

“Q” Signals In Ham Radio

Clarity and brevity is always required during ham radio CW communications. “Q” signals were designed to provide just that.

Many of them are used during voice communications ... but it is recommended that they be used sparingly!

“Q” Signal	Meaning
QRG	Will you tell me my exact frequency (or that of _~)? Your exact frequency (or that of _~) is _~ kHz.
QRH	Does my frequency vary? Your frequency varies.
QRI	How is the tone of my transmission? The tone of your transmission is _~ (1. Good; 2. Variable; 3. Bad).
QRJ	Are you receiving me badly? I cannot receive you. Your signals are too weak.
QRK	What is the intelligibility of my signals (or those of _~)? The intelligibility of your signals (or those of _~) is _~ (1. Bad; 2. Poor; 3. Fair; 4. Good; 5. Excellent).
QRL	Are you busy? I am busy (or I am busy with _~). Please do not interfere.
QRM	Is my transmission being interfered with? Your transmission is being interfered with _~ (1. Nil; 2. Slightly; 3. Moderately; 4. Severely; 5. Extremely.)
QRN	Are you troubled by static? I am troubled by static _~ (1-5 as under QRM).
QRO	Shall I increase power? Increase power.
QRP	Shall I decrease power? Decrease power.
QRQ	Shall I send faster? Send faster (_~ WPM).
QRS	Shall I send more slowly? Send more slowly (_~ WPM).
QRT	Shall I stop sending? Stop sending.
QRU	Have you anything for me? I have nothing for you. QRV Are you ready? I am ready.
QRW	Shall I inform _~ that you are calling on _~ kHz? Please inform _~ that I am calling on _~ kHz.
QRX	When will you call me again? I will call you again at _~ hours (on _~ kHz).
QRY	What is my turn? Your turn is numbered _~
QRZ	Who is calling me? You are being called by _~ (on _kHz).
QSA	What is the strength of my signals (or those of _~)? The strength of your signals (or those of _~) is _~ (1. Scarcely perceptible; 2. Weak; 3. Fairly good; 4. Good; 5. Very good).
QSB	Are my signals fading? Your signals are fading. also Is my keying defective? Your keying is defective.
QSD	Is my keying defective? Your keying is defective.
QSG	Shall I send __ messages at a time? Send __ messages at a time.
QSK	Can you hear me between your signals and if so can I break in on your transmission? I can hear you between my signals; break in on my transmission.
QSL	Can you acknowledge receipt? I am acknowledging receipt.
QSM	QSM Shall I repeat the last message which I sent you, or some previous message? Repeat the last message which you sent me [or message(s) number(s) --].
QSN	Did you hear me (or __) on __ kHz? I did hear you (or __) on __ kHz.
QSO	Can you communicate with __ direct or by relay? I can communicate with __ direct (or by relay through __).

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QSP	Will you relay to __ ? I will relay to __
QST	General call preceding a message addressed to all amateurs and ARRL members. This is in effect "CQ ARRL."
QSU	Shall I send or reply on this frequency (or on __ kHz)? Send a series of Vs on this frequency (or __ kHz).
QSW	Will you send on this frequency (or on __ kHz)? I am going to send on this frequency (or on __ kHz).
QSX	Will you listen to __ on __ kHz? I am listening to __ on __ kHz.
QSY	Shall I change to transmission on another frequency? Change to transmission on another frequency (or on __kHz).
QSZ	Shall I send each word or group more than once? Send each word or group twice (or __ times).
QTA	Shall I cancel message number __ ? Cancel message number __
QTB	Do you agree with my counting of words? I do not agree with your counting of words. I will repeat the first letter or digit of each word or group.
QTC	How many messages have you to send? I have __ messages for you (or for __).
QTH	What is your location? My location is __ QTR What is the correct time? The time is __
QTR	What is the correct time? The time is __