Signal Reports

A signal report informs the transmitting station on the readability and signal strength of their signal at your receiver.

There are three parts to a signal report. **RST**

- Readability scaled 1 to 5 and judged by the operator.
- Signal strength of the receivers meter.
- Tone on a scale of 1 to 9. Used for morse code ony and judged by the operator.

Readability

This is judged by the operator receiving the signal.

1. Unreadable
2. Barely readable, occasional words distinguishable.
3. Readable with considerable difficulty
4. Readable with practically no difficulty
5. Perfectly readable

Signal strength

This reading is a voltage measurement at the receiver antenna. A midscale reading of S9 is triggered by 50µV at the antenna. Over S9, the meters indicate as follows:

- +20 means 20dB over S9 (10 times) or 500µV
- +40 means 40dB over S9 (100 times) or 5,000µV (5V)
- +60 means 60dB over S9 (1000 times) or 50,000µV (50V)

Tone

Not required for the Foundation licence. Tone relates to the quality of the morse code signal.

1. AC hum, very rough and broad.
2. Very rough AC, very harsh and broad.
3. Rough AC tone and rectified but not filtered.

4. Rough note and some trace of filtering.Filtered rectified AC but strongly ripple-modulated.
5. Filtered tone and definite trace of ripple modulation.
6. Near pure tone and trace of ripple modulation.
7. Near perfect tone and slight trace of modulation.
8. Perfect tone and no trace of ripple or modulation of any kind.

Examples:

- A good strong signal would be “5 and 9”. The 5 comes from the readability and the 9 is read from the meter.
- A weaker noisy signal may be given a reading of “3 and 3”

Have fun and stay safe.