Secret Codes

Would you like to write secret messages to your friends? Here are some codes that you could use. Can you work out the messages? You'll find answers at the bottom of the page!

- Writing backwards

Write the words backwards, for example 'hello' = 'olleh'
What does this say?
sedoc era nuf

- Using numbers for letters

1=a, 2=b, 3=c, 4=d and so on! For example 'hello' = '8,5,12,12,15'

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
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Look at the code above. What does this message say?
9 8,15,16,5 25,15,21 12,9,11,5 14,21,13,2,5,18,19

- Reversing the alphabet

a=z, b=y, c=x; d=w. For example 'hello' = 'svool'

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
z	y	x	w	v	u	t	s	r	q	p	o	n	m	l	k	j	i	h	g	f	e	d	c	b	a

Look at the code above. What does this message say?
xzm blf ivzw gsrh nvhhztv

- Morse code

This is a famous code - it uses symbols for letters. Here is the morse code.

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
-.	---	.--.	--.-	.-.	…	-	..-	…-	.--	-..-	-.--	--..

You can write a slash(/) between the letters. For example, 'hello' is:
…././.-../.-../---
You can write a double slash between the words. Can you read this message?
-.--/---/..-//-.-./.-/-.//.-././.-/-..//--/---/.-./…/.//-.-./---/-.././/

- Using symbols

Morse code uses a symbol for each letter. You can invent a code – just draw a symbol for each letter of the alphabet in this table:

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
z	y	x	w	v	u	t	s	r	q	p	o	n	m	l	k	j	i	h	g	f	e	d	c	b	a

Now write a message to your friends using your own code. Remember to give them a copy so they can read the message!

Key: The title of this page is 'secret codes'. The other messages are:
Codes are fun
I hope you like numbers
Can you read this message
You can read morse code

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