



## Did You Know

### Emoticons and E-mail Shorthand

---

**Smileys** are tiny pictures made from ordinary ASCII characters that are meant to be looked at with the head tilted to the left.

Smileys came about when e-mail correspondents felt the need to convey emotional content such as sarcasm, laughter and other feelings as part of their messages.

Without smileys, simple statements could easily be misinterpreted:

You're an idiot! :-)

Sometime during 1981, Scott Fahlman, who is now a Principle Research Scientist in the School of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University, devised a scheme for encoding and conveying one's feelings as small text "glyphs" to overcome this frustration.

Scott was the first to use smileys in electronic mail and in posts to BBS message boards and Internet newsgroups, as well as in personal e-mail.

#### The Emoticons

- : - ) - Humor
- : - ) ( - : - Masking theatrical comments
- : - T - Keeping a straight face (tight-lipped)
- : - D - Said with a smile
- : - > - Alternate happy face
- : - ) : - ) : - ) - Loud guffaw
- : \* ) - Clowning around
- : - ? - Licking lips
- % - } - Silly
- : / ) - Not funny
- : - " - Pursing lips
- : - r - Bleahhhh (sticking tongue out)
- : - f - Smirks
- : - p - Smirks
- : - 1 - Smirks

:-, - Smirks  
 :-| - Disgusted  
 :-J - Tongue-in-cheek comments  
 :-! - Foot in mouth  
 :-\$ - Put your money where your mouth is  
 :-D - Talks too much  
 :-I - Chewing on bone  
 %&\$%& - You know what that means...  
 :-P - Shouting  
 :-y - Shouting  
 :-o - Shouting  
 :-( - Unhappy  
 :-C - Real unhappy  
 (:-& - Anger  
 (: ^ ( - Broken nose  
 (: < ) - Blabber mouth  
 ?-( - Black eye  
 %-) - Broken glasses  
 :-b - Tongue stuck out  
 :-p - Left-handed tongue stuck out  
 >--->---(@ - A rose  
 ||\*( - Handshake offered  
 ||\*) - Handshake accepted  
 :-X - Kiss kiss  
 O= - A burning candle to start a flame  
 ~ = - Flaming message  
 -= - A doused candle to end a flame  
 |-<> - Kissy face  
 [] - Hug  
 (-\_-) - Secret smile  
 ' -) - Wink  
 ; -) - Say no more; nudge, nudge  
 :-\* - Oops! (Covering mouth with hand)

: -# - Censored  
: -8 - Talking out both sides of your mouth  
>: > - Leer  
: -X - Not saying a word  
(: -... - Heart-breaking message...  
: -O - "Oh, noooooo!" (a la Mr. Bill)  
#: -O - Same as previous  
...---... - S.O.S.  
: -< - Forlorn  
|-( - Late night messages  
(: -\$ - Ill  
(: -( - Sad  
%- - Hung over  
: ~/ - All mixed up  
#-) - Another all-night partier  
: -'| - With a cold  
%+{ - Loser in a fight  
( ) - You're kidding!  
<: -O - Eeek!  
: -C - Unbelieving (jaw dropped)  
: -(\*) - About to vomit

## E-mail Shorthand

**2U2** - To You, Too  
**AAMOF** - As A Matter Of Fact  
**AFAIK** - As Far As I Know  
**AFAIC** - As Far As I'm Concerned  
**AFAICT** - As Far As I Can Tell  
**AFK** - Away From Keyboard  
**ASAP** - As Soon As Possible  
**BAK** - Back At Keyboard  
**BBL** - Be Back Later

