

Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency, there are procedures to follow, which vary depending on the type of situation. "Mayday" calls are for extreme emergencies, while "Pan Pan" calls are reserved for urgent, but not life threatening situations.

Mayday calls are only for medical emergencies or if your vessel is in grave or imminent danger. Include the following information, in this order, to assist rescue personnel:

- 1) "MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY"
- 2) Vessel name
- 3) Your current location
- 4) Type of emergency
- 5) Type of assistance needed
- 6) Number of people on board and the condition of any injured people
- 7) Condition of your vessel
- 8) Description of your vessel

If your radio fails during or shortly after giving your information in the order above, search and rescue personnel will have the information to respond.

Pan Pan calls (pronounced Pahn Pahn) are for urgent messages concerning the safety of a vessel or person. Situations include engine trouble or running out of gas.

Provide the same information listed above, except use the pro-word "Pan Pan." It should be repeated three times, in place of "Mayday", i.e., "Pan Pan, Pan Pan, Pan Pan."

If you hear a Mayday call, write down the information. If search and rescue personnel do not respond, assist the vessel in distress and/or relay their Mayday call to authorities.

The Phonetic Alphabet

A	Alpha
B	Bravo
C	Charlie
D	Delta
E	Echo
F	Foxtrot
G	Golf
H	Hotel
I	India
J	Juliet
K	Kilo
L	Lima
M	Mike
N	November
O	Oscar
P	Papa
Q	Quebec
R	Romeo
S	Sierra
T	Tango
U	Uniform
V	Victor
W	Whiskey
X	X-ray
Y	Yankee
Z	Zulu

For more information call (801) 538-BOAT or visit stateparks.utah.gov/boating



THE BASICS OF MARINE RADIO USE



Marine Radio Basics

Marine radio operation is mainly common sense, and therefore, easy to remember and follow. This guide provides information to help you use your radio properly.

Marine radio is monitored by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the U.S. Coast Guard. Both agencies have sensitive radio direction finders to track violators, including those making false Mayday calls. FCC regulations apply and violators are subject to fines up to \$10,000.

When your radio is on, monitor Channel 16 at all times. Channel 16 is where you will place and receive calls, including emergency calls if necessary. Before making a call, listen for 30 seconds to make sure Channel 16 is not in use.

A Typical Call

A typical call sounds like this:

Caller: "Noah's Ark, Noah's Ark, this is Jaws, OVER."

Response: "Jaws, this is Noah's Ark, OVER."

Once you make contact with the vessel you are calling, you must immediately shift to a "working" channel. This keeps Channel 16 clear for other calls, including distress calls.

Caller: "Noah's Ark, this is Jaws, switch to Channel 68, OVER."

Response: "This is Noah's Ark, Roger, OUT."

After switching to a working channel, the initial contact on this channel is made by the vessel initiating the call.

Caller: "Noah's Ark, this is Jaws, OVER."

Response: "Jaws, this is Noah's Ark, OVER."

The call should continue on Channel 68 (or other working channel). Please keep calls as short as possible. When the call is complete, you should "sign out."

Caller: "This is Jaws, OUT."

Response: "This is Noah's Ark, OUT."

When you make or conclude a call, you must use your vessel name. If you do not get a response to your initial call, don't continue to call. Wait for three minutes and try your call again. Remember, other boaters may need to use the radio.

Proper Use

- Whenever your radio is on, monitor Channel 16 unless you are communicating on another channel.

- When expecting a response from the vessel you are calling or conversing with, end your sentence with the proword "**OVER.**" When your conversation is complete, sign off using your vessel name and the proword "**OUT.**"

*Remember, you are either "Over" **or** you are "Out." You are never "Over and Out."*

- Always switch to a working channel once you have made contact. The most common working channels are:

Channel 68
Channel 69
Channel 71
Channel 72
Channel 78



- Set your radio to the low power setting whenever possible. You don't need the high power setting to talk to someone across a marina.

- Speak clearly and slowly with the microphone about one inch from your mouth. There is no need to shout, it distorts your transmission.

- Keep all communications as brief as possible.

- In areas where high radio congestion makes the use of Channel 16 difficult, Channel 9 may be used as an alternate channel. Channel 9 is not monitored by search and rescue agencies, and therefore, should not be used for emergencies.

- Rules that apply to Channel 16, also apply to Channel 9.

Improper Use

- **Do not** use profanity on the radio. It is a criminal offense to transmit obscene, profane or indecent language or meanings.

- **Do not** use CB lingo or police "10" codes.

- When you have completed your conversation on the working channel, you do not need to say that you are switching back to Channel 16. This is actually required by law. Remember, all vessels are required to monitor Channel 16.

- To request a radio check you must call a specific station, and switch to a working channel. A call to the U.S. Coast Guard or Ranger is not permitted. A general call is also not allowed.

- **Do not** use the VHF radio for transmitting on land.

- **Do not** monopolize any channel with long conversations or idle chatter.

- **Do not** let children use the radio or think it's a toy.

- **Do not** broadcast a Mayday call unless there is immediate danger to life or property.

- **Do not** attempt a voice broadcast on Channel 70 as it is reserved for Digital Selective Calling (DSC) only.

