Bridge Design Details 1.2 June 2025

Abbreviations

Abbreviations should not be used where the meaning may be in doubt. In case of doubt, it is best to spell out the word. In general, it is considered best not to use conventional signs (#, /, >, etc.) in the text of NOTES.

> **Example**:   use "6 LB", rather than "6#"

Modified standard bridge items shall be noted as such. These modified items may include barriers, girder types, or any other non-standard item.

> **Examples**:   CHAIN LINK RAILING (TYPE 7 Mod)
>   PC/PS CONCRETE GIRDER (BULB TEE Mod)
>   CALIFORNIA BRIDGE RAIL (ST-75 Mod)

Multiple modifications to a similar item shall be numbered sequentially.

> **Examples**:   CONCRETE BARRIER (TYPE 842 Mod 1)
>   CONCRETE BARRIER (TYPE 842 Mod 2)

Modified Bridge Standard Detail Sheets (XS Sheets) may use the abbreviation "Mod" within the Sheet Title. For an example, see Attachment 1A.E.1.

Omission of Periods

The omission of periods after abbreviations is recommended by the International Committee on Weights and Measures for English Units and is advocated by the *American Standards Association Sectional Committee* on scientific symbols and abbreviations. *The American Society of Civil Engineers* (ASCE) also follows this practice, while many other publications do not.

> **Example**:   use "5 oz" rather than "5 oz."

Only abbreviations that are also considered complete English words should have periods.

> **Examples**:   in. (inch)
>
>   Fig. (figure) No. (number)

Some complete English words that are provided as abbreviations in the *Standard Plans* (A3A, A3B, A3C and B0-1), do not include periods.

> **Examples**:   Tot (total)
>
>   Hex (hexagonal)

Phrases Describing Work or Materials

When abbreviating a phrase describing work or material, the noun following the abbreviated words should be spelled out in full. Exceptions are very common names, such as PCC, for Portland Cement Concrete.

Examples: CIDH CONCRETE PILES
CIP/PS CONCRETE BOX GIRDER
CL RAILING (TYPE 6)
AC DIKE

Do not end a sentence with an abbreviation; in this case, spell out the word. Avoid using abbreviations in NOTES by default.