

RigReference.com Ham Radio Cheat Sheet

This cheat sheet is intended for both new amateur radio operators and those of us who just don't remember everything, like me. The latest version can always be downloaded from <http://rigreference.com>

Alphabet			
A	Alfa	N	November
B	Bravo	O	Oscar
C	Charlie	P	Papa
D	Delta	Q	Quebec
E	Echo	R	Romeo
F	Foxtrot	S	Sierra
G	Golf	T	Tango
H	Hotel	U	Uniform
I	India	V	Victor
J	Juliet	W	Whisky
K	Kilo	X	X-ray
L	Lima	Y	Yankee
M	Mike	Z	Zulu

Example: *alpha bravo one charlie* (if your call is ab1c)

Q-codes	
QRA	Name
QRB	Distance
QRG	Frequency
QRK	Intelligibility
QRL	Busy
QRM	Interference
QRN	Noise
QRO	High power
QRP	Low power
QRQ	High speed CW
QRS	Low speed CW
QRT	Close down station
QRV	Ready
QRX	Stand by
QRZ	Who is calling me?
QSB	Fading
QSD	Defective keying
QSK	Break in
QSL	Confirmation or card to confirm contact
QSO	Radio contact
QSY	Change frequency
QTC	Message
QTH	Location
QTR	Time

Radio	Signal	Tone (CW only)
1 Not intelligible	1 Extremely low signals	1 Only noise
2 Just intelligible: some words only	2 Very low signals	2 Very noisy AC tone
3 Bad intelligibility	3 Low signals	3 Low AC tone
4 Good intelligibility	4 Poor signals	4 AC tone
5 Very good intelligibility	5 Medium signals	5 Modulated tone, background whistle
	6 Good signals	6 Modulated tone, some noise
	7 Strong signals	7 DC tone, little noise
	8 Very strong signals	8 Good DC tone, very little noise
	9 Extremely strong signals	9 Pure DC tone

Example: *Your signal is 59, 59* (if the signal is very, very good)

Band	ARRL	VERON
160m	1.8 – 2.0	1.8 – 2.0
80m	3.5 – 4.0	3.5 – 3.8
40m	7.0 – 7.3	7.0 – 7.2
30m	10.1 – 10.15	10.1 – 10.15
20m	14.0 – 14.35	14.0 – 14.35
17m	18.068 – 18.168	18.068 – 18.168
15m	21.0 – 21.45	21.0 – 21.45
12m	24.89 – 24.99	24.89 – 24.99
10m	28.0 – 29.7	28.0 – 29.7
6m	50 – 54	50 – 52
2m	144 – 148	144 – 146
70cm	430 – 440	430 – 440

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Abbreviations			
ABT	About	NR	Near
AGN	Again	NW	Now or North-West
ANS	Answer	OM	Old man (amateur radio operator)
ANT	Antenna	OP	Operator name
B4	Before	OPR	Operator, operate
BC	Broadcast	PSE	Please
BD	Bad	PO	Power output
BK	Back or break	PWR	Power
BN	Been, being	R	Message received or correct
BTW	By the way	RCV	Receive
BURO	QSL bureau	RCVD	Received
C	Correct, yes	RCVR	Receiver
CBA	Call book address	RIG	Equipment
CFM	Confirm	RPRT	Report
CL	Closing station down	RPT	Repeat
CLG	Calling	RX	Receiver
CLR	Clear	SIG	Signal
CONDX	Conditions	SK	This is my last transmission (stop keying)
CPI	Copy	SKED	Schedule
CPY	Copy	SN	Soon
CQ	General call for a QSO (contact)	SNW	Snow
CW	Continuous waves (Morse code)	SP	Short path
DE	From	SRI	Sorry
DR	Dear	STN	Station
DWN	Down	SWL	Short waves listener
DX	Long distance contact, rare station	TEMP	Temperature
ES	And	TEST	Contest
FB	Fine business, very good	TFC	Traffic
FER	For	TIL	Until
GA	Good afternoon or go ahead	TKS	Thanks
GB	Good bye	TCVR	Transceiver
GD	Good or Good day	TU	Thank you
GE	Good evening	TX	Transmitter
GM	Good morning	TNX	Thanks
GN	Good night	U	You
GND	Ground	UFB	Ultra fine business (excellent)
GP	Ground-plane antenna	UR	Your
GUD	Good	USB	Upper sideband
HAM	Amateur radio operator	VERT	Vertical antenna
HI	Laughter on CW	VY	Very
HR	Here or ham radio	W	Watts
HV	Have	WKD	Worked (connected)
HW?	How do you copy me? What about you?	WPM	Words Per Minute
K	Please transmit	WRK	Work
KN	Only the station I am working should transmit	WX	Weather
LID	Poor operator	XCVR	Transceiver
LP	Log-periodic antenna or long path	XMTR	Transmitter
LSB	Lower sideband	XTAL	Crystal
LW	Long-wire antenna	XYL	Wife
MGR	QSL manager	YL	Young Lady
MNI	Many	73	Best regards
MSG	Message	88	Love and kisses
NIL	Nothing heard or no copy		