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Subject: Re: Passing Image Data :)  
Posted by [Andrew Cool](#) on Tue, 23 Oct 2001 23:05:36 GMT  
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OK Guys,

I'd better quote my source...

"The Oxford Miniguide to English Usage" 1991 ISBN 0-19-869127-0

Page 3, Abbreviations

"It is usual to indicate an abbreviation by placing a point (fullstop) after it, e.g.

H.G. Wells, five miles S. (=south), B.Litt.

However, no point is necessary:

1. With a sequence of capitals alone, e.g. BBC, CNN
2. With the numerical abbreviations 1st, 2nd, etc.
3. C, F (of temperature), chemical symbols, measures of length, weight, time, etc. in scientific and technical use.
4. Dr, Revd, Mr, Mrs, Ms, Mme, Mlle, St, p (=penny or pence)"

This guide to English was also published in the United States by Oxford University Press, New York.

What say we all compromise and call him "Doc Fanning" instead?

Andrew

PS : Just goes to show that not even New Zealanders speak the Queen's lingo...

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David Fanning wrote:

>  
> Mark Hadfield (m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz) writes:  
>  
>> And you shouldn't believe everything you read in it.  
>  
> Alas, you don't have to remind me of \*this\*! :-)  
>  
>> So, Dr. Fanning, I am afraid this authority does not support Andrew and me.  
>> However, it is, as I said, an American authority. Perhaps the "no period [I  
>> mean full stop] when omitting letters from the middle of an abbreviation"  
>> rule applies in British English, as opposed to American English. I am sure I  
>> remember learning it in school. I could ask my school-age children, but I  
>> don't think they learn \*anything\* in school these days...I better stop here  
>> before I lapse completely into impotent pedantic curmudgeonry.  
>  
> My more authoritarian \_The Chicago Manual of Style\_, 13th Ed. Revised,  
> although American, has this to say about punctuating abbreviations:  
>  
> 1. In British practice, a distinction is made between a true  
> abbreviation, in which the end of the word is lopped off (vol., Inc.,  
> diam.), and a suspension, in which the interior of the word is  
> removed (Mr., dept., acct.). It is usual in Britain to spell the  
> latter class without periods. This logical practice shows few  
> sighs of catching on in America, however.  
>  
> I might add, in passing, that those Brits also have the  
> nasty habit of spelling COLOR as COLOUR.  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
> --  
> David W. Fanning, Ph.D.  
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