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YOUR FIRST DMR CONTACT

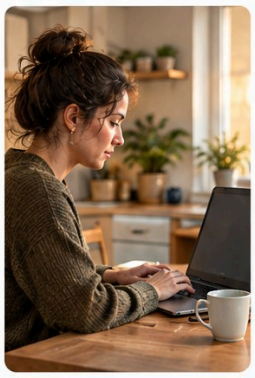


Digital voice, linked worldwide

DMR is digital voice on 2 meters and 70 centimeters. Repeaters and hotspots linked over the internet let a handheld reach across the country.

1 Get a DMR ID

Once your call sign is in the FCC database, request a free ID at RadioID.net.



2 Program your radio

Load a codeplug with your ID and channels. Ask your club for one to start from.



3 Pick a repeater or hotspot

Use a local DMR repeater, or a small hotspot at home that links you to a network like BrandMeister.



4 Test with the parrot

Make a private call to 9990. BrandMeister's parrot plays your transmission back.



5 Make your call

Call on 3100 or your state's talkgroup and keep it short. Move to a TAC talkgroup to chat.





Key terms

- **Talkgroup:** a shared channel on the network, like 3100 for the whole US.
- **Time slot:** one of the two conversations sharing a repeater frequency.
- **Color code:** a number from 0 to 15 your radio must match to use a repeater.
- **Codeplug:** your radio's settings file.

Good to know

- Your DMR ID doesn't replace your call sign. Say it every 10 minutes and at the end of a contact.
- **Leave encryption off.** It isn't allowed on ham frequencies.
- **Pause after** pressing PTT, and leave a few seconds between turns.
- Technicians can use DMR on 2 meters and 70 centimeters.

IN SHORT

Get a DMR ID, load a codeplug, test with the parrot, then make a short call on a talkgroup.

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W1DEMO is a made-up call sign.