

The Basics of Learning CW

K1BG

About the Presenter

- K1BG, licensed since 1968, 14 years old
- ARRL ACC - EMA
- Youth Elmer -
 - Thinking Day on the Air (Girls Scouts)
 - JOTA /Camporee (Boy Scouts)
 - CW Youth Academy Advisor – Level 1
 - Technician License Classes
 - High School Science Fair Judge
- A passion for operating

“I♥CW”



CW = Morse code

- A series of dots and dashes – *dits and dahs* – used to symbolize letters, numbers, and punctuation
- Developed by Samuel F. B. Morse and introduced in 1837. Or perhaps Alfred Vail...
- Amateurs use a variant called International Morse (which is different than American Morse which was used by the railroads).
- Number and length of dit and dah combinations based on frequency of use in language.

Definition of Methods

- Farnsworth Method – Teaching method whereby code characters are sent at high speed (often at or above 20 Words per Minute), and spacing between characters is increased to slow the effective rate.
- Koch Method – A teaching method whereby only one or two new characters are introduced at a time until the student is proficient at recognizing all of the previously introduced letters.
- The Koch and Farnsworth methods can be used at the same time.

Why Learn Morse Code

- It's Fun
- It's an accomplishment
- It opens up a lot of operating opportunities
- IMO, it makes operators better listeners

Your Goals?

- QRQ or QRS?
- Ragchew, DX, Contests, Nets, Traffic?
- Handkey, Cootie, Bug, Paddles, Keyboard?
- 5 WPM, 10 WPM, 25 WPM, 50 WPM?

What is your learning style?

- Social or Solitary?
- Disciplined or Undisciplined?
- Structured or Unstructured?
- Self Motivated or Unmotivated?

How is CW Usually Taught?

- Code groups
 - TEAN OISR HDL...
 - EISH TMO AWJ...
 - ETAR NDKCXY ISHVJB....
 - EISH₅TMO₀ ARLWJ₁P....
 - Many, many others
- Koch adds two letters at a time...

What's Available?

- Online – Tutored
- Online - Automated
- Apps
- Programs
- Books
- One or Two people who want to learn...

What is the secret to learning Morse code?

Practice!!!

Online – Tutored

- CW Academy
 - 8 week Beginners class, meets twice per week on-line
 - Personalized classes, usually 5 or less students, with dedicated “Advisor”
 - Curriculum based
 - Farnsworth Method
 - Three Higher Levels
 - Use of “Morse Code Trainer”
 - It’s Free
 - <https://cwops.org/cw-academy/>

Online Tutored

- Long Island CW Club
 - “Carousel” Beginners Curriculum
 - Students pick and choose classes based on when they want to attend
 - # of Students and Instructor depend on the class
 - Farnsworth/Koch Method
 - Membership Fee
 - <https://longislandcwclub.org/>

Online Automated

- LCWO – Learn CW Online
 - Uses Koch Method
 - Students decide when they will participate
 - No instructor, self study
 - Students progress as they achieve learning levels
 - Support in form of Forums and Users Groups
 - Free
 - <https://lcwo.net/>

Online Automated

- The Ham Whisperer –
 - Class taught/recorded by Andy, KE4GKP
 - Recorded, captured, stored on YouTube
 - No instructor, self study
 - Students self learn
 - No support
 - <http://www.hamwhisperer.com/>

Online Automated

- CW Academy “Self Study”
 - Curriculum based – download and study yourself
 - Use “Morse Code Trainer”
 - Farnsworth Method
 - No advisor, self study
 - No support

Apps

- G4FON – Koch CW Trainer
 - Windows program – download and run
 - Koch and Farnsworth methods
 - No instructor, self study
 - Students progress as they achieve learning levels
 - No support
 - <http://www.g4fon.net/>

Apps

- iOS
 - Morse Elmer
 - MorseMania
- Others...

