

Communication Crafts

QSL Cards & Callsigns

All amateur radio stations are identified by a registered callsign. In Australia most callsigns start with VK followed by a number for the State and then 1 to 4 letters like VK2GGZ. Other countries' callsigns start with different letters.

To confirm a radio contact QSL cards are often swapped between radio operators just like you would send a postcard to a friend.

Make up a callsign like GU1DE, PH0NE, ST3M, BE5T, SH4PE or TA8LE and design a QSL card like this one and swap it with a friend to QSL a conversation you have had on the CB radio or phone.

GU1DE

I am pleased to confirm QSO with _____

Date	Time (UTC)	Frequency	Mode	Signal Report	Notes

QSL Please/Thanks
Name & Address

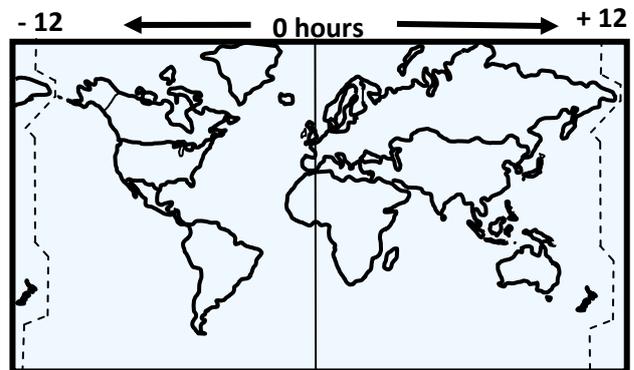
73 _____

"73" is an old telegraph code that means "best regards"

24 Hour Time & UTC

As radio signals can travel around the world the 24-hour clock is used instead of 'am' or 'pm'. For times after midday add 12 hours onto the 'pm' time. eg 3 pm is 1500.

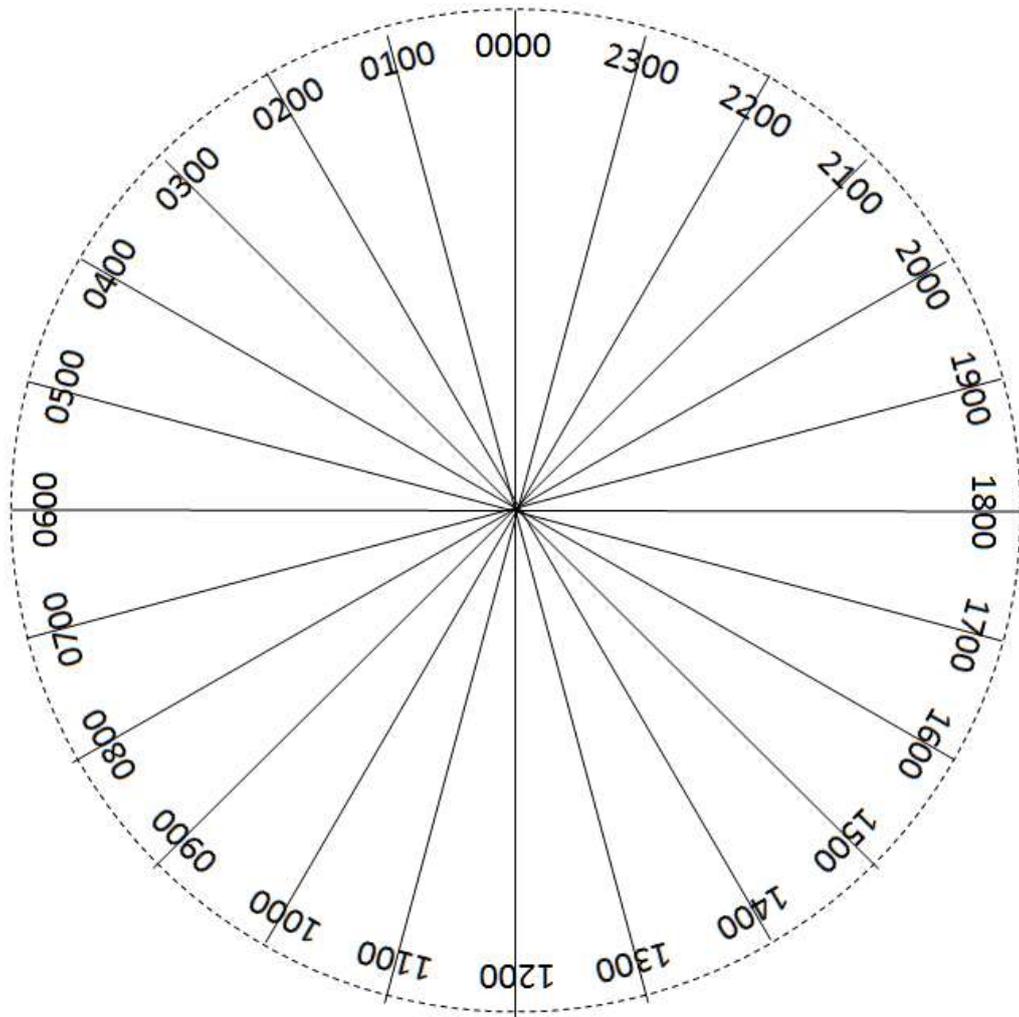
Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is based on the local standard time zone (GMT) of the 0° longitude which runs through Greenwich, England. The UTC time is the same worldwide regardless of the time zone or daylight saving and is used for radio communications.