**BITMT** - But In The Meantime  
**BOT** - Back On Topic  
**BRB** - Be Right Back  
**BTW** - By the way  
**C4N** - Ciao For Now  
**CRS** - Can't Remember "Stuff"  
**CU** - See You  
**CUL(8R)** - See You Later  
**CWOT** - Complete Waste Of Time  
**CYA** - See Ya  
**DIY** - Do It Yourself  
**EOD** - End Of Discussion  
**EZ** - Easy  
**F2F** - Face To Face  
**FAQ** - Frequently Asked Questions  
**FBOW** - For Better Or Worse  
**FOAF** - Friend Of A Friend  
**FOCL** - Falling Off Chair Laughing  
**FWIW** - For What It's Worth  
**FYA** - For Your Amusement  
**FYI** - For Your Information  
**/ga** - Go Ahead  
**GAL** - Get A Life  
**GBTW** - Get Back To Work  
**GFC** - Going For Coffee  
**GFETE** - Grinning From Ear To Ear  
**GMTA** - Great minds think alike  
**GR&D** - Grinning, Running & Ducking  
**GTG** - Got To Go  
**GTGTTBR** - Got To Go To The Bathroom  
**GTRM** - Going To Read Mail  
**HAND** - Have A Nice Day  
**HHOK** - Ha Ha Only Kidding  
**HTH** - Hope This Helps  
**IAC** - In Any Case

**IAE** - In Any Event  
**IC** - I See  
**IDGI** - I Don't Get It  
**IMCO** - In My Considered Opinion  
**IMHO** - In my humble opinion  
**IMNSHO** - in My Not So Humble Opinion  
**IMO** - In My Opinion  
**IMPE** - In My Personal Experience  
**IMVHO** - In My Very Humble Opinion  
**IOW** - In Other Words  
**IRL** - In Real Life  
**ISP** - Internet Service Provider  
**IYKWIM** - If You Know What I Mean  
**JIC** - Just In Case  
**J/K** - Just kidding  
**KISS** - Keep It Simple Stupid  
**L8TR** - Later  
**LD** - Later dude  
**LOL** - Laughing Out Loud  
**LTNS** - Long Time No See  
**MorF** - Male or Female, or person who asks that question  
**MTCW** - My Two Cents Worth  
**NRN** - No Reply Necessary  
**ONNA** - Oh No, Not Again!  
**OTOH** - On The Other Hand  
**OTTOMH** - Off the top of my head  
**OIC** - Oh I See  
**OTF** - On The Floor  
**OLL** - Online Love  
**PLS** - Please  
**PU** - That Stinks!  
**REHI** - Hello Again (re-Hi!)  
**ROFL** - Rolling On Floor Laughing  
**ROTf** - Rolling On The Floor  
**ROTFL** - Rolling On The Floor Laughing

**RSN** - Real Soon Now

**RTDox** - Read The Documentation/Directions

**RTFM** - Read The Frickin' Manual

**RUOK** - Are You OK?

**SNAFU** - Situation Normal; All Fouled Up

**SO** - Significant Other

**SOL** - Smiling Out Loud (or Sh\*t Out of Luck)

**TANSTAAFL** - There Ain't No Such Thing As A Free Lunch

**TAFN** - That's All For Now

**TEOTWAWKI** - The End Of The World As We Know It

**THX** - Thanks

**TIA** - Thanks In Advance

**TLK2UL8R** - Talk to you later

**TMK** - To My Knowledge

**TOS** - Terms Of Service

**TPTB** - The Powers That Be

**TSWC** - Tell Someone Who Cares

**TTBOMK** - To The Best Of My Knowledge

**TTFN** - Ta-Ta For Now

**TTYL(8R)** - Talk To You Later

**TWIMC** - To Whom It May Concern

**Txs** - Thanks

**URL** - Web Page Address

**w/b** - Welcome Back

**w/o** - Without

**WRT** - With Regard To

**WTG** - Way To Go

**WU?** - What's Up?

**WWW** - World Wide Web

**WYSIWYG** - What You See Is What You Get

**Y2K** - Year 2000

**YGIAGAM** - Your Guess Is As Good As Mine

**YGWYPF** - You Get What You Pay For

**YMMV** - Your Mileage May Vary

**ZZZ** - Sleeping

