

Index

• A •

- AA batteries, 289
- AAA batteries, 289
- ACARS (Aircraft Communication Addressing and Reporting System), 185
- active antennas, 216
- active channel indicator, CB radio, 83
- adapters, 234–235, 255
- AF Gain (audio-frequency gain), 36
- air shows, recreational radio transmissions, 200–202
- air traffic communication, aviation radio, 184–185
- Aircraft Communication Addressing and Reporting System (ACARS), 185
- airports, public safety radio systems, 14–15
- AIS (Automatic Identification System), 125
- alkaline batteries, 292
- allocations, frequencies, 27, 39, 41
- AM (amplitude modulation), 34, 148–149
- amateur radio. *See also* ham radio
 - characteristics of, 43–44
 - discussed, 40, 135
 - licensing, 140
 - shortwave listening, 210
- Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), 106
- American Red Cross, emergency communication, 106
- amplitude modulation (AM), 34, 148–149
- analog systems, business radio systems, 112
- ANL (Automatic Noise Limiting), 82
- ANT connection, CB radios, 84
- antennas
 - active, 216
 - antenna warning indicator, CB radios, 84
 - base, 77, 95
 - beam, 37, 94
 - building, 216–217
 - business radio systems, 115
 - CB radios, 94–96
 - collinear, 95, 123
 - directional, 37
 - GMRS and, 76
 - ground plane, 36, 95
 - home radio installation, 265–268
 - insulated backstay, 128
 - lip mounts, 77
 - loaded, 95
 - mag mount, 37
 - Marine HF radio service, 127–129
 - Marine VHF radio service, 123
 - masts and towers, 267–269
 - mobile, 77
 - mobile radio installation, 281
 - MURS (Multi-Use Radio Service), 110
 - omnidirectional, 36, 77
 - on-glass, 281
 - positioning, 95
 - purchasing considerations, 45
 - quads, 96
 - range, maximizing, 71
 - regulated equipment, 42
 - replacing lost, 338
 - rotators, 269
 - rubber duck, 37, 95
 - rules and regulations, 51
 - shortwave listening, 216
 - trapped, 216
 - vertical, 94–95, 216
 - whip, 37, 95
- applications, licensing, 48–50
- approach and departure frequencies, 183
- APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System), 138
- ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service), 106
- armed forces facilities, government radio transmissions, 189–190
- ARTS (Automatic range transponder system), 76
- ATIS (Automatic Terminal Information Service), 183
- atmospheric changes, radio signals, 32–33
- audio and control signal connectors, 253–254
- audio interference, 303
- audio modifications, rules and regulations, 51
- audio-frequency gain (AF Gain), 36
- Automatic Identification System (AIS), 125
- Automatic Noise Limiting (ANL), 82
- Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS), 138
- Automatic range transponder system (ARTS), 76
- Automatic Terminal Information Service (ATIS), 183

- aviation radio
 - ACARS (Aircraft Communication Addressing and Reporting System), 185
 - air traffic communication, 184–185
 - approach and departure frequencies, 183
 - civil aviation frequencies, 181
 - frequencies, finding, 182–183
 - ground control frequencies, 183
 - IFF systems, 186
 - lingo, 186
 - multicom frequencies, 183
 - MWARA (Major World Air Route Area), 185
 - public safety radio systems, 14–15
 - tower frequencies, 183
 - unicom frequencies, 183
 - user population, scanners, 151

• B •

- baby monitors, as radio device, 10
- band plans, shortwave listening, 211
- base antennas, 77, 95
- base-quality, CB radios, 92
- batteries
 - AA, 290
 - AAA, 289
 - alkaline, 292
 - battery indicator, 62
 - battery packs, 74–75, 295
 - C, 290
 - characteristic voltage, 288
 - chargers, 78, 296–297
 - coin cells, 290
 - D, 290
 - discharging, 296–297
 - disposable, 291–292, 295

- disposing, 298
 - energy capacity, 288
 - gel-cell, 287
 - lead-acid, 287, 294–295
 - lithium-ion, 75
 - mobile radio installation, 277–278
 - nickel cadmium, 293
 - nickel metal hydride, 75, 293–294
 - 9V, 290
 - purchasing considerations, 45
 - rechargeable, 292–295
 - refrigerating spare, 295–296
 - safety issues, 296–298
 - spare sets, 69, 296
 - standard voltage, 287
 - storing and handling, 297–298
 - types and ratings, 288–289
 - zinc-carbon, 292
- beacon stations, shortwave listening, 213
- beam antennas, 37, 94
- beeps and rings, call tones, 64
- block monitoring, info-sharing activities, 17
- books, radio training, 20–21
- boom microphones, 262
- bootleg amplifiers, 51
- bootlegging, 330
- breaking conversations, CB radio use, 89
- breathing, correct radio use, 66
- broadcasting
 - rules and regulations, 51
 - services, how to use, 19
 - shortwave listening, 208–209
- BRS (Business Radio Service), 43
- building and fixing radio systems, 21–23
- business communications, CB radio use, 81

