

Morse code mnemonics

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Disadvantages and advantages in studying Morse code using mnemonics

Although people can learn a mnemonic table quickly, mnemonics alone will not give anyone fluency in sending, hearing and decoding Morse code at a practical speed. There are other methods to learn Morse code more slowly but more carefully and methodically, such as the Koch method, which would serve a serious student better in the long run.

However, because associating letters and numbers with audible "dits" and "dahs" can be difficult, some people have developed mnemonics to help remember the Morse code equivalent of characters. Just as many different mnemonics can be created for any one subject matter, not one of the mnemonics below is the definitive mnemonic for Morse code.

Disclaimer

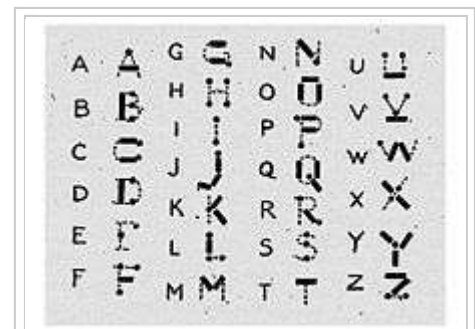
These mnemonics are not standardized in any way. They have been created by some Wikipedia users as original work, and they are not considered a standard way to learn or use Morse code. The NATO phonetic alphabet, on the other hand, is standardized and widely used. As noted elsewhere, use of the mnemonics may impede learning to use Morse code effectively.

Cross-linguistic

Visual Mnemonic

Visual mnemonic charts have been devised over the ages. Baden-Powell included one in the Girl Guides handbook^[1] in 1918.

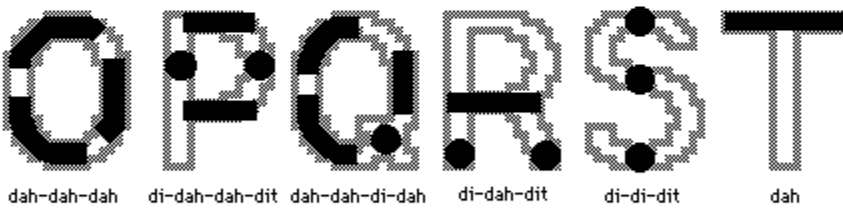
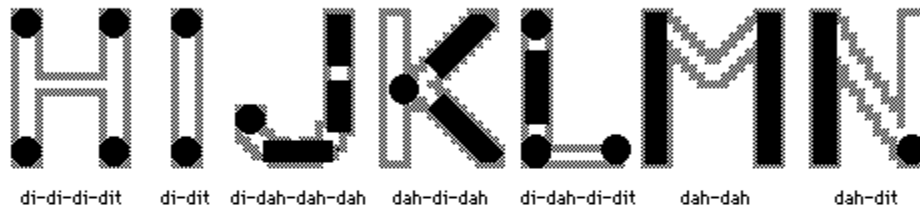
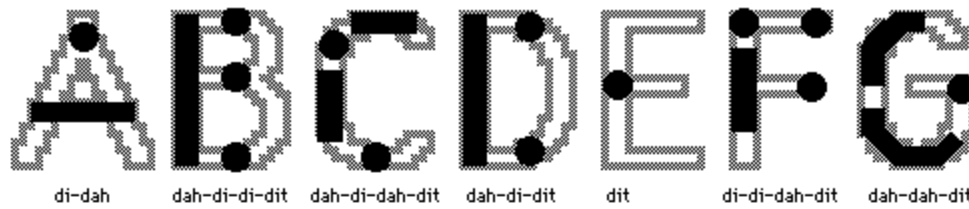
Here is a more up-to-date version, ca. 1988:



Baden-Powell's mnemonic chart from 1918

A B C D	1
E F G H	2-
I J K L M	3	...--
Over	4
N O P Q	5
6-	
R S T U V	7	...--
8-	
W X Y Z	9	...--
	0
End	Over	Over
..	(+
,)	-
?	&	"
'	: Wait	\$
!	;	@
/	= ERROR

A contemporary Morse code chart



Other visual mnemonic systems have been created for Morse code, mapping the elements of the Morse code characters onto pictures for easy memorization. For instance, "R" (· — ·) might be represented as a "racecar" seen in a profile view, with the two wheels of the racecar being the dits and the body being the dah.

