

**From:** "Galbraith, Peter" <[REDACTED]> ;; but don't this for a name string extracted from the passwd file  
;; with mh-alias-passwd-gecos-comma-separator-flag set to nil. (mh-alias-suggest-alias (format "%s  
%s" (match-string 2 string) (match-string 1 string)) no-comma-swap)) (t ;; Output string, with spaces  
replaced by dots. (mh-alias-canonicalize-suggestion string))))

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(defun mh-alias-canonicalize-suggestion (string)
  "Process STRING to replace spaces by periods.
  First all spaces and commas are replaced by periods. Then every run of consecutive periods
  are replaced with a single period. Finally the string is converted to lower case."
  (with-temp-buffer
    (insert string)
    ;; Replace spaces with periods
    (goto-char (point-min))
    (while (re-search-forward " +" nil t)
      (replace-match "." nil nil))
    ;; Replace commas with periods
    (goto-char (point-min))
    (while (re-search-forward "," nil t)
      (replace-match "." nil nil))
    ;; Replace consecutive periods with a single period
    (goto-char (point-min))
    (while (re-search-forward "\\.\\" nil t)
      (replace-match "." nil nil))
    ;; Convert to lower case
    (downcase-region (point-min) (point-max))
    ;; Whew! all done...
    (buffer-string)))
```