



Decoding Morse Code!

Molly Brown House Museum

History@Home

Morse Code and the telegraph machine was developed in 1830 as a way of quickly communicating across long distances. Dots and dashes were used to signal letters, words, and sentences in the form of short and long beeps. Margaret Brown sent telegrams to her friends and family when she wanted to communicate quickly.

On April 14, 1912, the Titanic received a series of telegraph messages about ice along their route. Jack Phillips was in charge of receiving these in the communication room. Frederick Fleet was a lookout in the crow's nest. He was in charge of spotting icebergs and would have communicated by signal lamps if another ship was nearby. Both men used Morse Code.

Now it's your turn!

Morse Code Alphabet:

A	B	C	D	E	F
• —	— •••	— • — •	— ••	•	•• — •
G	H	I	J	K	L
— — •	••••	••	• — — —	— • —	• — ••
M	N	O	P	Q	R
— —	— •	— — —	• — — •	— — • —	• — •
S	T	U	V	W	X
•••	—	•• —	••• —	• — —	— •• —
Y	Z	WAIT	UNDERSTAND	DONT UNDERSTAND	
— • — —	— — ••	— ••	••• — •	— •••• — •	

I. Morse Code Practice

1. Write your name in Morse Code.
-

II. Decode Morse Code!

Telegraph operators had to send messages in Morse code and decode the messages when received. Can you decode the messages? ****Each line separates a word****

Telegram from the Titanic:

.-- . |- ...- . | ... - .- ..- -. -. | .- -. | .. -. . -... ..- .- --.

1. _____

Telegram from Larry Brown to Margaret:

--. .-.. .- .. | - --- |- .- | -.--- --- ..- | .- .- . |- ..- .

2. _____

III. Create a Message!

Write a simple message, translate it into Morse code and see if your parent or sibling can guess what you said!

1. Message: _____

2. Message: _____

3. Message: _____

1. Morse Code:

2. Morse Code:

3. Morse Code:
