"How to Become a 50 WPM CW Wizard"



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How Can I Become This... CW Wizard?

- Spend years and accumulate thousands of hours operating in actual contests.
- 2. Use a Skimmer

OR...

3. <u>Practice</u>, using Morse Code trainers / contest simulators. (Software in most cases)

Why Practice?

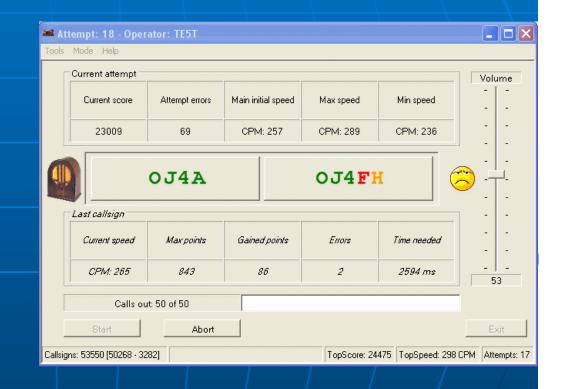
- Believe it or not, you WILL actually get better if you consistently practice.
- 10 30 minutes is *plenty* of time for a training session.
- The most important thing is to be consistent, don't practice for one week, quit, and then expect to be better a couple months later.

The Benefits of Using Software

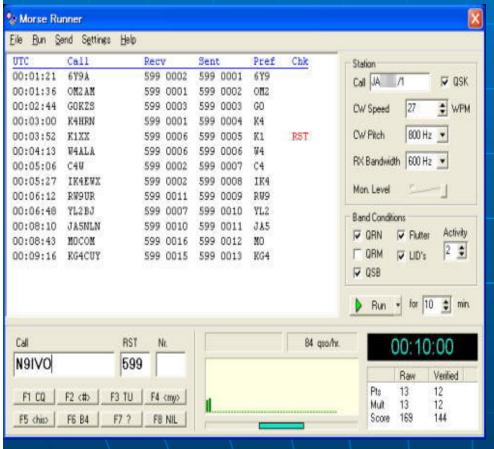
- Experience a "contest" almost anywhere, anytime.
- Prepare for contests and improve Morse Code skills
- Maximize your in-contest result
- Avoid poor real-life conditions (The sunspot thing...)
- No super-station is required
- Compete with others (for fun)

Rufz (RufzXP)

- GREAT for callsign copy training.
- Great for QRQ training.
- Over 1,500 callsigns on the Rufz Toplist.
- Rufz is not really a contest simulator, but focuses on improving CW proficiency.



Morse Runner



- GREAT contest simulator.
- Provides realistic band conditions (QRM, QSB, even LIDS)
- Has HST, WPX, Single Calls, and Pile-up modes.
- Settings are adjustable and you can set it up as you like.

CW Freak

- Somewhat like Rufz, but with a few differences.
- Not a contest
 simulator, but a great
 starter to improve
 callsign copying.
- Toplist maintained by JIOVWL. Also a Monthly Competition!



Software to Learn CW

- http://lcwo.net "Learn CW Online" by DJ1YFK.
 - Features the Koch method CW course, MP3 practice files, Speed practice, and more.
- http://g4fon.net CW Trainer by G4FON.
 - Features a trainer based on the Koch method, and a contest trainer.

Recording Clips

1

Morse Runner, 2.5
 minutes of WPX
 mode (full contest
 simulation) at 45
 WPM.

4

Morse Runner, 5
 minutes of HST
 mode at 30 WPM.

Final Points

- These programs will enhance your CW capabilities. They are a great way to prepare for a contest / DXpedition.
- Many good programs exist, most are freeware.
- Keep at it, DO NOT give up... Ever.
- Toplists and Highscores tables are a nice incentitive to practice.

I haven't quite figured out the wizard part yet...

But GL with the Morse Code training!