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YOUR FIRST SIMPLEX CALL

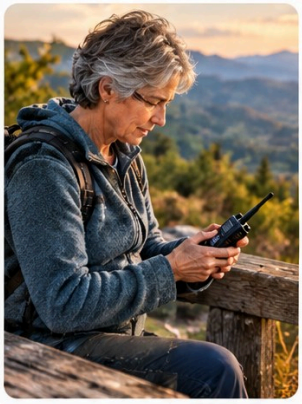


Radio to radio, no repeater

Simplex means talking radio to radio on one frequency. It's how you reach a friend nearby, and it still works when repeaters go down.

1 Set up your radio

Tune to 146.520 MHz, the national calling frequency, with the offset and tone turned off.



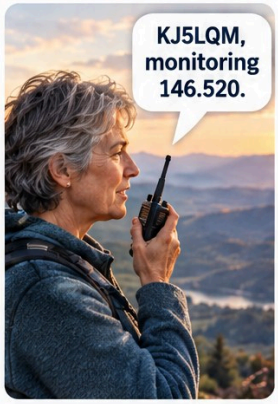
2 Listen first

Listen for a minute to make sure the frequency is quiet.



3 Make your call

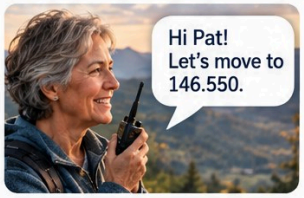
Say your call sign and where you're listening. Simplex can be quiet, so be patient.



4 Move off and chat

When someone answers, trade names, then move to another simplex frequency to keep the calling frequency clear.





Key terms

- **Simplex:** radio to radio on one frequency, no repeater.
- **Calling frequency:** where people listen for a call. 146.520 MHz on 2 meters, 446.000 MHz on 70 centimeters.
- **Offset:** a repeater setting. Turn it off for simplex.
- **Reverse:** a button that listens where a repeater listens, to check if you can talk direct.

Good to know

- **Height beats power.** Handheld to handheld, expect a mile or two among buildings and several miles over open ground.
- Never use a repeater's frequencies for simplex.
- Say your call sign every 10 minutes and at the end of a contact.
- When repeaters go down, simplex still works.

IN SHORT

Turn off the offset and tone, call on 146.520, then move to another simplex frequency to chat.

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W1DEMO is a made-up call sign.