Title: Letterlocking Categories and Formats Chart

The Unlocking History team is developing a system to make letterlocking-related descriptions accessible. Please check back for updates to this file.

Part 1: Overview

- This document contains two diagrams and a key, together explaining the system of Categories, Formats, and Security Scores used in letterlocking.
- Categories are represented in a grid of 64 numbers, with additional formatting explained below.
- Formats are represented as a series of images of folded letterpackets, corresponding to an increasing number of edges on those letterpackets from 1 to 12.
- A Key explains the manipulation labels for the columns (lock types) and rows (combinations of fold, tuck, slit/hole, and adhere).
- A security score system explains the five types of security scores a category may receive.
- Further text provides the inventory number designated by the Unlocking History Research Team for this item, UH6089, and the group's website, "Letterlocking.org."
- Further text attributes the document to "Dambrogio, Smith, & the Unlocking History Research Group 2020."
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Part 1: Key

- The key spells out the different components used to identify a letterlocking category and security score.
- A series of letters is used to designate manipulations: F = Fold or Roll; T = Tuck; S = Slit; H = Hole; A = Adhere; NO = No Lock; LO = Lock-Other; LSU = Lock-Substrate Unattached; LSA = Lock-Substrate Attached.
- Numbers in bold = this category is known to exist.
- Numbers in outline = this category, in hypothetical only.
- A security score system explains the five types of security scores a category may receive: Zero, or Z, (one opened padlock); Low, or L, (one closed padlock); High, or H, (two closed padlocks): a combination of Zero and High; or a combination of Low and High.

Part 2: Categories

- The main section of the letterlocking chart is made up of a grid of 64 boxes, each containing a number from 1 to 64, indicating the categories of letterlocking based on the combination of manipulations used to secure them shut and on their assigned security score.
- This part of the diagram is labelled, "Letterlocking Categories (LC) 1–64."
- There are 8 columns with 8 boxes in each column and 8 rows with 8 boxes in each row.

- The grid enables the identification of a letterlocking category based on two variables: the presence or absence of locks, indicated by reading across; and the presence or absence of other manipulations, indicated by reading down.
- Columns across signify the presence or absence in a locked letter of locks, which include lock-O, lock-SU, and lock-SA, terms explained in our article: column 1, no lock; column 2, lock-O; column 3, lock-SU; column 4, lock-SA; column 5, lock-O and lock-SU; column 6, lock-O and lock-SA; column 7, lock-SU and lock-SA; column 8, all three locks.
- Rows down lists other letterlocking manipulations: row 1, fold; row 2, fold and tuck; row 3, fold and slit or hole; row 4, fold, slit or hole, and tuck; row 5, fold and adhere; row 6, fold, adhere, and tuck; row 7, fold, slit or hole, and adhere; row 8, fold, slit or hole, adhere, and tuck.
- Some numbers in the chart are presented in filled text, others in outline, and some in both filled and outline.
    - When numbers are presented in filled text, this indicates that they are based on the study of real historical examples. These numbers are: 1–3, 5-9, 11–16, 23H, 24h, 25L, 27, 29, 30L, 31, 43h, 47.
    - When numbers are presented in outline text, this indicates that they are hypothetical categories, which have not yet been found in historical examples. These numbers are: 4, 10, 17–22, 23L, 24L, 25H, 26, 28, 30H, 32-42, 43L, 44–46, 48–64.
- Each number is placed in a box. Security is indicated visually with the presence of a padlock corresponding to security score and with a background color, either a single color if a category only has one security score, or two colors divided diagonally if there is more than one security score.

Part 3: Formats

- The bottom section of the letterlocking chart is titled, “Letterlocking Formats (LF) 1–12,” and explains the formats of letterlocking, based on the number of sides that a letterpacket has in its folded state.
- A series of images shows indicative letterpackets, beginning with a rolled scroll and then a series of flat packets with edges increasing in numbers from three to twelve. Each number has one image, apart from 4: there are two square packets and five rectangular packets.
- Each packet is given a name followed by a code, which is its short-form in letterlocking. The code is assigned based on the number of sides and may be further defined by its shape when held so that the address panel is held up for reading.
- The scroll signifies an infinite number of edges, and its code is infinity-sign-SC. After, the codes proceed as follows: Triangle (3); Rectangle (4R); Rectangle Diamond (4RD); Rectangle Tall (4RT); Rectangle Wide (4RW); Rectangle Extra Wide (4RXW); Square (4S); Square Diamond (4SD); Pentagon (5); Hexagon (6); Heptagon (7); Octagon (8); Nonagon (9); Decagon (10); Dodecagon (12).