

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.