Books

• One or Two People and a Key -


morse code books - Google Search

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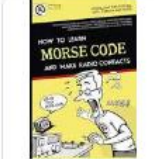
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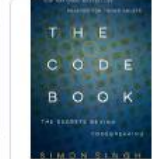
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MORSE CODE FOR BEGINNERS



MORSE CODE For Beginner



HOW TO LEARN MORSE CODE



MORSE CODE BOOK FOR KIDS



MY FIRST MORSE CODE BOOK For Kids



MORSE CODE BOOK FOR BEGINNERS



THE ESSENTIAL LANGUAGE



Morse Code: Breaking the Barrier



MORSE CODE



MORSE CODE

Books

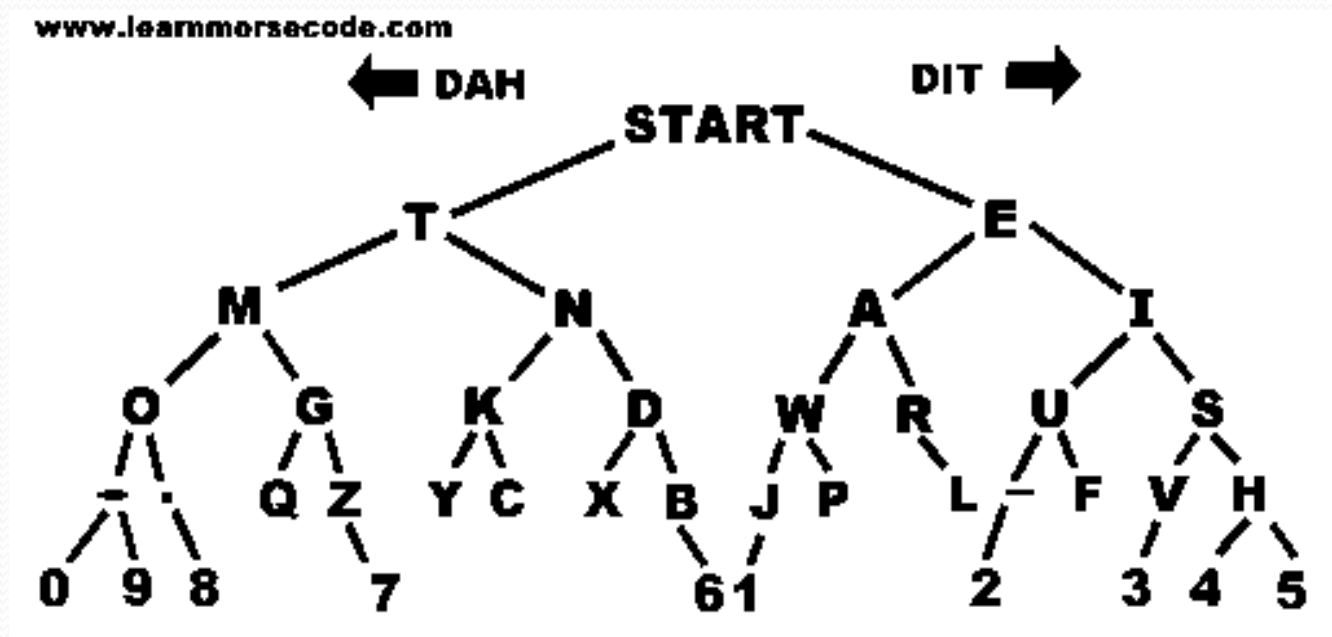
- ARRL's Morse Code Operating for Amateur Radio
 - <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/arr-0004>
- Learning the Radiotelegraph Code – ARRL 1946
 - <https://archive.org/details/learning-the-radiotelegraph-code-arrr-john-huntoon-ed-3-pr-1-1946>
- Learning the Radiotelegraph Code – ARRL 1955
 - <https://archive.org/details/learning-the-radiotelegraph-code-arrr-ed-7-pr-2-1955>
- TM 11-459 Instructions for Learning International Morse Characters 1943 – United States War Dept
 - https://archive.org/details/Tm11-459_676/page/n49/mode/2up

What will you need?

- A Key – to send the Morse
 - Hand Key, Paddles?
- An “Oscillator” to make the sound
 - Buzzer
 - Keyer
 - Transceiver with built in keyer
- For on-line sessions, a computer with microphone, sound card, camera, and reliable internet connection

How Not to Learn CW

- LearnMorseCode.com



How Not to Learn CW

- How I Learned Morse Code in Ten Minutes





What is the secret to learning Morse code?

Practice!!!

Discussion...