English

Syllabic mnemonics

Syllabic mnemonics are based on the principle of associating a word *or* phrase to each Morse code letter, with stressed syllables standing for a dah and unstressed ones for a dit. There is no well-known complete set of syllabic mnemonics for English, but various mnemonics do exist for individual letters.

Letter	Morse Code	Mnemonic
A	· -	al- FA , al- THOUGH , a- GAIN , a- JAR <i>or</i> a- PART
B	- · · ·	BE a good boy, BOB is the man <i>or</i> BOOT to the head
C	- · - ·	CO -ca CO -la, CHAR -lie's AN -gels <i>or</i> COO -kie CLI -cker CHAR -lie CHAR -lie
D	- · ·	DOG did it, DOCK work-er, NEW or-leans <i>or</i> DRAC -u-la
E	·	eh? <i>or</i> hey!
F	· · - ·	did i FAIL it?, get a HAIR -cut, for the FAIR -est, did she LIKE it, fe-ne- STRA -tion <i>or</i> did it HURT you
G	- - ·	

		HOLE IN one!, GOO-GOL -plex (a 1 with a googol zeros), GOO-GLE -ad, GOOD GRAV -y <i>or</i> GOD LOVES it
H	· · · ·	hitting the hip, ho-li-day-inn <i>or</i> hip-pi-ty hop
I	· ·	did it, dig-It, bom-bay <i>or</i> i-bid.
J	· - - -	in JAWS JAWS JAWS , the- JU-LIE JAY , he's- J-JONAH-JAMESON , where- FORE ART THOU? <i>or</i> i WANT YOU, JONES
K	- · -	KAN -dy KID (candy kid), KICK the CAN , POUND for POUND <i>or</i> KANG-a-ROO
L	· - · ·	a LIGHT is lit, to 'ELL with it!, he LOST his lid, li- MA pe-ru <i>or</i> li- NO -le-um
M	- -	MMMM-MMMM , MA-MA, LIKE MIKE <i>or</i> MORE MILK!

N	- ·	NI -gel, NA -vy, NAZ -i, NOO -gie, AU -tum'n <i>or</i> NU -dist
O	---	O-RE-O , ONE OF US , HO HO HO , SUN-NY-DAY <i>or</i> OH! MY! GOD!
P	·--·	a PIZ-ZA pie, pa- RADE PA -nel, of DOC-TOR good <i>or</i> did POP POP it
Q	--·-	PAY-DAY to- DAY , QUEUE OV -er HERE , HERE COMES the BRIDE (queen), QUEEN's WED -ding DAY <i>or</i> GOD SAVE the QUEEN
R	·-·	ro- TA -tion, ro- MER -o <i>or</i> a RABB -it Br're RABB -it
S	...	si-si-si, ts-ts-ts <i>or</i> ne-va-da
T	-	THRUST <i>or</i> TALL
U	··-	gid-dy UP , u-ni- FORM <i>or</i>

		un-der WHERE?! kiss a EWE
V	···-	Beet-ho-ven's FIFTH (V'th) vic-tor-y VEE vee-vee-vee VA
W	·--	the WORLD' WAR <i>with</i> WHITE WHALE <i>mo</i> WA WA
X	-··-	X marks the SPOT , CROSS at the DOOR , ON -ly the BONES <i>or</i> EX -tra ex- PENSE
Y	-·--	WHY did I DIE? , JACK and CO-KE , ON a PO-NY <i>or</i> YEL -low YO-YO
Z	--··	ZSA ZSA did it, SHA-KA zu-lu <i>or</i> ZINC ZOO -keep-er

Character	Morse Code	Syllabic	Mnemonic
.	·- - - ·-	a STOP a STOP a STOP	Periods are also known as "full stops".
,	-- · · --	COM-MA , it's a COM-MA	Self-explanatory.
?	· · - - · ·	it's a QUES- TION , is it?	Self-explanatory.
:	- - - · · ·	HA-WA-II stan- dard time	The <i>clocks</i> in Hawaii are always on standard time , and don't turn an hour ahead in the summer.
/	- · · - ·	SHAVE and a HAIR -cut	The rhythm from the musical routine. see Shave and a Haircut.