- business radio systems
 - analog systems, 112
 - antennas, 115
 - campground intercoms, 18
 - channel selection, 115
 - delivery vehicles and drivers, 18
 - digital systems, 112
 - discussed, 12
 - dot channels, 113–114
 - emergency communications, 18
 - encrypted signals, 112
 - fire disasters, 18
 - installation and maintenance, 112
 - licensing assistance, 112, 114
 - marina operations, 18
 - monitor functions, 115
 - multicast systems, 112
 - multisite systems, 113
 - multi-use services, 110
 - narrowband, 113
 - operating rules, 115
 - PLMR (Private Land Mobile Radio), 110–111
 - professional providers, 111–112
 - PTT (Push to Talk), 115
 - radio service selection considerations, 45
 - requirements assessment, 112
 - rules and regulations, 17–18
 - sales, lease and rental services, 112
 - scrambled signals, 112
 - selection considerations, 109–110, 112
 - shared/subscribed systems, 113
 - simulcast systems, 112
 - single-site, 113
 - star channels, 113–114
 - talk groups, 116
 - trunked systems, 116
 - volume control, 115

- voting, 113
 - wideband, 113
 - business user population, scanners, 150–151
 - busy indicator, radio controls and features, 36, 62
- C ●
- C batteries, 290
 - cable ties, stocking up on, 236
 - cables
 - coaxial, 250
 - direct-burials, 273
 - ladder line, 270
 - multiconductor, 250
 - shielded, 250
 - straight-through, 305
 - twin lead, 270
 - twisted-pair, 250
 - call indicator, radio features, 62
 - Call key, radio features, 61
 - call signs, radio etiquette, 37, 67–68
 - call tones, rings and beeps, 64
 - calling channels, CB radios, 90
 - campground intercoms, business radio systems, 18
 - camping, outdoor radio use, 70
 - car operation, CB radios, 92
 - carbon microphones, 262
 - cardioid microphones, 262
 - CB (Citizens Band) radios
 - active channel indicator, 83
 - ANL (Automatic Noise Limiting), 82
 - ANT connection, 84
 - antenna selection, 94–96
 - antenna warning indicator, 84
 - base-quality, 92
 - business communications, 81
 - calling channels, 90
 - calls, making, 89
 - car operation, 92
 - channels, 81–82
 - characteristics of, 43–44
 - clarifier controls, 85
 - communications basics, 89
 - communications tests, 88
 - controls and features, 82
 - delta tune controls, 85
 - discussed, 11–12
 - Distant/Local controls, 86
 - don'ts, 96–97
 - doubling, preventing, 94
 - driving service uses, 81
 - emergency channels, 86
 - emergency communications, 91–92
 - foot warmers, 96
 - freebanding, 97
 - frequencies, 81
 - gain controls, 82
 - ground connection, 85
 - handles (radio nicknames), 88–89
 - high-end radios, 85–86
 - history of, 79
 - home operation, 92
 - how to use, 86–90
 - kickers, 96
 - licensing and requirements, 80–81
 - lingo, 89
 - location messages, 86
 - microphone connectors, 82
 - microphone controls, 85
 - microphone selection, 93–94
 - mini rigs, 92
 - NB (Noise Blanker), 82
 - noise and interference, 87–88
 - ongoing conversations, breaking in, 89
 - outside of US use, 84
 - PA speakers, 84
 - power indicator, 83
 - priority watch channels, 90
 - PTT (Push-to-Talk) switch, 82
 - public address, 82
 - radio checking, 89
 - recreational radio use, 14
 - reference sites, 80
 - roger beep, 94
 - RX/TX indicator, 84
 - sideband controls, 85
 - signing off, 89
 - S-Meter indicator, 83
 - squelch, 82
 - SWR (standing wave ratio) indicator, 84, 93
 - traffic checks, 86, 89
 - trucker channels, 90
 - uses for, 81
 - volume control, 82
 - weather controls, 86
 - CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), 106, 179
 - channels
 - business radio systems, 115
 - CB (Citizens Band) radios, 81
 - channel selectors, CB radios, 82
 - channel sharing, FRS and GMRS, 56
 - channel spacing, 72
 - LCN (logical channel number), 175
 - locking out, 155
 - Marine HF radio service, 126
 - memory, 76
 - scanners, 146
 - trunking systems, 158
 - charging batteries, 78, 296–297
 - chatter, privacy codes, 63
 - children, secretive radio links, 17
 - Citizens Band. *See* CB radios
 - civil aviation frequencies, aviation radio, 181

