

Amateur radio band chart (United States)

UNITED STATES | FCC

Complete US amateur band allocations showing frequencies, modes, power limits, and license class privileges for every band from 160 meters through 23 centimeters.

Complete US amateur radio frequency allocations with license class privileges.

HF bands

160 meters (1.8-2.0 MHz)

1.800-2.000 MHz: All license classes, all modes, 1500W PEP

The "top band." Propagation is best at night, especially in winter. Large antennas required (half-wave dipole is 260 feet). Atmospheric noise is high.

80 meters (3.5-4.0 MHz)

3.500-3.600 MHz: Extra CW/data; General CW/data 3.525-3.600; Tech CW 3.525-3.600

3.600-3.700 MHz: Extra all modes

3.700-3.800 MHz: Extra all modes (Advanced privileges in this segment)

3.800-4.000 MHz: Extra/General all modes

The ragchew band. Regional propagation at night. Noisy. 75m phone (3.8-4.0) is where evening nets live.

60 meters (5 MHz region)

5 channelized frequencies: 5.332, 5.348, 5.358.5, 5.373, 5.405 MHz

USB only, 100W ERP maximum. General and Extra only. Shared with government.

40 meters (7.0-7.3 MHz)

7.000-7.125 MHz: Extra CW/data; General CW/data 7.025-7.125; Tech CW 7.025-7.125

7.125-7.175 MHz: Extra all modes (General does not have this segment)

7.175-7.300 MHz: Extra/General all modes

The workhorse band. Regional by day, intercontinental at night. Best all-around HF band.

30 meters (10.1-10.15 MHz)

10.100-10.150 MHz: General and Extra, CW and data only, 200W PEP maximum

Shared with government. Always open somewhere. The quiet digital and CW band.

20 meters (14.0-14.35 MHz)

14.000-14.150 MHz: Extra CW/data; General CW/data 14.025-14.150

14.150-14.175 MHz: Extra all modes

14.175-14.225 MHz: Extra all modes (Advanced privileges)

14.225-14.350 MHz: Extra/General all modes

The primary DX band. Open during daylight hours. Most worldwide contacts happen here.

17 meters (18.068-18.168 MHz)

18.068-18.110 MHz: Extra CW/data; General CW/data 18.068-18.110

18.110-18.168 MHz: Extra/General all modes
WARC band (no contests). Similar to 20m but less crowded.

15 meters (21.0-21.45 MHz)

21.000-21.200 MHz: Extra CW/data; General CW/data 21.025-21.200; Tech CW 21.025-21.200

21.200-21.225 MHz: Extra all modes

21.225-21.275 MHz: Extra all modes (Advanced)

21.275-21.450 MHz: Extra/General all modes
Excellent DX band during solar maximum. Needs sunspots.

12 meters (24.89-24.99 MHz)

24.890-24.930 MHz: Extra CW/data; General CW/data 24.890-24.930

24.930-24.990 MHz: Extra/General all modes
WARC band. Sporadic openings. Exciting when open.

10 meters (28.0-29.7 MHz)

28.000-28.300 MHz: Extra CW/data; General CW/data 28.000-28.300; Tech CW 28.000-28.300

28.300-28.500 MHz: Extra/General/Tech all modes

28.500-29.700 MHz: Extra/General all modes (includes FM repeater segment 29.5-29.7)

The solar cycle band. Worldwide during solar max.

Sporadic-E short-distance openings. Technicians have SSB privileges here.

VHF bands

6 meters (50-54 MHz)

50.0-54.0 MHz: All classes, all modes, 1500W PEP

The Magic Band. Sporadic-E propagation creates unpredictable band openings. SSB calling frequency: 50.125 MHz. FM calling: 52.525 MHz.

2 meters (144-148 MHz)

144.0-148.0 MHz: All classes, all modes, 1500W PEP

The workhorse VHF band. FM repeaters, SSB weak-signal, satellite, APRS. Simplex calling: 146.520 MHz.

1.25 meters (222-225 MHz)

222.0-225.0 MHz: Tech and above, all modes, 1500W PEP

Limited repeater infrastructure. Less crowded than 2m or 70cm. Regional activity varies.

UHF bands

70 centimeters (420-450 MHz)

420.0-450.0 MHz: Tech and above, all modes, 1500W PEP

FM repeaters, ATV (amateur television), satellite, DMR, D-STAR. Simplex calling: 446.000 MHz.

33 centimeters (902-928 MHz)

Shared with ISM devices. Limited amateur activity.

23 centimeters (1240-1300 MHz)

Microwave entry. ATV, satellite uplinks, weak-signal.

Shared with GPS (interference concerns).

Quick reference: US privileges by band

BAND	NOVICE /TECH CW	GENERAL PHONE	EXTRA PHONE	KEY MODE
160m	None	1.800-2.000	1.800-2.000	CW, digital, SSB
80m	3.525-3.600	3.800-4.000	3.500-4.000	Ragchew, nets
40m	7.025-7.125	7.175-7.300	7.000-7.300	Workhorse
20m	None	14.225-14.350	14.000-14.350	Primary DX
15m	21.025-21.200	21.275-21.450	21.000-21.450	Solar max DX
10m	28.000-28.300	28.300-29.700	28.000-29.700	Solar/sporadic-E
6m	None	All	All	Magic Band
2m	None	All	All	FM/SSB/satellite
70cm	None	All	All	FM/digital