

AH (*anno Hegirae* or *anno Hebraico*)

Note: AD and AH precede the year number; BC follows it.

Octavian was born in 63 BC and died in AD 14.

Number and percent symbols

When abbreviating the words "number" or "numbers," use "No." or "Nos." but **not** the symbol #. Limit the use of the percent sign (%) to tables and to statistical or financial documents.

Ampersand

This symbol (&) should be used only when it is part of a corporate name or when space is limited in a table:

The case is being defended by Smith, Jones & Brown.

Units of measure

Units of measure should be abbreviated only if they appear with a number. SI (International System of Units) units should be used. (See also Section 3.2, "Units.")

Kingston is about 150 km from Ottawa.
Their weight allowance was 5000 kg.

University degrees

When university degrees are abbreviated, use **PhD**, **MSc**, **MA** and **BA** without periods. Otherwise, refer to doctoral, master's and bachelor's degrees.

1.8 Compound words

A compound may be written as a single word (no hyphen), with a hyphen or as two words, depending on custom and usage. The trend in spelling compound words is shifting away from using hyphens (e.g., peacebuilding), but it is never wrong to retain a hyphen to avoid a misleading or confusing form.

The subject of when to hyphenate compound words is particularly contentious. It takes up more than 10 pages in *The Canadian Style*, to which the interested reader is referred (see Section 10, "Resource list").

It is helpful to remember that compound words used adjectivally before a noun are often hyphenated to avoid confusion.