- civilian agencies,
 - government radio transmissions, 191–192
 - clarifier controls, CB radios, 85
 - cleaning tools, 232
 - clear message, radio etiquette, 37
 - cloning function, scanners, 164
 - clothing, for emergencies, 107
 - CLOVER digital signals, 212
 - clubs, joining, 148, 344
 - coaxial cables, 250
 - coaxial power connectors, 252
 - collinear antennas, 95, 123
 - communications receivers, scanners, 148
 - communications tests, CB radios, 88
 - communications-grade receivers, shortwave listening, 214
 - Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), 106, 179
 - community events, info-sharing activities, 17
 - computers. *See also* PCs
 - control connections, 305–307
 - decoding signals, 302
 - hardware compatibility, 301
 - home radio installation, 263–264
 - keying connections, 306
 - memory requirements, 302
 - PC and radio compatibility, 299–302
 - signal interface selection, 303–304
 - software compatibility, 300
 - sound cards, 306
 - toolsets, 231
 - troubleshooting, 308–310
 - concerts, radio transmissions, 14, 202–203
 - condenser microphones, 263
 - conducted interference, 324
 - configuration settings, scanners, 156
 - connectors
 - audio and control signal, 253–254
 - coaxial power, 252
 - direct current, 251–252
 - female, 251
 - jacks, 251
 - male, 251
 - Molex, 252
 - pins, 251
 - plugs, 251
 - powerpole, 252
 - RF, 254, 283–285
 - shells, 251
 - stocking up on, 234–235
 - contests, ham radio, 137
 - control channels, trunking systems, 158
 - control connections, computers, 305–307
 - controls and features, radio components, 36
 - conventions, recreational radio transmissions, 202–203
 - conversations, breaking in, CB radios, 89
 - conversions, frequency measurements to wavelength, 29–30
 - cordless phones, as radio device, 10
 - courtesy, etiquette, 64, 69
 - coverage, 165, 342
 - crackle and hissing noises, squelch, 36
 - crank-up towers, 268
 - crimp terminals, 282
 - CTCSS tones, privacy codes, 62–64, 155
 - current, measuring, 244
 - customer support, scanners, 167
- D •
- D batteries, 290
 - DAB (Digital Audio Broadcasting), 210
 - data channels, trunking systems, 158
 - daytime/nighttime behavior, shortwave listening, 220
 - DCS (digitally coded squelch) privacy code, 63
 - dead spots, 331
 - dealers, scanners, 166
 - delivery vehicles, business radio systems, 18
 - delta tune controls, CB radios, 85
 - demodulation, 33
 - departure frequencies, aviation radio, 183
 - desk microphones, 263
 - Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB), 210
 - Digital Selective Calling (DSC), 123–125
 - digital signals, shortwave listening, 212–213
 - digital systems, business radio systems, 112
 - digitally coded squelch (DCS) privacy code, 63
 - direct current connectors, 251–252
 - direct-burial cable, 273
 - direction finding techniques, 341–342
 - directional antennas, 37
 - disaster response, 17, 105–106
 - discharging batteries, 296–297
 - dispatch versus one-to-one communication, scanners, 149
 - disposable batteries, 291–292, 295
 - disposing batteries, 298

Distant/Local controls, CB radios, 86
 distant stations, shortwave listening, 209
 distress channels, marine radio, 120–121, 126–127
 disturbances, radio signals, 16
 domestic broadcasters, 208
 dot channels, business radio systems, 113–114
 doubling, CB radio use, 94
 drivers, CB radios, 81
 DSC (Digital Selective Calling), 123–125
 duplex communications, 36, 71
 dynamic microphones, 263

• E •

ear bud headsets, 78
 EDACS (Enhanced Digital Access Communications System), 158, 175
 electret microphones, 263
 electrical power, safety issues, 255–256
 electrical tape, stocking up on, 236
 electro-motive force, voltage, 245
 electronics and technology, ham radio, 138
 electronics toolsets, 231
 ELTs (Emergency Locator Transmitters), 182
 emergency communication (emcomm)
 business radio systems, 18
 calling for help, 104–105
 CB radios, 86, 91–92
 communication readiness, 103–104
 disaster response, 105–106
 discussed, 13
 emergency circumstances, 99–100

go kit components, 107
 ham radio, 137
 health and welfare queries, 100
 how and when to communicate, 101
 information sources, 103
 mayday message, 104
 planning for, 100–101, 333–336
 practicing for, 108
 radio tests, 104
 receiving calls for help, 105
 rescue coordination centers, marine radio, 124
 response organizations, 106
 SAR (search and rescue), marine radio, 124
 what and why information, 101
 Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs), 182
 encrypted signals, business radio systems, 112
 energy capacity, batteries, 288
 Enhanced Digital Access Communications System (EDACS), 158, 175
 equipment
 purchasing, 45
 regulated, 42–43
 shortwave listening, 217
 etiquette, radio, 37
 events, using radios at, 68–69
 exams, ham radio, 141–142
 external antennas, GMRS and, 76

• F •

Family Radio Service. *See* FRS
 fax machines, digital signals, 212
 FCC (Federal Communications Commission)
 discussed, 14
 ham radio use, 135

home built radio systems, type acceptance, 22
 licensing issues, 46–50
 radio rules and regulations, 19–20
 registration process, 47–48
 Federal Registration Number (FRN), 47
 feedline considerations, home radio installation, 270–273
 FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Association) frequency searches, government radio transmissions, 191
 female connectors, 251
 filters, stocking up on, 236
 fire disasters, business radio systems, 18
 fishing, outdoor radio use, 70
 fixed stations, shortwave listening, 211
 fixing and building radio systems, 21–23
 FM (frequency modulation), 35, 148–149
 food items, emergency needs, 107
 foot warmers, CB radios, 96
 freebanding, CB radios, 97
 freebies, tools, 238
 frequencies
 adjustment, scanners, 154
 AF Gain (audio-frequency gain), 36
 allocations, 27, 39, 41
 aviation radio, 182–183
 CB (Citizens Band) radios, 81
 civil aviation, 181
 GHz (gigahertz), 27
 HF (high frequency), 27
 Hz (hertz), 26
 kHz (kilohertz), 27
 measurements, 26–30
 metric system, 28
 MF (medium frequency), 27

frequencies (*continued*)

