

BIFID (125-150 letters)

See: **CM BIFID; TWIN BIFIDS**

Select a period (usually 5-13). Write the plaintext in period length groups. Below each letter write its two coordinates from the 5x5 Polybius square vertically. Now read the numbers horizontally in each period group, replacing each pair of numbers with the letter it represents in the Polybius square.

For this example the period is 7. The keyword, EXTRAORDINARY, is written into the square in a clockwise spiral. The ciphertext is written in 5-letter groups. For other cases the ciphertext can be written in period-length groups.

	1	2	3	4	5
1	E	X	T	R	A
2	K	L	M	P	O
3	H	W	Z	Q	D
4	G	V	U	S	I
5	F	C	B	Y	N

pt: Odd periods are popular.

pt: o d d p e r i o d s a r e p o p u l a r

row#: 2 3 3 2 1 1 4 2 3 4 1 1 1 2 2 2 4 2 1 1

col#: 5 5 5 4 1 4 5 5 5 4 5 4 1 4 5 4 3 2 5 4

CT: 23 32 11 45 55 41 45 23 41 11 25 54 54 14 22 42 11 54 32 54

CT: M W E I N G I M G E O Y Y R L V E Y W Y

CT: MWEIN GIMGE OYYRL VEYWY.