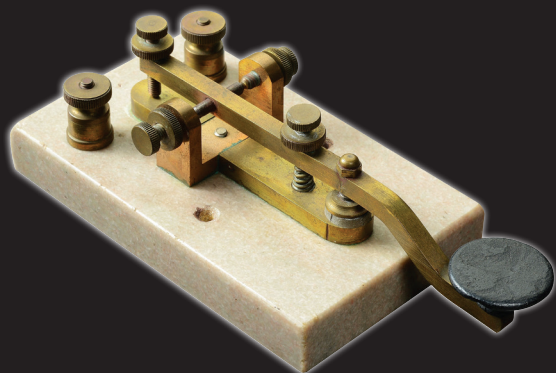


2019 QST Key Competition



A straight key originally designed and built by Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, the first president and cofounder of ARRL. The key was provided courtesy of the Antique Wireless Association.

Hams have been building their own CW keys since the earliest days, and some of their creations have become legends. Many were mechanical marvels and *objets d'art*.

In 2019, we invite you to enter your best key design in the QST Key Competition. You can enter in one of the following key categories:

- ◆ Straight
- ◆ Semiautomatic/Bug
- ◆ Paddle
- ◆ Sideswiper

The winner in each category will receive \$250.

We can accept only one entry per person or team.
The deadline is June 1, 2019.

Official Competition Rules

1) Each entry must include:

- The key (it will be returned to you after judging is complete).
- Detailed construction drawings with dimensions (hand drawings are acceptable).
- A list of materials and sources. Even if you built the key from materials you had on hand, you must specify commercial sources for comparable materials.
- Photographs of the various steps of the construction/assembly process.
- A written description of the key and how it was designed and assembled.

2) The key must be an independent mechanical device, not an integral part of another device, such as an electronic keyer.

3) Only one entry per individual or team will be accepted. Entrants must be ARRL members. ARRL Head-

quarters staff and commercial manufacturers, or those associated with commercial manufacturers, are not eligible.

Send your entry to:
QST
Attn: 2019 Key Competition
225 Main St.
Newington, CT 06111

Be sure to pack your key carefully. ARRL is not responsible for damage incurred in shipment.

You can submit electronic files (photos, text, drawings) via email to qst@arrl.org. Do not send zip files as our email system will reject these. Include your call sign in the email subject line.

4) Non-commercial designs only; keys must be the sole creations of the entrants and not available for sale.

5) Submission deadline: June 1, 2019.

6) Judging: Winners will be chosen based on ingenuity of design, ergonomics of operation, and overall craftsmanship. The decisions of the judges are final.

7) Prizes: The winner in each category will receive a check in the amount of \$250. Winning designs will also be eligible for publication in QST magazine.

8) Disclaimer: By participating in the competition, you are verifying that you are the owner and producer of the key, and that no third-party ownership rights or patents apply to your design. ARRL acquires no rights to your design, but through your participation, you are granting ARRL a perpetual, worldwide, non-exclusive, royalty-free right to publish your entry materials in all media now known or hereinafter created, anywhere in the world, for any lawful purpose.