microwave, 27, 31

MURS (Multi-Use Radio Service), 110

offset, 72

polarity, 26

scanners, 160–161

shared, 40

signal changes, 25

UHF (ultra high frequency), 27, 31

VHF (very high frequency), 18, 27, 31

vibrations, 26

frequency modulation (FM), 35, 148–149

FRN (Federal Registration Number), 47

FRS (Family Radio Service) channel sharing capabilities, 56

characteristics of, 43–44

discussed, 9, 12, 55

GMRS comparison, 56–57

handheld radios, 39

furniture selection, home radio installation, 264–265

fuses, 236, 276–277

• G •

gain

CB (Citizens Band) radio, 82
radio controls and features, 36

gel-cell batteries, 287

gender chargers, 164

General Mobile Radio Service. *See* GMRS

general-coverage receivers, shortwave listening, 211, 214

GHz (gigahertz), 27

Global Positioning System (GPS), 76, 138

GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System), 124

GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service)

channel sharing capabilities, 56

characteristics of, 43–44

discussed, 9, 12, 55

external antennas and, 76

FRS comparison, 56–57

licenses, 20, 57–59

go kit components, emergency items, 107

government channels, Marine VHF radio service, 120

government radio transmissions

armed forces facilities, 189–190

civilian agencies, accessing, 191–192

fema frequency searches, 191

medevac (medical evacuation), 189

military aviation communications, monitoring, 190–191

military frequencies, 187–188

rules and regulations, 192–193

tactical communications, 189

GPS (Global Positioning System), 76, 138

ground connection, CB radios, 85

ground control frequencies, aviation radio, 183

ground plane antennas, 36, 95

ground waves, shortwave listening, 217–218

grounding, home radio installation, safety issues, 258–259

Guide to Understanding Electricity and Electronics (G. Randy Slone), 240

• H •

ham radio. *See also*

amateur radio

APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System), 138

contests, 137

discussed, 12

electronics and technology, 138

emergency communication, 137

exams for, 141–142

FCC values, 135

GPS systems, 138

home built radio systems, 22–23

networking basics, 137

recreational radio use, 14

shortwave bands, 138–139

talking basics, 137

hamfests, 343–344

hand microphones, 263

handheld radios, 12, 122

handles, CB radio nicknames, 88–89

hardware compatibility, computer use, 300

headphones (headsets) design considerations, home radio installation, 261–262

ear buds, 78

headset microphones, 263

helmet, 78

recreational radio transmissions, 204

health and welfare queries, emergency communication, 100

helmet headsets, 78

hertz (Hz), 26

heterodynes, 87

HF (high frequency), 27

high-end CB radios, 85–86

higher grounds, maximizing range, 71

hiking, outdoor radio use, 70

hilltopping, 342

hissing and crackle noises, squelch, 36
 hobbyist user population, scanners, 151
 holding radios, correct use of, 65
 home built radio systems, 21–23
 home operation, CB radios, 92
 home radio installation
 antenna considerations, 265–268
 computer setup, 263–264
 feedline considerations, 270–273
 furniture selection, 264–265
 headphone designs, 261–262
 location considerations, 259–261
 microphone selection, 262–263
 safety issues, 257–259
 speaker considerations, 261–262
 home repair and craft kits, 232
 homebrewing, home-built radio systems, 22–23
 hops and skips, radio signals, 87
 hot spots, 331
 Hz (hertz), 26

• I •

IBS (International Broadcasting Services), 214
 IFF (identity friend from foe), aviation radio, 186
 impedance, Ohm's law, 249
 indicators
 CB (Citizen Band) radio, 83–84
 radio features, 61–62

information and news channel, Marine VHF radio service, 120
 info-sharing activities, person-to-person communication, 17
 in-person radio training, 21
 installation and maintenance, business radio systems, 112
 installing home radios. *See* home radio installation
 installing mobile radios. *See* mobile radio installation
 insulated backstay antennas, 128
 interference
 audio, 303
 CB radio communication, 87–88
 conducted, 324
 signal, 303
 troubleshooting, 320–324
 wind and noise, 339
 intermodulation, 321
 International Broadcasting Services (IBS), 214, 223
 international calling, Marine VHF radio service, 120
 ionosphere, 31
 ISO (International Marine Organization), 124
 ITU (International Telecommunications Union), 212

• J •

jacks, connectors, 251
 junk box supplies, 238

• K •

keying connections, radio audio, 306
 keypads, Marine HF radio service, 127
 kHz (kilohertz), 27

kickers, CB radio use, 96
 kits, home built radio systems, 22–23

• L •

ladder line cables, 270
 Land Mobile Service radio service, 40
 LCN (logical channel number), 175
 lead-acid batteries, 287, 294–295
 leasing, business radio systems, 112
 licenses
 business radio systems, 112, 114
 CB (Citizens Band) radios, 80–81
 FCC (Federal Communications Commission), 14, 46–50
 GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service), 20, 57–59
 ham radio (amateur), 140
 marine radio, 133
 radio services, 42
 ULS (Universal Licensing System), 48–50
 unlicensed operations, 47
 line-of-sight, propagation, 30
 lingo
 aviation radio, 186
 CB radios, 89
 scanners, 177–178
 lip mounts, antennas, 77
 listening rules, 329
 listen-only users, radio service selection considerations, 45
 lithium-ion batteries, 75
 loaded antennas, 95
 location considerations
 home radio installation, 259–261
 mobile radio installation, 278–280

