

Q Codes

By G8MNY

(Updated Apr 09)

Here is a list of Q codes, I am sure there are loads more. Originally the shorthand was developed to speed Morse code contacts up, using the fact that most words starting with a Q have U as the 2nd letter, so anything else can be this 3 letter code system. Other codes are used e.g. CB's 10 and Mill Z code etc.

The Q code is very popular even in phone communication and in commercial circles.

It has the great ability to permit clear exchanges between different languages too. The use in phone mode greatly helps under poor signal or language conditions, so it not being lazy. However I do try not to use when on a demo station with public present,

Q Code Simplified Meaning, To/From  
QAV Are You calling me

QCM Your Tx is defective

QFE Aircraft Pressure (mB)

QNH Ground Air Pressure (mB)

QOH Interference From

QRA Locator code/Station Name

QRB Distance apart

QRD Where are you bound

QRG Frequency Readout

QRH Frequency Varies

QRI Tone Report

QRJ Weak Signals

QRK Readability/Inteligibility

QRL Busy (freq in use)

QRM Interference

QRN Static

QRO Power Increase

QRP Power Decrease

QRQ Send Faster

QRR Ready for Automatic

QRS Send slower

QRT Stop Sending/Closedown

QRU Anything for me

QRV Ready

QRW Inform Call, Freq MHz

QRX Standby (time)

QRY What is my turn?

QRZ Who is calling?

QSA Signal Strength

QSB Fading Signals

QSD Keying Defective

QSI Can't Break in

QSK Break in?

QSL Acknowledge Contact

QSM Radio Jamming?

QSN Heard Time Freq MHz

QSO Radio Contact

QSP Relay message to

QSR Repeat call on calling freq  
QSS Working freq  
QST Tone is?  
QSU Reply here/freq  
QSV Send series of Vs  
QSW Send here/freq  
QSX Listen to freq MHz  
QSY Change freq MHz  
QSZ Send more than once?

QTC Message  
QTH Location  
QTQ Q Codes used  
QTR Time is  
QTS Send Call for Tuning  
QTU Operating Hours  
QTV Stand Guard on Freq  
QTX Keep QSO open till

QUA News of call xxx?

Why don't U send an interesting bul?

73 De John, G8MNY @ GB7CIP