



Application Note
AN-10b
copyright - Nov. 2011
rev. a - Oct. 2014
rev. b - May 2015

70cm & Microwave Amateur TV Frequencies

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Licensed amateur radio operators in the USA are permitted by the FCC to transmit, live, fast-scan, color television pictures with audio in the 70cm (420-450 MHz) band and all higher frequency amateur radio bands (33cm, 23cm, 13cm, etc.). Where possible, hams in the USA have tried to adhere to the commercial broadcast and cable TV standard channels with 6 MHz channel spacing. For the 70cm band, this means using cable TV channels 57 through 61. For the 33cm (902-928 MHz) band, this means using cable TV channels 143, 144, and 145.

Commercial broadcast and CATV, NTSC, analog TV transmissions used Vestigial Upper Side Band (VUSB) modulation of the video signal with the video carrier 1.25 MHz above the lower channel edge. 25 kHz deviation FM modulation was used for the audio signal with the audio carrier 4.5 MHz above the video carrier (i.e. 5.75 MHz above the lower channel edge). All of the emitted spectrum was to be contained within the authorized 6 MHz channel. Analog TV transmitter power was specified the same as for a ssb transmitter, i.e. peak-envelope power (PEP) with the peak occurring on the sync tips.

With the transition of commercial TV broadcast from analog to digital, the 6 MHz channel widths and spacing were retained. The same frequencies and channel numbers were also retained for digital TV. In the USA, commercial broadcast digital TV (DTV) uses the 8VSB-ATSC modulation method to convey both the video and audio signals. On the cable TV systems, Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM) is used with typically either 64 or 256 level. (i.e. 64QAM or 256QAM). Again, all of the emitted spectrum is required to be contained within the authorized 6 MHz channel. USA TV Amateurs are now also experimenting with the European Digital Video Broadcasting - Terrestrial, DVB-T, digital TV modulation technique on the ham bands. For DVB-T in the USA, they are adhering to maximum bandwidths of 6 MHz. Some are also experimenting with narrower DVB-T bandwidths down to 2 MHz. For details, see KH6HTV Video application note, AN-18.

70 cm Ham TV Frequencies --- The CATV channels 57 - 61 span the 70cm ham band. Thus, many hams opt to use these same channels and frequencies for the ease in reception using ordinary, off-the-shelf, TV receivers. However, in certain portions of the USA, the local conventions established many years ago dictate the use of other, non-standard frequencies. The most commonly used are 426.25 MHz and 434 MHz. Also in some areas, inverted sideband, VLSB, is used. For these non-standard operations, oftentimes separate, specialized down converters and receivers are required. Where applicable, I have also listed the recommendations from the ARRL national band plans. <http://www.arrl.org/band-plan>

It should also be noted that when CATV modulators are used to generate a VUSB-TV signal, that some modulators also have the ability to impart frequency shifts with the throw of a slide switch to Incremental Visual Carrier (IRC) and Harmonic Visual Carrier (HRC). The IRC shift is up +125 kHz. The HRC shift is down -1.25 MHz. As an example standard CATV channel 57 = 421.25 MHz, while IRC-57 = 421.2625 MHz and HRC-57 = 420.00 MHz.

Channel Frequency (MHz)	Cable Channel Number	VUSB Video Carrier (MHz)	VUSB Audio Carrier (MHz)	DTV Carrier (MHz)	Notes:
420-426	57	421.25	425.75	423	ARRL TV repeater outputs or simplex
426-432	58	427.25	431.75	429	ARRL TV simplex
432-438	59	433.25	437.75	435	only use if 57, 58 & 60 are in use
438-444	60	439.25	443.75	441	ARRL TV repeater inputs
444-450	61	445.25	449.75	447	do not use
425-431	ham426	426.25	430.75	- na -	regional usage only
432.75 - 438.75	ham434	434.00	438.50	- na -	regional usage only

Note 1: Amateurs are not allowed to use the frequencies 420-430 MHz near the Canadian border and north of the "Line A" boundary.

