



COM-CENTRE and MAINLAND RADIO

The Professionals of Scanner Radio



I'd love a Scanner But Please Help!

I would love to buy a scanner, but, quite simply I don't know where to start ? I'm not even sure what I can listen to or what features I should look for?... You're not alone!

Even some retailers are similarly in the dark - Don't be fooled by the pictures on the packaging or sucked in by comments that they can not receive signals inside the shop !

Check that your Scanner does cover the Frequencies you want to hear?

Service	Approximate Frequency Coverage	Mode	Steps (KHz)
Police - Mobile	75.0000 Mhz ~ 76.5000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Aircraft - Civil	108.0000 Mhz ~ 136.0000 Mhz	AM	25
Aircraft - Military	242.0000 Mhz ~ 394.0000 Mhz	AM	25
Police - Portable	485.0000 Mhz ~ 488.2500 Mhz	NFM	12.5
I Band Links	420.0000 Mhz ~ 429.9750 Mhz	NFM	25
Fire	75.0000 Mhz ~ 76.5000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Cell Phones	870.0000 Mhz ~ 890.0000 Mhz	NFM	30
Railways	150.0000 Mhz ~ 153.5000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Commercial RT's	150.0000 Mhz ~ 153.5000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Paging Systems	157.8000 Mhz ~ 158.0500 Mhz	NFM	25
CB Radio	26.3300 Mhz ~ 26.7700 Mhz	AM/SSB	10
Commercial RT's	162.2125 Mhz ~ 173.9875 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Commercial RT's	453.3125 Mhz ~ 472.0000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Commercial RT's	150.0000 Mhz ~ 153.6000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Commercial RT's	478.0000 Mhz ~ 489.9750 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Commercial RT's	80.0000 Mhz ~ 84.9750 Mhz	NFM/AM	12.5
Repeater Links	420.0000 Mhz ~ 429.9750 Mhz	NFM	25
UHB CB - PRS	476.4750 Mhz ~ 477.7000 Mhz	NFM	25
Railways Links	420.0000 Mhz ~ 429.9750 Mhz	NFM	25
Ambulance (ES)	140.0000 Mhz ~ 144.0000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Civil Defence (ES)	140.0000 Mhz ~ 144.0000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Civil Defence (Old)	148.0000 Mhz ~ 149.0000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Red Cross	140.0000 Mhz ~ 144.0000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Fire Portables	140.0000 Mhz ~ 144.0000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Dept of Conservation	140.0000 Mhz ~ 144.0000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
Rural Fire	140.0000 Mhz ~ 144.0000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
VHF Ham Radio	144.0000 Mhz ~ 148.0000 Mhz	All	5
UHF Ham Radio	430.0000 Mhz ~ 440.0000 Mhz	All	5
Marine Radio	156.0000 Mhz ~ 162.2000 Mhz	NFM	25
Trunk Radio	414.0000 Mhz ~ 418.0000 Mhz	NFM	12.5
VHF TV Broadcasting	175.2500 Mhz ~ 230.1000 Mhz	WFM	50
UHF TV Broadcasting	519.2500 Mhz ~ 805.7500 Mhz	WFM	50
FM Broadcasting	88.0000 Mhz ~ 108.0000 Mhz	WFM	50
Cordless Phones	30.0000 Mhz ~ 45.0000 Mhz	NFM	10

Please appreciate that this is only a small selection of the more "popular" services you can hear on a selection of v/uhf frequencies. To itemise all types of Commercial users would fill another book. Some sticky-beakers find identifying users, when searching the commercial bands, a challenge. eg local council, Government Departments, Couriers, Contractors, Taxis, Buses, Road Gangs, Airport Services etc etc, and have compiled extensive databases for their own interest.

Does your Scanner Allow you to:::

1 Search specific bands (particularly those listed) to find active frequencies?

If yes, does it search in the **correct steps?**, or at a step smaller than those listed that is a multiple of. eg You could search Police portables in 6.25Khz. It would take twice as long, but you wouldn't miss any useable Frequencies. Likewise with Cell Phones, 10 khz steps will work, but 66% of search time will be wasted time.

2. Place the Frequencies you find into correctly designated Banks. eg Bank 1 - Marine, Bank 2 - Police, Bank 3 - Railways, Bank 4 - Couriers, Bank 4 - TV Audio, Bank 5 - Fire.

Likewise, with Search Limits. Bank 1 - Marine, Bank 2 - Police VHF, Bank 3 - Police UHF, Bank 4 - Cell Phones etc.

You should always be able to limit the range of all search bands so you are only looking at a few Mhz with each sweep of the band. If your Scanner can be computer programmable, a good may have installed some search bands limits for you. A software programmable Scanner is an excellent option if you already own a computer.

Remember these Frequencies and Steps are always changing to suit latest technology etc. If you want to protect your purchase from the possibility of losing a service to a Frequency that is not available on your Scanner.... Buy one with **No Frequency Gaps, Selectable Steps, and Selectable Mode**. Remember there are still a number of AM Channels on 80 Mhz and 150 Mhz Bands. Make sure the dealer knows what you want to receive and that the dealer can confirm the scanner you have bought does tune the frequencies you require.

Remember - Ask your dealer to put a few memories or search bands in your new Scanner for you — If they are not familiar with the important features detailed above, then you are in the wrong place and should contact MRC or Com-Centre, where our Scanning Receivers are rarely turned off. We have the information at our finger-tips, can demonstrate the equipment and happily share our expertise with our customers.

YAESU : VERTEX-STANDARD SCANNERS

Yaesu, had the high standards of their FRG Series HF receivers to maintain and the recent amalgamation with Standard saw the introduction of a new range of wide band receivers at the top-end of the home-users market. The **VR5000 Base Model** offers many friendly features, various special searches and a detailed display to assist new users find those difficult signals.

The new **VR500 Hand-Held** is the smallest of the multi-mode Alpha-numeric units that offer full computer programming of its 1000 memories. A real go-anywhere-receive-everything hand-held.

Their latest **VR120 Micro** offers performance, an extensive frequency range and alpha-numeric display not previously found in a pocket-sized model. Ideal for those who need to hear without being seen !

Yaesu VR5000 \$2100 Yaesu VR500 \$950, & Yaesu VR120 \$499

Yaesu Programming Interfaces - From \$85.00

COM-CENTRE 400 Hillsborough Road AUCKLAND Ph (09) 627-0084
P O Box 163-086 Lynfield Fax (09) 6271613
MAINLAND RADIO 120 Warren Crescent CHRISTCHURCH
P O Box 37-163 Halswell Ph/Fax (03) 338-0077
Website <http://www.amateurradio.co.nz> Email: comcent@radioinfo.co.nz

