
Subject: Re: Passing Image Data :)

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 23 Oct 2001 21:57:49 GMT

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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

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David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com

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