What order do the items in the "New" menu appear? It looks kind of random.

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When you right-click on an empty space in an Explorer folder and select the *New* menu item, you always start with *Folder* and *Shortcut,* but the rest seems to be a jumbled list of file types.

Folder
Shortcut
Microsoft Access Database
Bitmap image
Contact
Microsoft Word Document
Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Microsoft Publisher Document
Rich Text Document
Text Document
Microsoft Excel Worksheet
Compressed (zipped) folder

The list looks jumbled, but it's a very specific kind of jumbled.

The items in the *New* menu are discovered by [looking for `ShellNew` subkeys](#) in `HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT`. And a side effect of the way Explorer walks through the registry and collects the results is that they end up sorted alphabetically by *file extension*.

	Folder
	Shortcut
.accdb	Microsoft Access Database
.bmp	Bitmap image
.contact	Contact
.docx	Microsoft Word Document
.pptx	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
.pub	Microsoft Publisher Document
.rtf	Rich Text Document
.txt	Text Document
.xlsx	Microsoft Excel Worksheet
.zip	Compressed (zipped) folder

This behavior is not contractual. It's just an artifact of the implementation. Maybe it'll change someday.

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