- location messages, CB radios, 86
- locks
 - Lock feature, radio controls, 62
 - locking out channels, scanners, 155
- logical channel number (LCN), 175
- LORAN (Long Range Navigation), 122
- LRT (Logic Trunked Radio), 158
- LSB (lower sideband) controls, CB radios, 85
- LW (longwave) signals, 207

• M •

- mag mount antennas, 37
- magnifiers, required tools, 230
- Major World Air Route Area (MWARA), 185
- male connectors, 251
- marina operations, business radio systems, 18
- Marine HF radio service
 - antenna selection, 128–129
 - characteristics of, 43–44
 - distress channels, 126–127
 - do's and don'ts, 129–130
 - features, 127
 - licensing, 133
 - primary communication channels, 126
 - radio tests, 130
 - SailMail system, 131–132
 - sat (satellite) phones, 131
 - selection considerations, 128–129
 - signals, 125
 - weather faxes, 132
- Marine Mobile Service Identity (MMSI), 123–124

- Marine VHF radio service
 - AIS (Automatic Identification System), 125
 - antenna selection, 123
 - characteristics of, 43–44
 - distress channels, 120–121
 - do's and don'ts, 129–130
 - DSC (Digital Selective Calling), 123–125
 - GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System), 124
 - government channels, 120
 - international calling, 120
 - ISO (International Marine Organization), 124
 - licensing, 133
 - LORAN (Long Range Navigation), 122
 - MMSI (Marine Mobile Service Identity), 123–124
 - NEMA interface, 122
 - news and information channel, 120
 - noncommercial channels, 118–119
 - phone patch, 120
 - priority channels, 121
 - radio controls, 120–121
 - radio tests, 130
 - rescue coordination centers, 124
 - SailMail system, 131–132
 - SAR (search and rescue) plans, 124
 - sat (satellite) phones, 131
 - selection considerations, 122
 - shore operator contact, 120
 - transmit power, 122
 - water resistance, 122
 - weather alerts, 121–122
 - weather faxes, 132
- Maritime Mobile services, 40
- masts and towers, antennas, 267–269

- mayday messages, emergency communications, 104
- measurements
 - current, 244
 - frequencies, 26–27
- medevac (medical evacuation), 189
- medium frequency (MF), 27
- medium wave (MW) signals, 207
- memory channels, 76
- memory group select, Marine HF radio service, 127
- memory requirements, computer use, 302
- metal bristle brushes, cleaning tools, 232
- metal fasteners, stocking up on, 236
- meteor scatter communication, 33
- metric system, frequencies, 28
- MF (medium frequency), 27
- MFSK (Multi-Frequency Shift Keying), 212
- Mic Gain, radio controls and features, 36
- microphones
 - CB radios, 85, 93–94
 - connectors, CB radios, 82
 - speaker-mics, 77
 - speaking in, 66
 - throat, 77–78
 - types of, 262
- microwave frequencies, 27, 31
- military
 - aviation communications, government radio transmissions, 190–191
 - military frequencies, 187–188
 - scanner use, 19, 151
- mini rigs, CB radios, 92

- MMSI (Marine Mobile Service Identity), 123–124
- mobile antennas, 77
- mobile phones
- emergency radio use and, 13
 - as radio device, 10–11
- mobile radio installation
- antennas, 281
 - battery connections, 277–278
 - do's and don'ts, 276
 - fuse taps, 276–277
 - location considerations, 278–280
 - power supply, 275–278
 - resources for, 273–274
 - safety issues, 274–275
- mobile stations, shortwave listening, 211
- modulation, 33–35, 148–149
- Molex connectors, 252
- monitor functions, business radio systems, 115
- monitor key, radio features, 61
- Morse code, 16, 34, 148
- Motorola Type I systems, scanners, 184
- Motorola Type II systems, scanners, 184
- multicast systems, business radio systems, 112
- multicom frequencies, aviation radio, 183
- multiconductor cables, 250
- Multi-Frequency Shift Keying (MFSK), 212
- multipath interference, 32
- multisite systems, business radio systems, 113
- MURS (Multi-Use Radio Service)
- characteristics of, 43–44
 - frequency specifics, 110
 - power and antennas, 110
 - range specifics, 110
- MV (medium wave) signals, 207
- MWARA (Major World Air Route Area), 185
- N •
- narrowband, business radio systems, 113
- National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA), 122
- National Incident Management System (NIMS), 179
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), 17, 76
- National Weather Service (NWS), 76
- NAVTEX (Navigation Text), 212
- NB (Noise Blanker), 82
- neighborhood organization, info-sharing activities, 17
- NEMA (National Electrical Manufacturers Association), 122
- nets, shortwave listening, 209
- networking basics, ham radio, 137
- news and information channel, Marine VHF radio service, 120
- news organizations, public safety radio systems, 15
- nickel cadmium batteries, 293
- nickel metal hydride batteries, 75, 293–294
- nicknames, CB radio handles, 88–89
- NIMS (National Incident Management System), 179
- NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), 17, 76
- noise
- ANL (Automatic Noise Limiting), 82
 - CB radio interference, 87–88
 - hissing and crackle noises, squelch, 36
 - noise-canceling microphones, 263
 - troubleshooting, 317–320
- Noise Blanker (NB), 82
- noncommercial channels, Marine VHF radio service, 118–119
- noncompliance equipment, regulated equipment, 42
- null-modem adapters, 164
- NWS (National Weather Service), 76
- O •
- obscene language, rules and regulations, 52
- offset, frequencies, 72
- Ohm's law, 247–249
- omnidirectional antennas, 36, 77
- omnidirectional microphones, 263
- one-to-one versus dispatch communication, scanners, 149
- on-glass antennas, 281
- online license registration, GRMS, 58
- online radio training, 21
- operating controls, radio features, 60
- operating problems, troubleshooting, 315–317
- operating rules, radio services, 42
- out message, radio etiquette, 37

