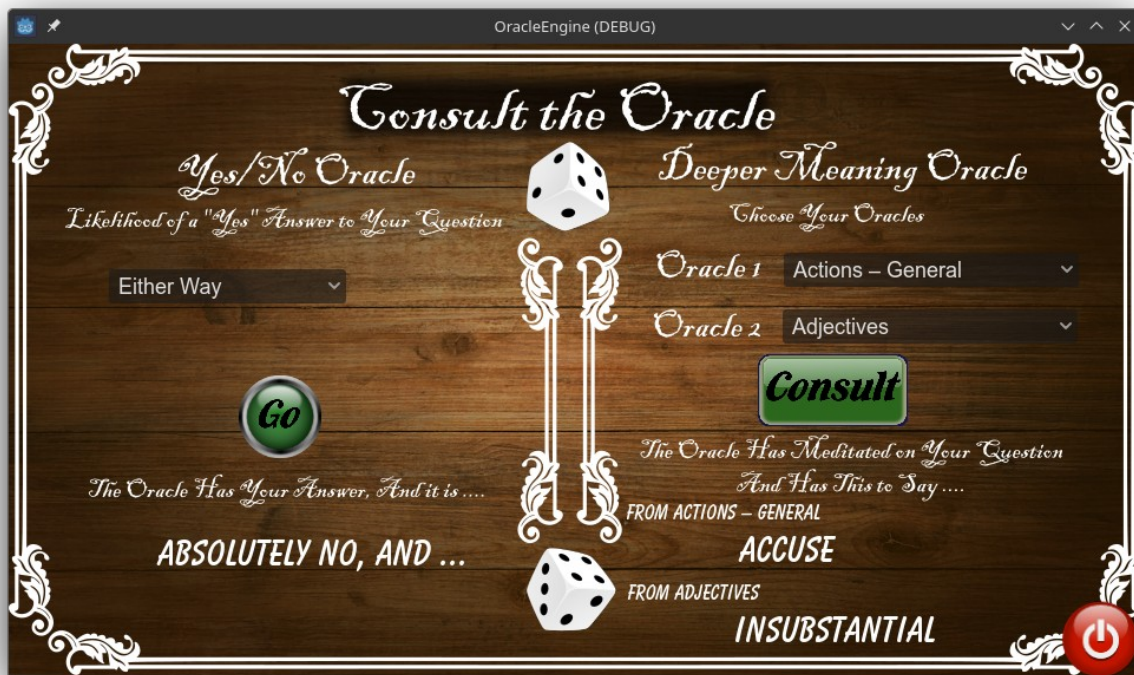
In case you haven't seen the previous article, or have no idea what value a Godot Oracle Engine could possibly have, I have included the relevant sections from the previous article below.

What the Oracles are For?

Whenever I'm writing a story, I like to refer to oracles from time to time to throw in a bit of randomness and just generally make the story less smooth going for the protagonists. This way I'm not at risk of creating a contrived story with convenient happenings and events.

Prior to creating this tool, I would have a pile of solo roleplaying rules and a selection of dice on hand. I would think about my question and the context surrounding the situation, roll a dice or two, and consult the various oracle tables. Having this Godot tool is quicker and easier as well as allowing much bigger word lists.

There are two oracles in the tool. On the left is the **Yes/No Oracle**, and on the right, the **Deeper Meaning Oracle**.



The Yes/No Oracle

If you frame your question to require a "Yes" or "No" answer, then you can use the *Yes/No Oracle*. Select the likelihood that your answer will be "Yes" using the drop down, then press the *Consult the Oracle* button.

The oracle will display its answer which will be one of, "Absolutely Yes, and ...", all the way down to "Absolutely No, and ...". Here is the list of possible answers and how you interpret them.

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|---------------------|--|
| Yes, and ... | An exceptionally good “yes”. This is a “yes” with an added benefit. |
| Yes | The expected result is true. |
| Yes, but ... | The expected result is true, but there is a minor problem. |
| No, but ... | The result is the opposite to what is expected, but there is some positive aspect to it. |
| No | The result is the opposite to what is expected |
| No, and ... | The result is that things haven't turned out as expected, and even worse, there is an added sting in the tail. |

Example: I have written a story where the main character is careening down a street in a shopping trolley and there is a sharp bend in the road ahead. On the inside corner there is a steep earth bank rising above the road, and on the other side there is a guard rail, and beyond that a big drop into a swamp. While I could dictate what happens, I like to add a bit of serendipity or disaster into my stories so it doesn't end up looking contrived. I consult the Yes/No Oracle, with the question in my mind “Does the character make it around the curve safely?” I assign the likelihood of success as *Unlikely*. I am being kind. I could have selected *Very Unlikely* or *Nearly Impossible*. Pressing the button yields the answer “Yes, but...” I interpret that as the character somehow manages to lean the shopping trolley in such a way that they successfully manage to get around the corner but now they're facing an on-coming car.

