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# Are You Radio Prepared?



## Synopsis

Does your family have an emergency plan to ride out the aftermath of a disaster? Can you imagine anything more frightening than not being able to communicate with loved ones, to know that they are all right and to report you are as well? The Red Cross and FEMA websites have online checklists to follow in the event of an emergency, but they leave out critical information. They tell you to have an emergency radio with AM, FM and Weather capabilities but don't explain how to find the stations that are provided with emergency information. They don't explain why cell phones may not operate during a disaster. They don't tell you how you can stay in touch with family and friends by radio. This book explains how to actually use those emergency radios in plain language, and in a step-by-step format. In plain language you will learn about different radios that are available to you and how to use them. With a little training, on your own and with this book, you can use two-way radios to communicate with your loved ones, regardless of whether phone and cell towers are functioning. In addition, you can use these same radios to stay abreast of changing conditions and changing emergency situations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book covers a lot of ground in an orderly way. It starts out explaining the uses for radios from getting information about events and weather to 2-way communication. The book then continues to offer the pros and cons of different types of radios for specific use cases. Finally, the book offers instructions for usage and hints to make your equipment more effective. There is even a chapter on setting up a low-powered community FM radio station. Highly recommended, fun read! If you want

another book with some more specific advice on making sure you have the lightest and most efficient BOB possible, I recommend *Ultralight Survival: Make a Small and Light Bug Out Bag That Could Save Your Life*.

For anyone who wants to be ready for any kind of emergency, this book is a must have. The author cuts through all the confusing jargon found in so many tech-oriented books, and offers an easy to follow plan to get started with emergency radios. Then, building on the classes he's been teaching, he leads the reader into the more advanced options available, but keeps everything in a clear and concise format. Where we live winter ice can blanket the landscape almost without warning and take out electric power for days, so copies of this book is going into a lot of my friends' stockings this year. Regardless of the potential emergency, or if you're just interested in learning about using long distance radios for a hobby to talk to people across your area or around the world, this is a terrific book to take you through each step.

Like previous reviewers... This "article" is primarily focused towards folks whom aren't familiar with two-way radio communications. I'm far from an expert, nor could I call myself a "HAM", but I do have an interest in radio communications. However this is good information for the "newbie". Another reviewer mentioned the knowledge shared about MURS frequency. That too is worthwhile information for those whom want to consider the possible loss of our everyday mode of Cell Phones & land, regardless the length of time those modes are interrupted. All well and good to have other forms of getting in touch with family & loved ones.... as long as they're willing to keep a radio handy and remember the protocols of contacting each other. Not belittling my fellow Oklahoman whom authored this piece, but much of the information is on the internet. Fortunately this is a good place to start for those whom aren't familiar with two way radios and all the various bands available.

Brad Smith has done a fine job of explaining all the options of radio communications available to everyone. Since we live in a communication dependent society and common technology is vulnerable to interruption, other forms of communication will need to be available to stay in touch with loved ones. RF technology has been proven successful for over 100 years. The book is written so anyone can understand it and presents all options and clearly explains so the reader can choose which solution works for them. I recommend this book for everyone.

If you are just starting out in the radio communications arena, this would be a good basic reference

book. It explains the many options and limitations. Not extremely detailed, not an operator book or too much technological info to digest for the beginner. If you've operated radio systems, this may be less than you anticipated. It's an OK read and does have educational benefit.

This book was an excellent source for the novice and possibly an expert wanting to know what to have on hand in an emergency. The best part was the simple technical information included to let you know the exact location of radio settings. It is difficult to find the settings such as those listed anymore and I discovered this a few years ago when I bought a scanner. This is a must have for your Bug Out Bag!

A short good read! It seems like most people think their cell phones will save them in an emergency, how wrong they are! With most emergencies especially those in "major metropolitan areas", the electrically operated cell towers are the first to go or they'll get so overloaded they can't work. If you have an emergency contingency for you or your family, read this book and get some old fashioned, by today's standards, radios! For that emergency kit that you do have right? Well, there's no time like yesterday to prepare for the next disaster, natural or otherwise!

This is a very informative and useful book if you are interested in radio. It isn't too overwhelming, though there are parts since I'm just starting. I think this is a beneficial read for newbies or well seasoned radio enthusiasts

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