outdoor sporting events,
 recreational radio use,
 14, 69–70
 output
 output power, regulated
 equipment, 42
 repeaters, 72
 over message, radio
 etiquette, 37

● **P** ●

PA speakers, CB radios, 84
 PCs. *See also* computers
 as radio device, 10
 with scanners, 162–163
 Personal Radio Support
 Group (PRSG), 58
 person-to-person
 communication, info-
 sharing activities, 17
 phone patch, Marine VHF
 radio service, 120
 pilots, public safety radio
 systems, 14
 pins, connectors, 251
 PL tones, privacy codes, 62
 PLMR (Private Land Mobile
 Radio), 110–111
 plugs, connectors, 251
 polarity, frequencies, 26
 power
 calculations, 245–246
 power adapters, 78
 power button,
 scanners, 153
 power indicators, 62, 83
 power problems,
 troubleshooting, 312–315
 power supplies
 mobile radio installation,
 275–278
 purchasing consider-
 ations, 45
 rules and regulations, 51
 powerpole connectors, 252

priority channels
 Marine VHF radio
 service, 121
 watch channels, CB
 radios, 90
 priority scan feature,
 scanners, 156
 privacy codes
 CTCSS tones, 62–64
 DCS, 63
 disadvantages, 63
 PL tones, 62
 privacy code indicator, 62
 radio chatter, 63
 squelch circuit, 63
 sub-audible tones, 62
 Private Land Mobile Radio
 (PLMR), 110–111
 professional providers,
 business radio systems,
 111–112
 program guides, shortwave
 listening, 222
 programming scanners,
 160–164
 propagation
 ground wave signals, 30–31
 line-of-sight, 30
 multipath interference, 32
 patterns, 31
 reflections, 31–32
 shortwave listening,
 217–221
 sky-wave, 31
 tropospheric, 32
 PRSG (Personal Radio
 Support Group), 58
 PTT (Push to Talk)
 business radio systems, 115
 CB (Citizen Band) radios, 82
 how to use, 65–66
 radio controls and features,
 36, 61
 public address
 CB radios, 82
 Marine VHF radio
 service, 120

public communications,
 radio etiquette, 68
 public places, using radios
 at, 68–69
 public safety radio systems
 aviation use, 14–15
 discussed, 12
 news organizations, 15
 public events and
 concerts, 14
 scanner use, 18–19
 Push to Talk. *See* PTT

● **Q** ●

QSL (Q-Signals), 19, 224
 quads, antennas, 96

● **R** ●

RACES (Radio Amateur
 Civil Emergency
 Services), 106
 races, recreational radio
 transmissions, 196–200
 radio bands, scanners, 147
 radio chatter, privacy
 codes, 63
 radio direction finding,
 341–342
 radio navigation, scanner
 use, 151
 radio rodeo competition, 343
 radio services. *See*
 services, radio
 radio signals
 atmospheric changes,
 32–33
 disturbances, 16
 ground wave signals, 30–31
 vibrations, 26
 radio waves
 frequencies, 25–27
 polarity, 26
 wavelengths, 28–30

