Ms. Particular Presents: Acknowledgments

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“Acknowledgment” is the most commonly misspelled word in US academia

Hint: There’s no e after the g*

*If you don’t believe me, and many people do not, just check the “acknowledgments” page of any book published by a reputable US publisher.
Why do so many people misspell *acknowledgment*?

1. Other words ending in *ge* retain the *e* to keep the *g* sound soft when a suffix is added
   a) management
   b) arrangement
   c) knowledgeable

2. The British English spelling retains the *e* (just as the Brits misspell *judgement*), leading to confusion on this side of the pond

*We colonials have our own rules. In US English, the letter *d* preceding the *g* keeps the *g* soft, making the *e* superfluous in the US spelling of *judgment* and *acknowledgment*.

But, but...some US dictionaries give “acknowledgement” as an alternative spelling...

1. We have higher standards in physics

2. As the mother of an erstwhile teenage daughter, Ms. P is singularly unmoved by the “somebody-else-is-doing-it” argument

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