

Learn Morse Code – Introduction

This article was written to help the Philippine radio amateur pass the NTC morse code examination.

At this moment in time, the requirement to obtain the Philippine NTC Class A amateur radio licence is to pass the Class A written exam and also the pass NTC morse code (cw) exam.

The NTC Element 1 - Morse Code examination....The NTC morse code exam gauges your ability to copy and decode Morse code at 5 wpm, letters A-Z only (no numbers, no punctuations, no sending morse code).

See 3.NTC Morse Code Exam

The morse code has to be memorized preferably in a random or semi - random way, this takes time, patience and regular practice.

Patience is required when learning morse code, it is better practice learning cw for 15 mins per day rather than 2 hours on the same day per week.

There is no easy way to learn morse code, there are different methods to learning morse code, one such method is enclosed in this LMC folder.

See 4. Installing CueCard and 5. CueCards if not suitable there are other ways to learn cw.

The idea behind this method of learning morse code is to use the cue cards to progress through morse code alphabet in a semi-random way.

Having completely memorized the morse code start to listen to cw and write down the cw being sent.

Try and refrain from sending cw until proficient at receiving morse code.

Before taking the NTC 5 wpm cw exam, practice receiving morse code at say 6 wpm.

There are free learning morse code software programs which can be downloaded from the internet. There are also learn morse code online websites.

Two free practice learning morse code training software programs available to download include Just LearnMorseCode and MorseCat20

See 6.MorseCat20

Having first memorise the morse code, either of these two programs would be suitable to practice receiving morse code for the NTC cw exam.

Both programs can be set up to send mixed 5 letter groups, one program can be set up for a minimum speed of 2 wpm and the other program set up for a minimum speed of 5 wpm and with more receiving proficiency the wpm speed can be increased.

I hold the call signs GM4DKO (Scotland) and 4F3EW (Philippines).

73 and lots of enjoyment with the hobby. John (age 80 years old). 25 April 2022