



Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons West Yorkshire

ABBREVIATIONS OF GRAND RANKS AND CORRESPONDING PROVINCIAL GRAND RANKS

(Please note that these differ from the Craft convention)

Grand Rank	Title	Official Abbreviation	Title	Official Abbreviation of 'Acting' Provincial Grand Rank/Office
The Grand Master	M.W.Bro.	G.M.		
Pro Grand Master	M.W.Bro.	Pro.G.M.		
Deputy Grand Master	R.W.Bro.	Dep.G.M.		
Assistant Grand Master	R.W.Bro.	A.G.M.		
Provincial Grand Master			R.W.Bro.	Prov.G.M.
		Deputy Provincial Grand Master		Dep.Prov.G.M.
		Assistant Provincial Grand Master		A.Prov.G.M.
Grand Senior Warden	R.W.Bro.	G.S.W.		Prov.G.S.W.
Grand Junior Warden	R.W.Bro.	G.J.W.		Prov.G.J.W.
Grand Inspector	V.W.Bro.	G.Insp.		-
Grand Master Overseer	V.W.Bro.	G.M.O.		Prov.G.M.O.
Grand Senior Overseer	V.W.Bro.	G.S.O.		Prov.G.S.O.
Grand Junior Overseer	V.W.Bro.	G.J.O.		Prov.G.J.O.
Grand Chaplain	V.W.Bro.	G.Chap.		Prov.G.Chap.
President of the General Board	V.W.Bro.	Pres.Gen.Bd.		-
Grand Treasurer	V.W.Bro.	G.Treas.		Prov.G.Treas.
Grand Registrar	V.W.Bro.	G.Reg.		Prov.G.Reg.
President of the Mark Benevolent Fund	V.W.Bro.	Pres.M.B.F		-
Grand Secretary	V.W.Bro.	G.Sec.		Prov.G.Sec.
Grand Director of Ceremonies	V.W.Bro.	G.D.C.		Prov.G.D.C.
		Provincial Grand Almoner		Prov.G.Alm.
		Provincial Grand Charity Steward		Prov.G.Ch.Stwd.
Grand Inspector of Works		G.Insp.Wks.		Prov.G.Insp.Wks.
Grand Sword Bearer		G.Swd.B.		Prov.G.Swd.B.
Deputy Grand Chaplain		Dep.G.Chap.		Prov.Dep.G.Chap.
President of the General Board		Dep.Pres.Gen.Bd.		-
Deputy Grand Registrar		Dep.G.Reg.		-
Deputy President of the Mark Benevolent Fund		Dep.Pres.M.B.F		-
Deputy Grand Secretary		Dep.G.Sec.		Prov.Dep.G.Sec.
Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies		Dep.G.D.C.		Prov.Dep.G.D.C.
Deputy Grand Inspector of Works		Dep.G.Insp.Wks.		-
Deputy Grand Sword Bearer		Dep.G.Swd.B.		Prov.Dep.G.Swd.B.
Grand Senior Deacon		G.S.D.		Prov.G.S.D.
Grand Junior Deacon		G.J.D.		Prov.G.J.D.
Assistant Grand Chaplain		A.G.Chap.		Prov.A.G.Chap.
Assistant Grand Registrar		A.G.Reg.		-
Assistant Grand Secretary		A.G.Sec.		Prov.A.G.Sec.
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies		A.G.D.C.		Prov.A.G.D.C.
Assistant Grand Inspector of Works		A.G.Insp.Wks.		-
Assistant Grand Sword Bearer		A.G.Swd.B.		-
Grand Librarian		G.Lib.		-
Grand Organist		G.Org.		Prov.G.Org.
Grand Standard Bearer		G.St.B.		Prov.G.St.B.
Deputy Grand Organist		D.G.Org.		-
Assistant Grand Standard Bearer		A.G.St.B.		Prov.A.G.St.B.
Assistant Grand Organist		A.G.Org.		-
Grand Inner Guard		G.I.G.		Prov.G.I.G.
Assistant Grand Inner Guard		A.G.I.G.		-
Grand Steward		G.Stwd.		Prov.G.Stwd.
Grand Tyler		G.Tyler.		Prov.G.Tyler.
Deputy Grand Tyler		D.G.Tyler.		-

(Notes – P.T.O)

Note - Grand and Provincial Grand Ranks:

- In the Order of Mark Master Masons, full stops are used as punctuation between and at the end of every element of an abbreviated Rank title.
- These Ranks are listed in Order of Precedence of Grand Ranks, **with the exception of** the Provincial Grand Ranks of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Almoner and Provincial Charity Steward, which have been inserted to maintain their correct Provincial Order of Precedence.
- When listing a Brother's Rank in the Order of Mark Master Masons, if a Brother has already been appointed to Grand Rank, no Provincial Grand Rank should be appended, unless at the point in question they hold a current **Active** Provincial Grand Rank.

