

DXing.com

National Scanner Frequency Guide

Home

Most frequencies above 30 MHz are assigned on a local basis. To know where to listen for your local police or fire department, you'll need a frequency guide or directory for your locality. However, some frequencies, particularly those used for emergency or inter-agency communications, have been allocated nationally. The following is a list of some of the more widely used and active national frequencies. Program these into your scanner and get see what you can hear!

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[Glenn Hauser's
SW/DX Report](#)

34.90: This channel is used nationwide by the **National Guard during emergencies**.

[Glenn Hauser's
Continent of Media](#)

39.46: Used for **inter-department emergency** communications by local and state police forces.

[Don Schimmel's
Radio Intrigue](#)

47.42: This is a channel used across the United States by the **Red Cross** for relief operations.

[Joe Carr's Tech Notes](#)

52.525: This is a calling frequency used by **ham radio** operators in FM on their six-meter band. During periods of exceptional propagation, this frequency is filled with signals from hundreds or even thousands of miles away. If you're hearing distant signals here, then the 30 to 50 MHz range is also open for long distance reception.

Radio Basics

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121.50: This is the international **aeronautical emergency** frequency.

[Modes and
Modulation](#)

138.225: This is the prime **disaster relief operations** channel used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency; it is active during earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, and other catastrophic events.

[Call Sign Prefixes](#)

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146.52: This frequency is used by **ham radio** operators for non-repeater communications on the two-meter band; it is very busy in many parts of the country.

Shortwave Radio

[Introduction to
Shortwave Listening](#)

151.625: This channel is used by "itinerant" businesses, or those that travel about the country. **Circuses, exhibitions, trade shows**, and sports teams are some of the users you can hear. Other widely used itinerant channels are 154.57 and 154.60.

[Tuning 150 kHz to 30
MHz](#)

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Shortwave Radio](#)

154.28: Used for **inter-department emergency** communications by local fire departments; 154.265 and 154.295 also used.

Reporting and QSLs	155.160: Used for inter-department emergency communications by local and state agencies during search and rescue operations.
Receiver Reference	155.475: Used for inter-department emergency communications by local and state police forces.
Modern Shortwave Receiver Survey	156.75: This channel is used internationally for broadcasts of maritime weather alerts.
Scanner Monitoring	156.80: This is the international maritime distress , calling, and safety channel. All ships must monitor this frequency while at sea. It is also heavily used on rivers, lakes, etc.
Introducing the "Action Bands"	162.40: This channel is used for NOAA weather broadcasts and bulletins.
The World Above 30 MHz	162.425: This channel is used for NOAA weather broadcasts and bulletins.
Selecting a Scanner	162.45: This channel is used for NOAA weather broadcasts and bulletins.
National Scanner Frequency Guide	162.475: This channel is used for NOAA weather broadcasts and bulletins.
Other Radio Hobbies	162.50: This channel is used for NOAA weather broadcasts and bulletins.
Ham Radio	162.525: This channel is used for NOAA weather broadcasts and bulletins.
AM Band DXing	162.55: This channel is used for NOAA weather broadcasts and bulletins.
Longwave DXing	163.275: This channel is used for NOAA weather broadcasts and bulletins.
Clandestine Radio	163.4875: This channel is used nationwide by the National Guard during emergencies .
Pirate Radio	163.5125: This is the national disaster preparedness frequency used jointly by the armed forces.
Numbers Stations	164.50: This is the national communications channel for the Department of Housing and Urban Development .
TV/FM DXing	168.55: This is the national channel used by civilian agencies of the federal government for communications during emergencies and disasters.
Radio Links	243.00: This channel is used during military aviation emergencies .
Shortwave Listening	259.70: This channel is used by the Space Shuttle during re-entry and landing.
Radio Clubs	296.80: This channel is used by the Space Shuttle during re-entry and landing.
International Broadcasters	311.00: This is an active in-flight channel used by the U.S. Air Force .
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317.70: This is an active channel used by **U.S. Coast Guard** aviation.

317.80: This is an active channel used by **U.S. Coast Guard** aviation.

319.40: This is an active in-flight channel used by the **U.S. Air Force**.

340.20: This is an active channel used by **U.S. Navy** aviators.

409.20: This is the national communications channel for the **Interstate Commerce Commission**.

409.625: This is the national communications channel for the **Department of State**.

462.675: This channel is used for **emergency communications and traveler assistance** in the General Mobile Radio Service.

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