

Short words such as ton, day, and mile are spelled out.

Do not use abbreviations where the meaning will not be clear. In case of doubt, spell out.

Do not use conventional signs for abbreviations in text; thus per, not /; lb., not #; in., not ". Such signs are used sparingly in tables and similar places for conserving space.

The sub-committee recognizes a tendency toward the omission of the period in some technical abbreviations and favors the omission, except in cases of general literary composition, as being economical and conducive to the elimination of waste. Some mathematical and chemical terms are, in preferred practice, customarily abbreviated without periods; thus sin, log, Cu, etc.

Do not space the letters of such abbreviations as A.S.H.V.E. (not A. S. H. V. E.).

In text, do not use the exponents for the abbreviations of square and cube nor the negative exponents for terms involving per. The superior figures are usually not available on the keyboards of typesetting and linotype machines and composition is therefore delayed. There is also the likelihood of confusion with footnote reference numbers. These shorter forms are permissible in tables and are sometimes difficult to avoid in text.

Abbreviations

In this initial list of abbreviations for engineering and scientific terms only those most commonly used have been included.

Absolute	abs	Chain	ch.
Acre	a.	Chemical	chem.
Acre-feet	spell out	Chemically pure	c.p.
Air horsepower	air hp.	Circular	cir.
Alternating-current (adjective)	a-c.	circular mils.	cir. mils
American wire gage (Brown and Sharp)	B.&S. gage	Civil Engineer	C.E.
Ampere	amp.	Coefficient	coef.
Ampere-hour	amp-hr.	Cologarithm	colog
Angstrom unit	Å	Concentrate	conc.
Antilogarithm	antilog	Conductivity	cond.
Armature	arm.	Constant	const.
Atomic weight	at. wt.	Continental horsepower	cont. hp.
Atmosphere	atm.	Cord	cd.
Average	avg.	Cosecant	csc
Avoirdupois	avdp.	Cosine	cos
		cost, insurance and freight	c.i.f.
Barometer	bar.	Cotangent	ctn
Barrel	bbl.	Counter electromotive force	counter emf
Baumé	Bé.	Cubic	cu.
Birmingham wire gage	B.w.g.	Cubic centimeter	cu. cm., cc (liquid)
Board feet	f.b.m.	Cubic foot	cu. ft.
Boiler horsepower	boiler hp.	Cubic feet per second	c.f.s.
Boiling point	b.p.	Cubic inch	cu. in.
Brake horsepower	b.hp.	Cubic meter	cu. m.
Brake horsepower-hour	b.hp-hr.	Cubic micron	cu. μ
Brinnell hardness number	B.h.n.	Cubic millimeter	cu. mm
British thermal unit	B.tu	Cubic yard	cu. yd.
Brown & Sharp gage	B.&S. gage	Current density	spell out
Bundle	bdl.	Cycles per second	~
Bushel	bu.	Cylinder	cyl.
Calorie	cal	Day	spell out
Candlepower	cp.	Degree	deg.
Candlepower-hour	cp-hr.	Degree Centigrade	°C
Center to center	c. to c.	Degree Fahrenheit	°F
Centigram	cg	Degree Kelvin	°K
Centiliter	cl	Degree Réaumur	°R
Centimeter	cm	Diameter	diam.
Centimeter-gram-second	cgs	Direct-current (as adjective)	d-c.
Cent.	c.	Dollar	\$

*Not used in Text of THE GUIDE until approved by A. S. A.

Dozen	doz.	Lambert	L
Dram	dr.	Latitude	lat.
		Least common multiple	l.c.m.
East	E	Lineal foot	lin. ft.
East-northeast	ENE	Link	l.
East-southeast	ESE	Lira	spell out
Electric	elec.	Liter	l
Electric horsepower	e.hp.	Liquid	liq.
Electrical Engineer	E.E.	Logarithm	log
Electromotive force	emf	Longitude	long.
Elevation	el.	Low-pressure cylinder	L.P. cyl.
		Lumen	l
Farad	f	Lumen-hour	l-hr.
Feet board measure	f.b.m.	Lumens per watt	l.p.w.
Feet per minute	f.p.m.		
Feet per second	f.p.s.	Magnetomotive force	mmf
Fluid	f.	Mark	M.
Foot	ft.	Mass	spell out
Foot-candle	ft-c.	Master Car Builders' Standard	M.C.B. Std.
Foot-Lambert	ft-L	Mathematics (ical)	math.
Foot-pound	ft-lb.	Maximum	max.
Foot-pound-second system	fps	Mean effective pressure	m.e.p.
Franc	fr.	Mean horizontal candlepower	m.h.cp.
Free aboard ship	spell out	Mean spherical candlepower	m.s.cp.
Free alongside ship	spell out	Mechanical Engineer	M.E.
Free on board	f.o.b.	Megawatt	spell out
Freezing point	f.p.	Megohm	meg
Frequency	freq.	Melting point	m.p.
Furlong	fur.	Meter	m
		Meter-kilogram	m-kg
Gallon	gal.	Mho	spell out
Gallons per minute	g.p.m.	Microfarad	μf
Gallons per second	g.p.s.	Micromicron	μμ
Generator	gen.	Micron	μ
Grain	spell out	Microwatt	spell out
Gram	spell out	Mile	spell out
Gram-calorie	g-cal	Miles per hour	m.p.h.
		Miles per hour per second	m.p.h. per sec.
Hectare	ha	Milliampere	milliamp.
Henry	h	Millifarad	mf
High-pressure cylinder	H.P. cyl.	Milligram	mg
Hogshead	hhd.	Millihenry	mh
Horsepower	hp.	Millilambert	mL
Horsepower-hour	hp-hr.	Milliliter	ml
Hour	hr.	Millimeter	mm
Hundredweight (112 lb.)	cwt.	Millimicron	μμ
Hyperbolic sine	sinh	Million	spell out
Hyperbolic cosine	cosh	Million gallons per day	m.g.d.
		Millivolt	mv
Inch	in.	Mining Engineer	E.M.
Inch-pound	in-lb.	Minute	min.
Inches per second	i.p.s.	Molecular weight	mol. wt.
Indicated horsepower	i.hp.	Molecule	mol.
Indicated horsepower-hour	i.hp-hr.		
Intermediate-pressure cylinder	I.P. cyl.	National Electric Code	N.E.C.
Internal	int.	North	N
		Northeast	NE
Kilogram	kg	North-northeast	NNE
Kilogram-meter	kg-m	North-northwest	NNW
Kilograms per cubic meter	kg per cu. m.	Northwest	NW
Kilograms per second	kg per sec.		
Kiloliter	kl	Ohm	spell out or Ω
Kilometer	km	Ohm-centimeter	ohm-cm
Kilometers per second	km per sec.	Ounce	oz.
Kilovolt	kv	Parts per million	p.p.m.
Kilovolt-ampere	kv-a	Peck	pk.
Kilowatt	kw		
Kilowatt-hour	kw-hr.		