

What the x?

FAQ for prefix changes

What is **Mx.**?

Mx. is a prefix, or honorific, like Ms., Mrs., Mr., M., or Mme.

How is **Mx.** pronounced?

It is pronounced as Mix or Mux.

Where does **Mx.** come from?

It originated in 1977 as an option available for those who do not want their gender to be revealed in their title. It is found in the Oxford English Dictionary and the Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

Is **Mx.** for transgender constituents?

Mx. is gender neutral. It does not mean a constituent is trans or non-binary. The “x” is a metacharacter, or wildcard, that does not assume or imply anything about the sex or gender identity of a constituent.

When should I use **Mx.** for constituents?

Only when a constituent self-identifies with this prefix. Mx. is not a default for when we do not know a constituent’s prefix.

How should I address **couples** when one has a prefix and one does not?

If one member of a couple does not have a prefix, do not add a prefix for them. Instead, include both first names.

E.g. Dr. Adam McGill and Jane McGill

What if **couples** have the same prefix?

When both members of a couple have the same prefix, use both prefixes. E.g. Mr. and Mr. Smith. Do not use plurals such as Doctors or Messieurs.

When should I **avoid** using prefixes?

When the use of a prefix on public materials like envelopes and name tags may “out” or reveal a constituent’s gender identity to a third party, use their full name with no prefix.

E.g. A prefix on an envelope could reveal a constituent’s gender identity to a mail carrier, a relative, or a roommate who the constituent did not want to know.

What if prefix and **gender** don’t match?

Any prefix can be used with any gender.

E.g. Mr. for a woman or Mme for a man.

What if prefix and **language** don’t match?

Any prefix can be used with any preferred language. E.g. French and Mr.

What if a constituent has **no prefix**?

When in doubt, never assume or guess. It may be that a constituent does not identify with a prefix. If you are unsure, it is recommended that you politely ask what the constituent prefers. Avoid online profiles as a current source.

Is there a default prefix list for **forms**?

When creating a new form, the following prefixes are the default, in this order, unless the particular form necessitates additions: M. Mme Mr. Mrs. Ms. Mx. Dr. Dre Prof.

Other prefixes, like Miss and Mlle, can still be recorded in the system and used when requested by a constituent.

Can prefixes be mandatory on my **form**?

Prefixes should always be optional as not everyone may identify with a prefix.

For further questions please contact:

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