33 cm Ham TV Frequencies ---- The 33cm band covers from 902 to 928 MHz and with 26 MHz has space for a maximum of four, 6 MHz TV channels. Three CATV channels land completely within the band. The ARRL recommends three TV channels on 33cm between 909 & 927 MHz. The 33cm band is more fragmented and doesn't have as much standardization among TV hams. It should be noted that the 33cm band is also an unlicensed ISM band and operations are subject to severe RFI from these other unlicensed ISM users and devices. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amateur_television) There is inexpensive, import, FM-TV gear available for the 900 MHz band. It typically comes with one channel on either 910 or 915 MHz.

Channel Frequency (MHz)	Channel Number	VUSB Video Carrier (MHz)	VUSB Audio Carrier (MHz)	DTV Carrier (MHz)	Notes:
906-912	143	907.25	911.75	909	CATV-143
912-918	144	913.25	917.75	915	CATV-144 also used for FM-TV with 915 MHz carrier
918-924	145	919.25	923.75	921	CATV-145
909-915	33-1	910.25	914.75	912	ARRL channel 33-1
915-921	33-2	916.25	920.75	918	ARRL channel 33-2
921-927	33-3	922.25	926.75	924	ARRL channel 33-3

23 cm Ham TV Frequencies ---- The 23cm band covers from 1240 to 1300 MHz and with 60 MHz has space for a maximum of ten, 6 MHz TV channels. The CATV channel designators do not extend above 1 GHz. The IF frequencies of broadcast TV satellites do straddle the 23cm band and many hams are using satellite TV receivers for this band. Most of the ham TV activity on 23cm is either 12+MHz wide, AM-TV or FM-TV, typically with 4 MHz deviation and 6 MHz sound sub-carrier(s). Also, most of the ham digital TV (DTV) activity is located on this band using DVB-S modulation and low cost, satellite "Free-to-Air" (FTA) receivers. The most commonly used frequency for FM-TV and DTV is 1255 MHz. As with 33cm, the frequencies used on 23cm are splintered and sometimes don't follow the standard table below. It should be noted that the FAA is in the process of installing new, radars in the 23cm band which will limit amateur use of certain frequencies in the vicinity of these radars.

Channel Frequency (MHz)	Channel Number	VUSB Video Carrier (MHz)	VUSB Audio Carrier (MHz)	FM or DTV Carrier (MHz)	Notes:
1240-1246	23-1	1241.25	1245.75	1243	ARRL ATV #1
1246-1252	23-2	1247.25	1251.75	1249	
1252-1258	23-3	1253.25	1257.75	1255	ARRL ATV #2
1258-1264	23-4	1259.25	1263.75	1261	
1264-1270	23-5	1265.25	1269.75	1267	
1270-1276	23-6	1271.25	1275.75	1273	
1276-1282	23-7	1277.25	1281.75	1279	ARRL ATV #3
1282-1288	23-8	1283.25	1287.75	1285	
1288-1294	23-9	1289.25	1293.75	1291	ARRL experimental, simplex ATV
1294-1300	23-10	1295.25	1299.75	1297	
1240-1260					ARRL, FM-TV
1260-1270				1265	ARRL, wide-band, experimental simplex

13 cm Ham TV Frequencies ---- The 13cm band is split into two segments from 2300 to 2310 MHz and 2390 to 2450 MHz. The ARRL band plan does not allow wide-band signals, such as TV in the 2300-2310 MHz portion. It should be noted that the frequencies from 2400 to 2450 MHz, in the 33cm band are also an unlicensed ISM band and operations are subject to severe RFI from these other unlicensed ISM users and devices. In particular, there is extremely wide spread use of this band for Wi-Fi routers. The only clear region for relatively RFI free TV operation is the 10 MHz portion from 2390 to 2400 MHz. Clearly then 2.39 to 2.40 GHz should be our first choice for any TV operations at 13 cm. There is inexpensive, import, FM-TV gear available for the 2.4 GHz band. It typically comes with four synthesized channels, two of which fall in the amateur band at 2.411 and 2.434 GHz.