- radioteletype (RTTY),
 - 16, 212–213
 - range
 - maximizing, 71
 - MURS (Multi-Use Radio Service), 110
 - range problems, 69
 - specifications versus reality, 74
 - reactance, Ohm's law, 249
 - receive and busy
 - indicator, 62
 - receive-only radios, 20
 - reception confirmation,
 - shortwave listening, 223–224
 - rechargeable batteries,
 - 292–295
 - recreational radio
 - transmissions
 - air shows, 200–202
 - CB radios, 14
 - concerts, 202–203
 - conventions, 202–203
 - discussed, 196
 - ham radios, 14
 - headphone use, 204
 - marine radio, 14
 - outdoor sporting events, 14, 69–70
 - races, 196–200
 - reference pressure,
 - voltage, 245
 - reference sites, CB radios, 80
 - references, shortwave
 - listening, 225
 - reflections, propagation,
 - 31–32
 - refrigeration, batteries,
 - 295–296
 - registration process,
 - FCC, 47–48
 - regulated equipment, radio
 - services, 42–43
 - religious broadcasters, 208
 - remote sensing satellites, 18
 - rental service, business radio
 - systems, 112
 - repeaters
 - duplex communications, 71
 - output, 72
 - radio controls and features, 36
 - simplex, 74
 - store-and-forward, 74
 - wide area coverage, 73
 - requirements assessment,
 - business radio systems, 112
 - rescue coordination centers,
 - marine radio, 124
 - resistance, voltage, 246–247
 - resorts, outdoor radio
 - use, 69
 - RF connectors, 254, 283–285
 - rings and beeps, call
 - tones, 64
 - roger beep, CB radios, 94
 - roger response, radio
 - etiquette, 37
 - roof-mounted towers, 268
 - rotators, antennas, 269
 - RTTY (radioteletype),
 - 16, 212–213
 - rubber duck antennas, 37, 95
 - rugged terrain, outdoor radio
 - use, 70
 - rules and regulations
 - antenna and power limits, 51
 - audio modifications, 51
 - broadcasting, 51
 - business radio systems, 17–18, 115
 - FCC (Federal Communications Commission), 19–20
 - government radio
 - transmissions, 192–193
 - home built radio systems,
 - type acceptance, 22
 - obscene language, 52
 - radio services, 50–52
 - scanners, 157
 - station identification, 51
 - where to find, 52
 - RX/TX indicator, CB
 - radios, 84
- S ●
- safety issues
 - batteries, 296–298
 - electrical power, 255–256
 - home radio installation, 257–259
 - mobile radio installation, 274–275
 - SAR (search and rescue),
 - marine radio, 124
 - satellites
 - remote sensing, 18
 - satellite (sat) phones,
 - marine radio, 131
 - scanners
 - AM and FM signals, 148–149
 - antennas and accessories, 166
 - aviation user population, 151
 - business user population, 150–151
 - channels, locking out, 155
 - channels and services, 146
 - cloning function, 164
 - clubs for, 148
 - communications
 - receivers, 148
 - configuration settings, 156
 - coverage and modes, 165
 - CTCSS (continuous tone-coded squelch system), 155
 - customer support, 167
 - dealers, 166
 - discussed, 145
 - dispatch versus one-to-one communication, 149
 - frequencies, finding, 160–161

- scanners (*continued*)
 - frequency adjustment, 154
 - government user
 - population, 151
 - hobbyist user population, 151
 - how to use, 152–156
 - LCN (logical channel number), 175
 - lingo, 177–178
 - military use, 19
 - military user population, 151
 - Morse code, 148
 - Motorola Type I systems, 184
 - Motorola Type II systems, 184
 - PC use with, 162–163
 - power button, 153
 - priority scan feature, 156
 - programming, 160–164
 - public safety actions, 18–19
 - radio bands, 147
 - radio navigation, 151
 - rules for, 157
 - scan delay, 156
 - searching versus scanning, 156
 - secondary functions, 155
 - selection considerations, 164–167
 - simplex communications, 149
 - software, transferring data to, 172–173
 - squelch settings, 154
 - starting scans, 154
 - step size, 156
 - stopping scans, 154
 - suspending scans, 154
 - touch-and-go control, 154
 - trunking systems, 157–160, 173
 - volume control, 154
 - warranties, 166
 - weather alerts, 152
 - weather watchers, 18
- scanning indicator, radio
 - features, 62
- school coordination
 - activities, info-sharing
 - activities, 17
- scrambled signals, business
 - radio systems, 112
- SDR (software-defined radio), 138
- search and rescue (SAR),
 - marine radio, 124
- searching versus scanning, 156
- seasons, atmospheric
 - changes, 33
- secondary functions,
 - scanners, 155
- secretive radio links,
 - for children, 17
- select label, radio
 - features, 61
- services, radio
 - categories, 40
 - comparisons between, 43–44
 - Fixed, 41
 - frequency allocations, 41
 - Land Mobile Service, 40
 - licensing requirements, 42
 - operating rules, 42
 - regulated equipment, 42–43
 - rules and regulations, 50–52
 - scanners, 146
 - selection considerations, 45
- severe weather watchers, 17
- shared frequencies, 40
- shared/subscribed systems,
 - business radio
 - systems, 113
- shells, connectors, 251
- shielded cables, 250
- short operator contact,
 - Marine VHF radio
 - service, 120
- short-range personal communication, FRS, 43
- shortwave bands, ham radio, 138–139
- shortwave listening
 - amateur rations, 210
 - antenna selection, 216
 - band plans, 211
 - beacon stations, 213
 - broadcasters, 208–209
 - communications-grade receivers, 214
 - DAB (Digital Audio Broadcasting), 210
 - daytime/nighttime behavior, 220
 - distant stations, 209
 - equipment vendors, 217
 - fixed stations, 211
 - general-coverage receivers, 211, 214
 - ground waves, 217–218
 - IBS (International Broadcasting Services), 214
 - ITU (International Telecommunications Union), 212
 - LW (longwave) signals, 207
 - mobile stations, 211
 - MV (medium wave) signals, 207
 - nets, 209
 - program guides, 222
 - radio controls, 214–215
 - radio selections, 213–214
 - radioteletype and digital signals, 212–213
 - reception confirmation, 223–224
 - references, 225
 - signal propagation, 217–221
 - skip zones, 219–220
 - sky waves, 218
 - station addresses, 225
 - World Time, 221
 - sideband controls,
 - CB radios, 85
 - signal changes,
 - frequencies, 25
 - signal interface selection,
 - computer use, 303–304