The Deeper Meaning Oracle

The *Deeper Meaning Oracle* can be used to introduce more information about a scene, or a character's behaviour. Consulting this oracle will yield two words which are interpreted based on the context. Interpret the words based on what you know of your world, your character, and the story. It may be that you can't get any meaning from it, in which case, press the button again.

The oracle pairs are selected using the two drop downs.

Example: While planning the story “Love is in the Air”, I wanted to know why the research station the crew of the *Addington* were investigating, had been vacated. This was a perfect question for an oracle. In this case I used the Action and Theme oracles from the [Starforged](#) science fiction solo roleplaying game rules.

The results were; *Action: Falter* and *Theme: Poverty*. In the context it was easy to interpret this as the station had been abandoned because the researching funding had dried up. This meant that the station had also been stripped of valuable or easily portable equipment by the research organisation.

Using Your Own Custom Oracle Word Lists

I have made it so that you can load your own oracles into the *Deeper Meaning Oracle*.

The *Oracle_Word_Listsv0.txt* file in the *lists* directory is simply a .csv file with the oracle word lists in columns. There is no limit to how many words you put in your lists, but you will need to put the word count into the second row of the file.

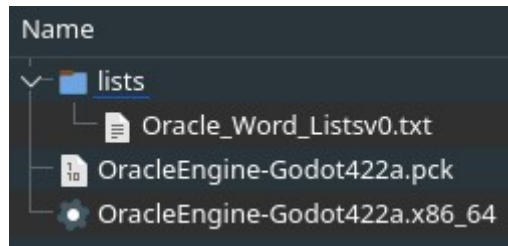
| Oracle Word Lists | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Actions – General | Theme – General | Goblin Alone - Action | Goblin Alone – Descriptor | Goblin Alone – Theme |
| 100 | 106 | 148 | 105 | 11 |
| Pursue | Affection | Achieve | Ancient | Affection |
| Accentuate | Age | Agree | Angry | Age |
| Puncture | Agreement | Appease | Artificial | Agreement |
| Fascilitate | Alibi | Apprehend | Athletic | Alibi |
| Ease | Balance | Approach | Awful | Balance |
| Elevate | Beauty | Argue | Barely | Beauty |
| Focus | Behaviour | Befriend | Bitter | Behaviour |
| Educate | Belonging | Believe | Broad | Belonging |
| Pretend | Benefit | Build | Bulky | Benefit |
| Extol | Challenge | Burrow | Busy | Challenge |
| Appreciate | Clarity | Carry | Cautious | Clarity |
| Solicit | Coldness | Chill | Charming | Coldness |
| Defend | Comfort | Clamber | Clean | Comfort |
| Accuse | Community | Climb | Clumsy | Community |
| Cruise | Companion | Combine | Cluttered | Companion |
| Increase | Concerns | Command | Comical | Concerns |
| Erode | Construction | Complete | Considerate | Construction |
| Decrease | Containment | Confuse | Creative | Containment |
| Manage | Curiosity | Consume | Crooked | Curiosity |
| Mess up | Custom | Cook | Cute | Custom |
| Complicate | Dance | Coordinate | Daintily | Dance |
| Disappoint | Danger | Crash | Delicious | Danger |

Download the Godot Oracle Engine

The Linux and Windows binaries have been zipped up and uploaded to Box.com. Both are about 25Mb in size.

Unzip them wherever you like. In the zips you will find an executable binary file, a .pck file and a directory called *lists* which contains the oracle word lists file. To run the executable, you may need to make it executable. I haven't tested it on a Windows machine.

The files and directory structure will look a bit like this;



Obviously, the Windows version contains a couple of **.exe** files instead of the **.x86_64** file.

Linux Version

OracleEngine-Godot-Linux.zip

<https://app.box.com/s/ndjiyu4o33m0xsp39p47an29au3sjzh5>

Windows Version

OracleEngine-Godot-Win.zip

<https://app.box.com/s/ewp4vx49oaeu8zkaswod2bcyf906uqjv>

The Godot Oracle Engine and Oracle Word Lists are released free but are copyright ©Hamish Trolove 2025. No guarantees, As is, where is, and all that sort of stuff.

That's about it. Have fun using this.