

What do these Emoticons Mean? - Chat and Instant Message

- Use abbreviations when possible, but only if your reader will understand and if the e-communication is not formal. Abbreviations such as the following are used most often in chat sessions, less frequently in e-mail.

BTW By the way

IMHO In my humble opinion

LOL Laughing out loud

ROTFL Rolling on the floor laughing

BRB Be right back

BFN Bye for now

- Smileys, or emoticons, can help convey your intention (for example, being humorous or sarcastic). They have become such a standard part of Internet communication that you'll often see an abbreviated version without the "nose" (-). These are most commonly in online chat and informal e-mail messages.

:-) Happy

:-e Disappointed

:-(Sad

:-< Mad

:-o Surprised

:-D Laughing

:-@ Screaming

;-) Winking

:-| Indifferent