- signal propagation,
 - shortwave listening, 217–221
- signals, radio
 - atmospheric changes, 32–33
 - disturbances, 16
 - ground wave signals, 30–31
 - hops and skips, 87
 - Marine HF radio service, 125
 - vibrations, 26
- signing off
 - CB radios, 89
 - radio etiquette, 37
- simplex communications
 - radio controls and features, 36, 72
 - scanners, 149
- simplex repeaters, 74
- simulcast systems, business radio systems, 112
- single sideband (SSB), 41
- single-site systems, business radio systems, 113
- skiing areas, outdoor radio use, 69
- skip zones, shortwave listening, 219–220
- skips and hops, radio signals, 87
- sky waves, shortwave listening, 218
- sky-wave propagation, 31
- S-Meter indicator
 - CB radio, 83
 - shortwave listening, 215
- soft bristle brushes, cleaning tools, 232
- software compatibility, computer use, 300
- software-defined radio (SDR), 138
- solder, stocking up on, 236
- soldering iron and gun, required tools, 230
- solid wire, 249
- sound cards, computer connections, 306
- speakers
 - broken, 338–339
 - home radio installation, 261–262
 - microphones, 77
- speaking correctly, radio use, 66–67
- specifications, range, 74
- speed of light, wavelengths, 28–29
- sports activities, scanner use, 18
- sqelch settings
 - CB (Citizens Band) radio, 82
 - privacy codes and, 63
 - radio controls and features, 36
 - scanners, 154
- SSB (single sideband), 41
- stand by message, correct radio use, 66
- standing wave ration (SWR) indicator, CB radios, 84, 93
- star channels, business radio systems, 113–114
- station addresses, shortwave listening, 225
- station identification, rules and regulations, 51
- step size, scanners, 156
- stocking up, tools, 233–237
- storage, batteries, 297–298
- store-and-forward repeaters, 74
- straight-through cable, 305
- stranded wire, 249
- sub-audible tones, privacy codes, 62
- SWR (standing wave ratio) indicator, CB radios, 84, 93
- **T** •
- tactical communications, government radio transmissions, 189
- talk groups, business radio systems, 116
- talking basics, ham radio, 137
- terminal crimping tools, 282
- terrain, outdoor radio use, 70
- testing radios
 - CB (Citizen Band) radio, 88
 - coverage, 342
 - discussed, 68–69
 - emergency communication, 104
 - marine radio, 130
- theft and radio loss protection, 69
- throat microphones, 77–78
- tone of voice, correct radio use, 66
- tools
 - adapters and connectors, 234–235
 - bargain toolsets, 231–232
 - cleaning, 232
 - freebies, 238
 - home repair and craft kits, 232
 - junk boxes, 238
 - required, 229–230
 - selection considerations, 229–233
 - stocking up on, 233–237
 - toolbox components, 232–233
- tower frequencies, aviation radio, 183
- traffic checks, CB radios, 86, 89
- trails, outdoor radio use, 70
- training, radio use, 20–21
- transmit power
 - Marine HF radio service, 127
 - Marine VHF radio service, 120, 122
- transmit receive and busy indicator, 62
- trapped antennas, 216
- tropospheric propagation, 32

troubleshooting
 computer connections,
 308–310
 interference, 320–324
 noise, 317–320
 operating problems,
 315–317
 power problems, 312–315
 trucker channels, CB
 radios, 90
 trunking systems
 business radio systems, 116
 scanners and, 157–160, 173
 tuning controls, shortwave
 listening, 215
 twin lead cables, 270
 twisted-pair cables, 250
 type acceptance
 home built radio
 systems, 22
 regulated equipment, 42

• U •

UHF (ultra high frequency),
 27, 31
 ULS (Universal Licensing
 System), 48–50
 ultraviolet light, atmospheric
 changes, 32–33
 unicom frequencies, aviation
 radio, 183
 unidirectional micro-
 phones, 263
 unlicensed operations, 47
 USB (upper sideband)
 controls, CB radios, 85

• V •

vertical antennas, 94–95, 216
 VHF (very high frequency),
 18, 27, 31
 vibrations, radio signals,
 26, 29
 voice tone, correct radio
 use, 66
 voltage, 230, 245, 287
 volume control
 AF Gain, 36
 business radio systems, 115
 CB (Citizens Band) radio, 82
 radio features, 60
 scanners, 154
 voting, business radio
 systems, 113
 VOX indicator, radio
 features, 62, 75

• W •

warranties, scanners, 166
 water resistance, Marine VHF
 radio service, 122
 wavelengths
 converting frequency
 measurements to, 29–30
 speed of light, 28–29
 vibration and, 29
 weather
 atmospheric changes, radio
 signals, 32
 marine radio, 132
 Marine VHF radio service,
 121–122

NOAA (National Oceanic
 and Atmospheric
 Administration), 17, 76
 NWS (National Weather
 Service), 76
 scanner use, 18, 152
 severe weather
 watchers, 17
 SKYWARN program, 17
 weather controls, CB
 radios, 86
 welfare and health queries,
 emergency communi-
 cation, 100
 whip antennas, 37, 95
 wide area coverage,
 repeaters, 73
 wideband, business radio
 systems, 113
 wildlife tracking, 344
 wind and noise, interfer-
 ence, 339
 wire current, 249
 wire cutters, required
 tools, 230
 World Time, shortwave
 listening, 221

• Z •

zinc-carbon batteries, 292