

# Abbreviations from Foreign Expressions

There are all sorts of abbreviations in the world. Here is a list of some abbreviations from foreign expressions.

- **AD:** *Anno Domini* means year of our Lord. BC, however, does not have foreign origins. It just means before the birth of Christ.
- **AM & PM:** *ante meridiem* means before midday and *post meridiem* means after midday
- **Cf:** *Confer/conferatur* means compare. It refers a reader to other material to allow for a comparison with the topic being discussed.
- **CV:** A *curriculum vitae* provides a summary of experience and skills. While a resume is typically one page and competency-based, a CV is more likely used in fields with academic research, so that CVs are often more credential-based, including education, certification, affiliations, publications, etc.
- **E.g.:** *Exempli gratia* means for example. E.g. is used before an item or list.
- **Et al.:** Et al is short for *et alia* meaning and others. It can refer to a list of additional authors, for example.
- **Etc.:** *Et cetera* is an adverb that means "and so on."
- **Ibid:** *Ibidem* meaning the same place. This is used in citations to refer to the exact same location in the previous citation.
- **Id:** *Idem* means the same. This is used in citations to refer to another page in a previous citation.
- **I.e.:** *Id est* means "that is." I.e. follows an original statement and precedes further clarification.
- **IHS or IHC** is an abbreviation for the name of Jesus. Sometimes it is explained as a reference to Constantine's *In Hoc Signo Vinces*.
- **INRI:** *Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum*, Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews
- **Lb:** Why in the world are pounds labeled as lbs? Lb is an abbreviation of *libra* for a balance of scales. It also stood for a Latin pound of weight or *libra pondo*.
- **MO:** *Modus operandi* refers to doing something in a particular way, such as using a particular method
- **NB:** *Nota bene*, note well.
- **Oz:** An ounce is related to the Latin *uncia*, which was the name for both the Roman ounce and inch.
- **PS:** *Postscriptum* or Postscript, which means "written after." It is usually one last note. Having said that, sometimes PPS means post postscript.
- **QED:** *quod erat demonstrandum* refers to that which was to be demonstrated, usually placed after a mathematical proof to indicate completion
- **RIP:** *requiescat in pace* or rest in peace
- **RSVP:** abbreviation of the French expression *Repondez, s'il vous plaît*. It translates to "Respond, if you please."
- **SDG:** *Soli Deo Gloria* means glory to God alone.
- **SPQR:** *Senātus Populusque Rōmānus*, technically this refers to the Roman Republic, but some people apply it to the Roman state in general. More militaristic uses, are recent.

For more extensive lists of abbreviations:

- [Abbreviations.com](http://Abbreviations.com)
- [Abbreviations from the OED](http://Abbreviations from the OED) (Oxford English Dictionary: The definitive record of the English language)
- Library of Congress's "[Acronyms and Abbreviations](http://Acronyms and Abbreviations)"
- Medicinenet.com's [A-Z List of Common Medical Abbreviations](http://A-Z List of Common Medical Abbreviations)
- [Military Acronyms & Abbreviations](http://Military Acronyms & Abbreviations)
- Wikipedia's "[List of Latin abbreviations](http://List of Latin abbreviations)"