

Learn Morse Code is available in zip format and can be downloaded from  
<http://www.dxhams.com/NTCexams.htm>

To download the zip folder, scroll down and click on Learning Morse in one zip folder.  
Unzipped the folder contains 7 files including : Read me...Introduction...DU1AU NTC amateur radio morse code information...Flash and Cue card files...Two morse code training software programs.

"Learning Morse Code"

by John Fraser, 4F3EW/GM4DKO

Although Morse code is no longer a requirement by some countries as part of the radio amateur license there are still many amateurs who enjoy using CW and maybe some who would like to learn. Morse code has to be memorized, and memorized preferably in a random manner, and there is no easy method of doing this. Using the method outlined below the Morse code is memorized in a semi random manner.

It is no good trying to send unless the CW has been memorized, as an operator can send faster than he/she can receive, don't send until you have reached a certain speed i.e. for an exam or test. It is better to practice 15 minutes everyday rather than 1 hour and 45 minutes per week.

When saying Morse code it is better to say:- dah di dit or di dah dit, dah di di dit, di dah di dit etc etc the last dot being pronounced as dit, the other dots as pronounced as di.

This method of learning CW progresses at the learners pace and a speed of 4-5 wpm can be reached in a few hours.

After having memorized the alphabet and the numbers, the user can then read newspapers, car license plates, bill boards in Morse code thus solidifying the learned cw. That is the time to start and listen to the actual Morse code symbols.

What is required? Time and patience plus learning materials which are cardboard cut into small rectangular pieces that is all.

To learn CW using this method the alphabet and numbers have been divided into groups and each group must be learned before proceeding to the next group and after a new group has been learned it is combined with the previous group's, refreshing what has already been memorized this is done will all the groups until all the alphabet and numbers have been memorized.

I will describe the learning of the first group and each proceeding group is learned the same way, more later.

First a piece of non transparent plain sided cardboard, the size to accommodate 62 rectangular pieces, each 1.5"w x0.5" h, I used a piece of cardboard 9" wide by 6.5" high and I marked this with 13 x 6 rows of 1.5" w X 0.5" h rectangle boxes.

See the drawing, which the user can print or copy and then glue/stick onto the piece of non transparent cardboard and use that instead of making their own.

A	. _	N	_ .	1	. _ _ _ _
B	_ . . .	O	_ _ _	2	. _ _ _ _
C	_ . . . .	P	. _ _ . .	3	. . . . _
D	_ . .	Q	_ _ _ _	4	. . . . _
E	. _	R	. _ .	5	. . . . .
F	. . . .	S	. . .	6	. . . . .
G	_ . . .	T	_	7	. _ . . .
H	. . . .	U	. . _	8	. _ . . .
I	. .	V	. . . _	9	. _ . . .
J	. _ _ _ _	W	. _ _	ø	. _ . . . _
K	_ . _	X	_ . . .		
L	. _ . . .	Y	. _ . . _		
M	_ _	Z	_ . . .		

It is important that the user cannot see through the cardboard so he doesn't know what is on the other side. Each Morse symbol has a line underneath to show which way it has to be read as an L read upside down could be a F and B read as the letter V etc.

Now cut out the 1st five letters of the alphabet (A-E) plus Morse symbols, now memorize each letter and its equivalent Morse symbol. When this has been done, cut these letters and numbers into the marked rectangles, now put the letters blank side up in a small pile, mix them up and same with the Morse symbols.

Now pick up a letter look at it and try and guess the Morse symbol, if in doubt put to one side, with the correct letters on one side and the doubtful letters on another side.

Now again turn the doubtful blank side up and then look at each one and guess the Morse symbol, then add them to the correct pile and go through the process again until confident that all the letters Morse equivalents are guessed correctly. Using the same procedure correct and doubtful piles.

Now do the same with the Morse symbols i.e. blank side up and guess the letter equivalent to the Morse symbol repeat as for the letters, doubtful ones on one side. When this is ok put all the letters and Morse symbols blank side up together and mix, again look at them one at a time and guess this time the letter or Morse symbol again with a doubtful pile and correct pile. Do this several times before moving to the next group to be memorized.

The next group (F-J) is memorized as with the 1st group i.e. cut out the group, memorize and cut the letter/Morse symbols rectangles and go through the same procedure as with group one.

Now is the time to recollect the first group and this is done by combining both groups, placing the both group of letters and Morse symbols blank side up in two different piles, mixed and the letters equivalent Morse symbols guessed at and again a correct and doubtful pile created. Same with the Morse symbols and then all the letters and symbols combined blank side up, mixed up and again correct and doubtful piles until all the letters etc do this until all the 1st and 2nd groups are guessed correctly for both letters and Morse symbols.

The next group (K-O) is memorized as above and then combined with the first 2 groups before moving to the next group (P-T) and to the final group (U-Z).

Having worked through the alphabet and now memorized the letters, the number are divided into 2 groups (1-5) and (6-0) and memorized as we did for the first group.

Now place all the letters blank side up and the Morse symbols blank side up and guess the Morse symbol for each letter and the letter for each Morse symbol, again a correct and doubtful pile being used.

The final thing is to place all the letters and Morse symbols blank side up, mixed and each one guessed as to the letter or Morse equivalent.

Having done this the user will now be able to read newspapers, bill boards , car license plates in Morse code.

Now is the time to start and listen to Morse being sent.

There are many programs on the internet which send CW and now the user can start and copy what is being sent, sometimes it is better to chase i.e. the Morse being sent slightly faster than the comfort speed also copying a letter behind seems to make the CW feel slower when being read.

The above method of learning Morse code may be tedious but it will make the user learn in a semi random way.

I taught myself Morse code using the above method.

73's de John, 4F3EW/GM4DKO.