

VHF Radio Pre-Course Information

ScotSail® RYA/MCA 1-Day VHF Radio Licence Course

Please Take The Time To Read This Important Information:

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Phonetic Alphabet

Letter	Word	Pronounced As
A	Alpha	<u>AL</u> FAH
B	Bravo	<u>BRAH</u> VOH
C	Charlie	<u>CHAR</u> -LEE
D	Delta	<u>DELL</u> TAH
E	Echo	<u>ECK</u> OH
F	Foxtrot	<u>FOKS</u> TROT
G	Golf	GOLF
H	Hotel	HOH <u>TELL</u>
I	India	<u>IN</u> DEE AH
J	Juliet	<u>JEW</u> LEE <u>ETT</u>
K	Kilo	KEY LOH
L	Lima	LEE MAH
M	Mike	MIKE
N	November	NO <u>VEM</u> BER

O	Oscar	<u>OSS</u> CAH
P	Papa	PAH PAH
Q	Quebec	KEH <u>BECK</u>
R	Romeo	<u>ROW</u> ME OH
S	Sierra	SEE <u>AIR</u> RAH
T	Tango	<u>TANG</u> GO
U	Uniform	<u>YOU-NEE-FORM</u>
V	Victor	<u>VIK</u> TAH
W	Whiskey	<u>WISS</u> KEY
X	X-ray	<u>ECKS</u> RAY
Y	Yankee	<u>YANG</u> KEY
Z	Zulu	<u>ZOO</u> LOO

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Phonetic Numerals

Numeral	Pronounced As
1	<u>WUN</u>

2	<u>TOO</u>
3	<u>TREE</u>
4	<u>FOW-ER</u>
5	<u>FIFE</u>
6	<u>SIX</u>
7	<u>SEV-EN</u>
8	AIT
9	<u>NYNE - ER</u>
0	<u>ZEE - RO</u>

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Figure Spelling

Numeral	Pronounced As
44	<u>FOW-ER</u> - <u>FOW-ER</u>
90	<u>NYNE - ER</u> - <u>ZEE - RO</u>
1478	<u>WUN</u> - <u>FOW-ER</u> - <u>SEV-EN</u> - AIT

7000	SEV-EN - THOUSAND
136	WUN - TREE - SIX
500	FIFE - ZEE - RO - ZEE - RO

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MIPDANIO & Basic Distress Call

"MIPDANIO" is a mnemonic to help you to remember the correct sequence to deliver a Verbal Mayday Distress Call via VHF Radio:

Letter	Meaning	Correct Use
M	Mayday (Distress Pro-Word)	" <i>Mayday, Mayday, Mayday</i> "
I	Identity (Who You Are)	" <i>This Is: (Vessel, Callsign, MMSI)</i> "
P	Position (Where You Are)	" <i>My Position Is: (Position)</i> "
D	Distress (Nature of Distress)	" <i>I am: (Sinking, On-Fire etc)</i> "
A	Assistance Required (Immediate)	" <i>I require immediate assistance</i> "
N	Number of Persons-On-Board	" <i>There are (X) persons on-board</i> "
I	Information (Anything Important)	" <i>We are a 10-metre blue yacht</i> "
O	Over (Requesting a Reply)	" <i>Over</i> "

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Important Channels

Channel Number	Use
6	Ship-to-Ship
8	Ship-to-Ship
12	Port Operations
13	Bridge-to-Bridge Working for Navigational Safety
16	International Distress, Safety & Calling Channel
23	HM Coastguard Maritime Safety Information (Weather)
67	HM Coastguard Small Craft Safety Channel
70	DSC Reserved Channel. No Voice Communications.
72	Ship-to-Ship
77	Ship-to-Ship
80	Port Operations (UK Marinas / Harbours)
84	HM Coastguard Maritime Safety Information (Weather)
86	HM Coastguard Maritime Safety Information (Weather)

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Glossary - Key Terms

Term	Definition
Call Sign	Short Alphanumeric Unique Identifier
Distress Situation	Vessel, vehicle, aircraft of person in grave and imminent danger, requiring immediate assistance
DSC	Digital Selective Calling
Dual Watch	Facility for radio to monitor two channels concurrently
Duplex	Two-way, two-frequency communication
EPIRB	Electronic Position Indicating Radio Beacon
GMDSS	Global Maritime Distress and Safety System
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
Mayday	Distress Call
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MMSI	Maritime Mobile Service Identity
Navtex	Navigation Teletext for Weather & Navigation Warnings
OfCom	Office of Communications
Pan-Pan	Urgency Call Requesting Assistance
Pro-Words	Procedure Words (Proper Phrases and Words To Use)
PTT	Press-To-Talk (The Switch Used To Transmit)
RYA	Royal Yachting Association
SAR	Search and Rescue

SART	Search and Rescue Transponder
Simplex Channel	One-Way. Single-Frequency Channel
SOLAS	Safety Of Life At Sea
Squelch	Control Regulating the Sensitivity of the Receiver
SRC	Short-Range Certificate
VHF	Very-High Frequency

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RYA Interactive VHF Radio Course Quiz

Think You've Learned It? - Test Your Knowledge!



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Distress

Phonetic alphabet

What next?



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