International Date Line Prime Meridian International Date Line

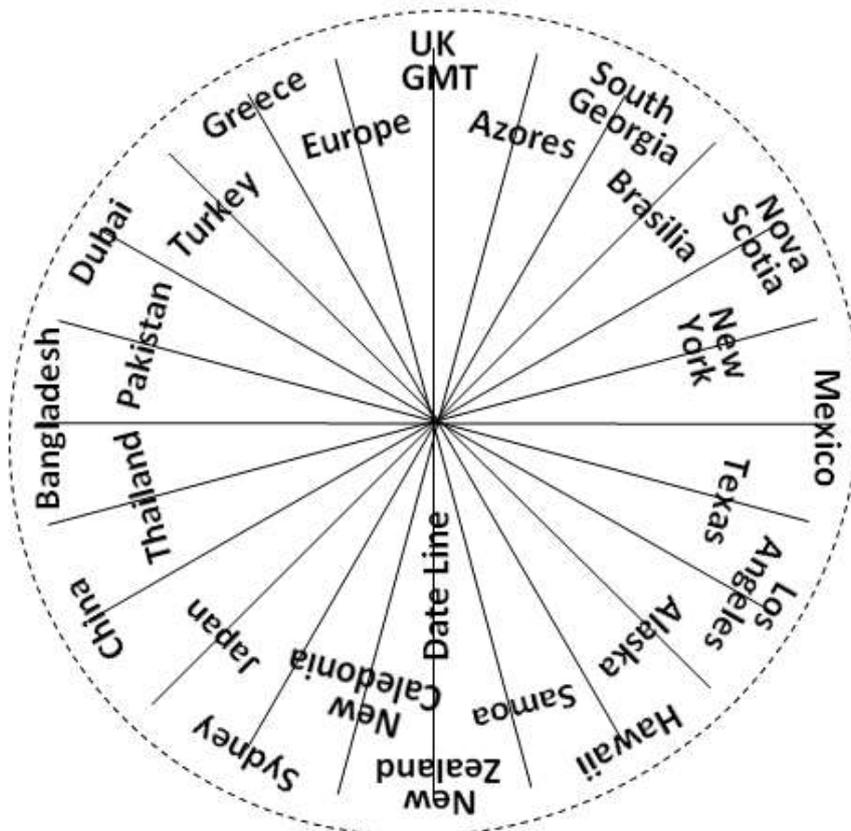
Sydney Standard Time	Location	Standard Time
1200	London UK	
1800	Auckland NZ	
1500	Tokyo Japan	
0900	Athens Greece	
0800	Honolulu Hawaii	
1700	Paris France	
0500	New York USA	
1900	Beijing China	

Make the World Time Converter Wheel and then work out the times in the locations in the table. Add 1 hour for places on Daylight Saving Time.



World Time Converter

- Cut out the circles.
- Join with a split pin fastener.
- Compare the times in different countries.
- Find the countries on a world map.
- Find other countries with the same time zones.
- Remember to allow for countries on Day Light Saving Time.

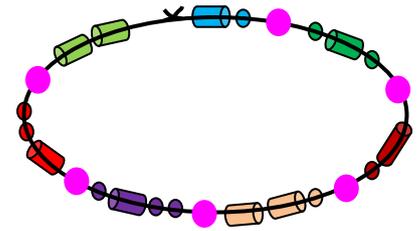


Morse Code Bracelet

- Look at the table below and work out the spelling of your name in Morse Code
- Choose short beads for "dots"
- Use long beads for "dashes"
- Place a round bead between the letters
- Thread all the beads onto a piece of bead string
- Attach the ends together to make a bracelet

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
--	----	----	---	.	----	----	----	..
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
----	---	----	---	--	----	----	----	---
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
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Materials: piece of bead string, long beads, short beads, round beads



Phonetic Alphabet Bookmark

The phonetic alphabet replaces letters with code words. This alphabet is used on the radio to spell out words to ensure that voice communications are received accurately. Certain letters sound similar and can be often confused. An international system like this is essential for clear communications.

Materials: piece of cardboard, pens or pencils, ribbon, hole punch, stickers

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

To help you to remember the phonetic alphabet, make a bookmark with your name spelled out on it.

- Write your name down the edge of the bookmark
- Write the phonetic word for each letter.
- Decorate your bookmark.
- Punch a hole in the top.
- Tie a ribbon through the hole.

