FALLBACK RADIO

Radio Inventory & Channel Plan

List every radio in the house, then agree on one channel plan everyone programs the same way. Pencil in what you know and update it after each practice.

LAST UPDATED

1 OUR RADIOS

#	OWNER	MAKE & MODEL	TYPE FRS · GMRS · ham · other	BATTERY type / size	HOW IT CHARGES USB · cradle · AA · 12V	PRO-GRAMMED	LAST TESTED
1						☐	
2						☐	
3						☐	
4						☐	
5						☐	
6						☐	
7						☐	
8						☐	

2 OUR FAMILY CHANNEL PLAN

ROLE	CHANNEL	FREQUENCY (MHZ)	PRIVACY CODE	TONE (HZ)	WHEN WE USE IT
Primary					Everyday use and the first check-in
Backup					Primary is busy, or no answer after 3 tries
Emergency					Last resort if primary and backup both fail

Standard FRS/GMRS frequencies and privacy-code tones are on page 3. Every radio should use the **same channel and the same code**, or you won't hear each other.

3 WEATHER & NEWS

NOAA WEATHER RADIO FREQ. (MHZ)

STATION CALL SIGN

COUNTY SAME CODE (6 DIGITS)

2ND COUNTY CODE (OPTIONAL)

LOCAL AM/FM NEWS STATION

Find your nearest transmitter and county code on the National Weather Service's NOAA Weather Radio coverage pages (weather.gov/nwr).

4 POWER ON HAND

SPARE BATTERIES (TYPE & COUNT)

POWER BANKS / SOLAR

CAR CHARGERS

WHERE THE RADIO KIT IS KEPT

Charge everything on the first of each month, and swap spare alkaline batteries once a year.

NOTES (ANTENNAS, EARPIECES, ACCESSORIES, RADIOS THAT NEED REPAIR)

Fallback Radio provides general information only and is not liable for how it is used. You are responsible for complying with all local laws and regulations.

Repeaters & programming sheet

5 LOCAL REPEATERS (ENTER YOUR OWN)

A repeater is a tower-top radio that relays your signal much farther. Ask a local radio club which ones are active near you, then test each one on the air before you count on it.

NAME / CALL SIGN / LOCATION	OUTPUT (MHZ)	OFFSET	TONE (HZ)	TESTED	NOTES (NET TIMES, COVERAGE)
				☐	
				☐	
				☐	
				☐	
				☐	

6 MEMORY MAP: PROGRAM EVERY RADIO IN THIS ORDER

When every radio has the same channel in the same memory slot, anyone can pick up any radio and say "go to 2." A suggested order: 1 Primary · 2 Backup · 3 Emergency · 4–7 local repeaters · then weather. Free software such as CHIRP can program many radios from a computer.

SLOT	NAME ON SCREEN	FREQUENCY (MHZ)	TONE / CODE	NOTES
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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Quick reference charts

7 FRS / GMRS CHANNELS (STANDARD 22-CHANNEL NUMBERING)

CHANNELS 1–7

CH	MHZ
1	462.5625
2	462.5875
3	462.6125
4	462.6375
5	462.6625
6	462.6875
7	462.7125

Shared by FRS and GMRS radios. A good everyday family choice.

CHANNELS 8–14

CH	MHZ
8	467.5625
9	467.5875
10	467.6125
11	467.6375
12	467.6625
13	467.6875
14	467.7125

Low power on every FRS/GMRS radio (0.5 watt), so range is short. Good for talking within a building or campsite.

CHANNELS 15–22

CH	MHZ
15	462.5500
16	462.5750
17	462.6000
18	462.6250
19	462.6500
20	462.6750
21	462.7000
22	462.7250

Shared by FRS and GMRS. GMRS radios can transmit at higher power here, and GMRS repeaters use these frequencies (often shown as 15R–22R, transmitting 5 MHz higher).

Most FRS/GMRS radios use this numbering. Some older or specialty radios number channels differently, so match by **frequency** if in doubt. Some communities treat channel 20 (462.675 MHz) as an informal calling channel. That's a local custom, not a rule, so check what's used near you.

8 PRIVACY CODES (CTCSS TONES)

CODE	HZ	CODE	HZ	CODE	HZ	CODE	HZ
1	67.0	11	97.4	21	136.5	31	192.8
2	71.9	12	100.0	22	141.3	32	203.5
3	74.4	13	103.5	23	146.2	33	210.7
4	77.0	14	107.2	24	151.4	34	218.1
5	79.7	15	110.9	25	156.7	35	225.7
6	82.5	16	114.8	26	162.2	36	233.6
7	85.4	17	118.8	27	167.9	37	241.8
8	88.5	18	123.0	28	173.8	38	250.3
9	91.5	19	127.3	29	179.9		
10	94.8	20	131.8	30	186.2		

GOOD TO KNOW

- **Privacy codes aren't private.** They only filter what *you* hear. Anyone on the same channel without a code can still hear you.
- On most bubble-pack FRS/GMRS radios, codes 1–38 are the standard tones in this chart. Codes above 38 are usually digital (DCS) codes that vary by brand.
- Ham and GMRS handhelds usually ask for the tone in hertz (Hz). Use the chart to translate a code number.
- If someone can't hear you, first check that the **channel and code match**.

9 NOAA WEATHER RADIO FREQUENCIES (MHZ)

162.400	162.425	162.450	162.475	162.500	162.525	162.550

Seven frequencies are used nationwide, and many FRS/GMRS radios can receive them with a WX or weather button. **WX channel numbers differ by brand**, so match your local station by frequency. Look it up on page 1, section 3.

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