



## For Fun: Morse Code Mystery

Can you solve the puzzles and read about the history of Morse code?

A ● -	G - - ●	M - -	S ● ● ●	Y - ● - -
B - ● ● ●	H ● ● ● ●	N - ●	T -	Z - - ● ●
C - ● - ●	I ● ●	O - - -	U ● ● -	
D - ● ●	J ● - - -	P ● - - ●	V ● ● ● -	
E ●	K - ● -	Q - - ● -	W ● - -	
F ● ● - ●	L ● - ● ●	R ● - ●	X - ● ● -	

In 1836, the American .- .-. - .. ... - Samuel F. B. Morse was part of a team of three people who began to work on an electrical telegraph system. The way the world communicated was changing and people wanted to be able to send messages quickly over much greater distances than ever before. A .-. .- - . was used to convert natural language into pulses of electric current. The system was first used in about 1844. The principle was that a mechanical receiver, when it received an electric current, would make indentations on a .- .- .- .- .- tape. The shorter indentations were called "dots", and the longer ones "-. .- ... .. . ...", and the code was devised so that the more frequently used letters had the shortest sequences.

After a while, the paper tape system was replaced by telegraph operators who would translate the noises made by the mechanical receiver into dots and dashes, which they would write down by .... .- -. -. (. Full stop) It was actually found to be easier to learn Morse code when it was heard, rather than when .-. . .- -. from a page.

Before techniques of voice transmission were developed, Morse code was used for radio communication in the 1890s. Soon communicating across the oceans via undersea cables and across continents were all made possible because of the telegraph system and Morse code. In the 1920s, Morse code began to be used regularly in .-. .- -. .. --- systems on aircraft, and all pilots had to be proficient in Morse code from the 1930s. It was also used as an .. -. - .-. -. .- - .. --- -. .- .-. standard for sending distress signals at sea until as recently as 1999, when the Global Maritime Distress Safety System was introduced.



## For Fun: Morse Code Answer

Can you solve the puzzles and read about the history of Morse code?

A ● -	G - - ●	M - -	S ● ● ●	Y - ● - -
B - ● ● ●	H ● ● ● ●	N - ●	T -	Z - - ● ●
C - ● - ●	I ● ●	O - - -	U ● ● -	
D - ● ●	J ● - - -	P ● - - ●	V ● ● ● -	
E ●	K - ● -	Q - - ● -	W ● - -	
F ● ● - ●	L ● - ● ●	R ● - ●	X - ● ● -	

In 1836, the American **ARTIST** Samuel F. B. Morse, the physicist Joseph Henry, and the machinist Alfred Vail began to work on an electrical telegraph system. A **CODE** was used to convert natural language into pulses of electric current. The system was first used in about 1844. The principle was that a mechanical receiver, when it received an electric current, would make indentations on a **PAPER** tape. The shorter indentations were called "dots", and the longer ones "**DASHES**", and the code was devised so that the more frequently used letters had the shortest sequences.

After a while, the paper tape system was replaced by telegraph operators who would translate the noises made by the mechanical receiver into dots and dashes, which they would write down by **HAND**. It was actually found to be easier to learn Morse code when it was heard, rather than when **READ** from a page.

Before techniques of voice transmission were developed, Morse code was used for radio communication in the 1890s. Soon communicating across the oceans via undersea cables and across continents were all made possible because of the telegraph system and Morse code. In the 1920s, Morse code began to be used regularly in **RADIO** systems on aircraft, and all pilots had to be proficient in Morse code from the 1930s. It was also used as an **INTERNATIONAL** standard for sending distress signals at sea until as recently as 1999, when the Global Maritime Distress Safety System was introduced.