

## Commonly used Abbreviations and Acronyms

Use this table to check the proper spelling, capitalization, and punctuation of commonly used abbreviations and acronyms. For a much more detailed listing of abbreviations and acronyms, you can check in the back pages of many dictionaries, or consult the *Chicago Manual of Style* (also available online to subscribers) or the free online version of the [United States Government Printing Office Style Manual](#).

Stands for . . .	
<b>A or amp</b>	ampere
<b>a.m.</b>	<i>ante meridiem</i> , before noon
<b>atm</b>	standard atmosphere
<b>ave.</b>	avenue
<b>BA</b>	Bachelor of Arts
<b>blvd.</b>	boulevard
<b>BP</b>	boiling point
<b>BS</b>	Bachelor of Science
<b>Btu</b>	British thermal unit
<b>°C</b>	degrees Celsius
<b>cd</b>	candela
<b>CDC</b>	Centers for Disease Control
<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations
<b>CIA</b>	Central Intelligence Agency
<b>cm</b>	centimeter
<b>corp.</b>	corporation
<b>DOD</b>	Department of Defense
<b>DOT</b>	Department of Transportation
<b>e.g.</b>	<i>exempli gratia</i> , for example
<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency
<b>et al.</b>	<i>et alii</i> , and others
<b>etc.</b>	<i>et cetera</i> , and so forth
<b>°F</b>	degrees Fahrenheit
<b>FBI</b>	Federal Bureau of Investigation
<b>FCC</b>	Federal Communications Commission
<b>FDA</b>	Food and Drug Administration
<b>fig.</b>	figure
<b>ft</b>	foot
<b>gal.</b>	gallon
<b>h</b>	hour
<b>HTML</b>	hypertext markup language

Stands for . . .	
<b>Hz</b>	hertz
<b>i.e.</b>	<i>id est</i> , that is
<b>in</b>	inch
<b>Inc.</b>	incorporated
<b>K</b>	Kelvin
<b>kg</b>	kilogram
<b>kW</b>	kilowatt
<b>kWh</b>	kilowatt-hour
<b>l or L</b>	liter
<b>LAFTA</b>	Latin American Free Trade Association
<b>lb</b>	pound
<b>m</b>	meter
<b>MHz</b>	megahertz
<b>min.</b>	minute
<b>mol</b>	mole
<b>MS</b>	Master of Science
<b>neg</b>	negative
<b>NIH</b>	National Institutes of Health
<b>NSF</b>	National Science Foundation
<b>p.</b>	page
<b>pp.</b>	pages
<b>PhD</b>	Doctor of Philosophy
<b>p.m.</b>	post meridiem, after noon
<b>pos</b>	positive
<b>pt.</b>	pint
<b>qt.</b>	quart
<b>RPM</b>	revolutions per minute
<b>sec. or s</b>	second
<b>univ.</b>	university
<b>USGS</b>	United States Geological Survey
<b>vol.</b>	volume

This list was adapted from [Style for Students Online](#).  
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