Notes - Provincial Grand Ranks:

- When appointed to an **Active** Provincial Grand Rank the abbreviation is 'Prov.G.', e.g., Prov.G.S.D.
- Either on relinquishing an **Active** Provincial Grand Rank or when a Brother is appointed or promoted to a **Past** Provincial Grand Rank, 'P.' will be placed in front of 'Prov.G.', i.e. 'P.Prov.G.', e.g., P.Prov.G.S.W., P.Prov.G.S.D, P.Prov.A.G.Chap., P.Prov.A.G.D.C., etc. There is therefore no difference between a 'Past' **Active** Officer and a First Appointment to Past Provincial Grand Rank.
- Neither does a former **Active** Officer take precedence over a Past Rank appointee of the same Rank, precedence being set only by their date of appointment to that Rank.
- A current **Active** Officer must only take precedence over Officers of the same Past Rank.

Fraser McPherson
Provincial grand Secretary
June 2020

Issued in accordance with guidance received from the Grand Secretary dated 12th June 2020, (enc.)



Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons West Yorkshire



THE GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS

of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas

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12 June 2020

To: Provincial and District Grand Masters
Provincial and District Grand Secretaries and Secretaries of Unattached Lodges

Dear Sir and Brother

Correct form of abbreviation of Grand, Provincial & District Grand Ranks

It has been some considerable time since we last issued any guidance on the adopted practice of official abbreviations and rank designations. It is a distinguishing feature of the Orders administered from Mark Masons' Hall that all rank abbreviations are punctuated – a practice which differs from the Craft.

Grand Ranks

Regulation 4(i) in the 2019 edition of the Constitution and Regulations of the Order sets out the table of precedence of Grand Officers together with the abbreviated rank designation in each case. These are the only rank abbreviations to be used and should always be punctuated as shown.

It should be noted also, that when a Brother is promoted in Grand Rank, his previous rank is no longer shown.

Provincial and District Grand Ranks

Displaying Provincial and District Grand Ranks follows the same convention as in Grand Lodge save that the word 'Provincial' or 'District' should precede the equivalent Grand Rank. For example:

Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies CORRECT

Assistant Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies INCORRECT

The correct form of abbreviation for Provincial and District Grand Ranks also follows the same convention as in Grand Lodge save that 'Prov.' or 'Dist.' should be added first and for a Past Rank should appear as 'P.Prov.' or 'P.Dist.'. For example:

Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies is abbreviated as Prov.A.G.D.C.

Past Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies is abbreviated as P.Prov.A.G.D.C.

In some Provinces and Districts, it has become commonplace to adopt a form of abbreviation which distinguishes between those Brethren who held their rank initially as an active appointment. This is unnecessary and should be discouraged.

The common practice of quoting all Provincial and District Grand Ranks held by a Brother does not conform to the established protocol. For example:

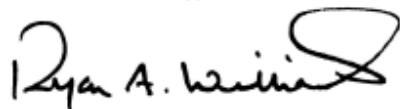
W.Bro. T F Bailey, P.A.G.D.C., P.Prov.G.J.W.(London), Prov.G.S.D.(Warks.)

The correct form would be to quote only the Brother's Grand Rank followed by any Active Provincial Grand Rank(s) he holds (in order of seniority), as follows:

W.Bro. T F Bailey, P.A.G.D.C., Prov.G.S.D.(Warks.)

I do hope that you will find this note useful and that I can rely on your co-operation in ensuring that the above protocols are adopted on summonses, lists of members, letterheads and all other documents on which the names and designations of Grand Officers and Provincial/District Grand Officers appear.

With fraternal regards and best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan A. Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "R" and "W".

R.W.Bro. Ryan A Williams, P.G.J.W.
Grand Secretary]