

Prosigns, Q codes and abbreviations

The shorthand operators send. A prosign is sent as one character, with no gap between its letters.

Prosigns

SOS	• • • — — — • • •	International distress signal	• • • • •
AR	• — • — •	End of message	• • • •
AS	• — • • •	Wait / stand by	• • • •
BT	— • • • —	Break between sections	— • • • —
SK	• • • — • —	End of contact	• • • • •
KN	— • — — •	Go ahead, named station only	— • • • —
CT	— • — • —	Attention / starting signal	— • • • —
SN	• • • — •	Understood	• • • • •
HH	• • • • • • •	Error — start again	• • • • • • •
K	— • —	Invitation to transmit (over)	— • —

Q codes

QRL	Is this frequency in use?
QRM	I have interference
QRN	I am troubled by static
QRO	Increase power
QRP	Decrease power
QRQ	Send faster
QRS	Send more slowly
QRT	Stop sending
QRV	I am ready
QRZ	Who is calling me?
QSB	Your signal is fading
QSL	I acknowledge receipt
QSO	A two-way contact
QSY	Change frequency
QTH	My location is...

Abbreviations

CQ	Calling any station
DE	From (this is)
K	Over — go ahead
R	Roger — received
RST	Signal report
73	Best regards
88	Love and kisses
TNX	Thanks
UR	Your / you are
ES	And
PSE	Please
AGN	Again
OM	Old man (any operator)
WX	Weather
HI	Laughter

How the timing works

A dit is one unit. A dah is three units.

Gaps: one unit inside a letter, three between letters, seven between words.

At 20 WPM one unit is 60 ms. Speed changes the unit, never the ratios.