			(NOTE: also <i>Fraction Bar</i> and <i>Division Sign</i>)
"	· - · - · - ·	six- TY -six nine- TY -nine	<i>Quotation marks</i> resemble a 66 at the beginning of a quote, and a 99 at the end of a quote.
'	· - - - - ·	and THIS STUFF GOES TO me!	An <i>apostrophe</i> may be used to denote ownership of property.
;	- · - · - ·	A -list, B -list, C -list	A <i>semicolon</i> may be used to group ordered lists in the same sentence.

Slavic languages

In the Czech language, the mnemonic device to remember Morse codes lies in remembering words that begin with each appropriate letter and has so called long vowel (i.e. á é í ó ú ý) for every dash and short vowel (a e i o u y) for every dot. Additionally, some other theme-related sets of words have been thought out as Czech folklore.

Letter	Morse Code	Czech word	Translation	Alternative (folklore)	Translation
A	· -	akát	acacia	abst'ák	abstinence symptoms
B	- · · ·	blýskavice	lightning storm	blít až doma	vomit until at home
C	- · - ·	cílovníci	aiming sights	cíl je výčep	the target is the taproom
D	- · ·	dálnice	highway	dám jedno	I'll have one (beer)
E	·	erb	coat of arms	ex	one-sip-drinking
F	· · - ·	Filipíny	Philippines	Fernet píše	the Fernet's pungent

G	-- ·	Grónská zem	the land of Greenland	grónský rum	rum of Greenland
H	· · · ·	holubice	dove (female)	hruškovice	Pear brandy
Ch	-----	chléb nám dává	(he) gives us bread	chvátám k pípám	I rush to the faucets
I	· ·	ibis	Ibis	Iron	Iron (window cleaning agent with alcohol content)
J	· ----	jasmín bílý	white Jasmine	Jabčák bílý	White Apple brandy
K	- · -	království	kingdom	kýbl vín	pot of wines
L	· - · ·	lední hokej	ice hockey	likéreček	little liquor
M	--	mává	waving	mží z píp	it's sprinkling out of faucets
N	- ·	národ	nation	návyk	habit
O	---	ó náš pán	oh, our lord	ó můj líh	oh, my alcohol
P	· - - ·	papírníci	paper-makers	pivní tácek	beer underpad
Q	-- · -	kvílí orkán	wailing hurricane	kvílím ožrán	I wail drunked
R	· - ·	rarášek	imp	rumíček	little rum
S	· · ·	sekera	axe	sud je tu	the barrel's here
T	-	tón	tone	té	tea
U	· · -	učený	erudite	uchlastán	fully loaded
V	· · · -	vyvolený	the chosen one	vodka finská	Finnish vodka
W	· - -	waltrův vůz	Walter's carriage	whiskou plout	to float through Whiskey
X	- · · -	Xénokratés	Xenocrates	k sýru burčák	

					new half-fermented wine with cheese
Y	- · - -	Ýgar mává	Ygar is waving	ý, jsem zlamán	ee, I'm a mess
Z	- - · ·	Zrádná žena	perfidious woman	zlískám se hned	I get stoned quickly

Indonesia

In Indonesia, one mnemonics commonly taught in scouting method to remember Morse codes lies in remembering words that begin with each appropriate letter and substituting the **o** vowel for every dash and other vowels (**a**, **i**, **u**, and **e**) for every dot.

Letter	Morse Code	Word
A	· -	ano
B	- · · ·	bonaparte
C	- · - ·	coba-coba-
D	- · ·	dominan
E	·	egg
F	· · - ·	father joe
G	- - ·	golongan
H	· · · ·	himalaya
I	· ·	islam
J	· - - -	jago loro
K	- · -	komando
L	· - · ·	lemonade
M	- -	motor
N	- ·	notes

O	---	omono
P	·--·	pertolongan
Q	--·-	qomokaro
R	·-·	rasome
S	···	sahara
T	-	tom
U	··-	unesco
V	···-	versikaro
W	·--	wahono
X	-··-	xosendero
Y	-·--	yosimono
Z	--··	zoro-aster

See also

- Amateur radio

References

1. "Girl Guiding by Lord Baden-Powell" (PDF). Pearson. 1938. Retrieved 2015-09-06. "Some people find it easier to remember the does [sic] and dashes by picturing them as forming the letters— thus:— (p61)"

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