9 cm Ham TV Frequencies ---- The 9 cm band covers from 3.4 to 3.5 GHz. The ARRL band plan allows wide-band modes (> 1 MHz), such as TV, in the segments: 3.31 to 3.33 GHz, 3.36 to 3.4 GHz, 3.41 to 3.43 GHz, and 3.46 to 3.5 GHz. They encourage TV to use the segments 3.36 to 3.38 GHz and 3.46 to 3.48 GHz.

5 cm Ham TV Frequencies ---- The 5 cm band covers from 5.65 to 5.925 GHz. The ARRL band plan allows wide-band modes (> 1 MHz) in two, 75 MHz, segments: 5.675 to 5.75 GHz and 5.85 to 5.925 GHz. It should be noted that this is another band shared with unlicensed, ISM transmitters. The ISM band is from 5.725 to 5.875 GHz. This band is not as heavily used by unlicensed Wi-Fi, etc. as the 2.4 GHz. This along with the use of highly directional antennas should make this band more user friendly for TV operations than the 2.4 GHz band. To avoid 5.8 GHz Wi-Fi, we should probably first put our TV operations in the 50 MHz segments of 5.675 to 5.725 GHz and 5.875 to 5.925 GHz. Inexpensive, import, FM-TV transmitters for the 5.8 GHz band commonly are using the following frequencies which fall in the amateur band at 5.665, 5.685, 5.705, 5.885 and 5.905 GHz.

3 cm Ham TV Frequencies ---- The 3 cm band covers from 10.0 to 10.5 GHz. The ARRL band plan allows wide-band modes (> 1 MHz) in the segments: 10.125 to 10.2 GHz, 10.2 to 10.3 GHz, and 10.375 to 10.45 GHz.

KH6HTV-Custom Channel Table 1

19 May 2015, kh6htv

for use with Hi-Des model HV-100EH, DVB-T Modulator, firmware rev. 4.16

Ch 00 is for custom programming with ext. PC computer

Chs 1-5 are std. 70cm band, 6MHz channels, corresponding to CATV chs 57-61

Chs 57-61 are easily remembered, 70cm, 6MHz channels corresponding to CATV chs. 57-61

Chs 6-8 are std. 33cm band, 6MHz channels, corresponding to CATV chs 143-145

Chs 9-11 are std. 33cm band, 6MHz channels, designated by ARRL as 33-1, 33-2 & 33-3

Chs 12-21 are std. 23cm band, 6MHz channels, designated as 23-1 thru 23-10

Chs 12, 14 & 18 are designated by ARRL as 23cm band ATV#1, ATV#2 & ATV#3.

Ch 22, 1265MHz is designated by ARRL as wide-band, experimental simplex

Chs 23-32 are std. 13cm band, 6MHz channels, designated as 13-1 thru 13-10

Chs 33-46 are 70cm, 2MHz bandwidth channels

Chs 47-56 & 62-64 are 33cm, 2MHz bandwidth channels

Chs 65-90 are 23cm, 2MHz bandwidth channels

Chs 91-94 are 13cm, 2MHz bandwidth channels for lowest 10MHz of band

Chs 95-99 are place holders for custom channels

NOTE: prior to loading this table into an SD memory card, remove all of the text comment lines.

Ch#	Freq kHz	Bandwidth MHz
0,	423000,	6
1,	423000,	6
2,	429000,	6
3,	435000,	6
4,	441000,	6
5,	447000,	6
6,	909000,	6
7,	915000,	6
8,	921000,	6
9,	912000,	6
10,	918000,	6
11,	924000,	6
12,	1243000,	6
13,	1249000,	6
14,	1255000,	6
15,	1261000,	6
16,	1267000,	6
17,	1273000,	6
18,	1279000,	6
19,	1285000,	6
20,	1291000,	6
21,	1297000,	6
22,	1265000,	6
23,	2393000,	6
24,	2399000,	6
25,	2405000,	6

26, 2411000, 6
27, 2417000, 6
28, 2423000, 6
29, 2429000, 6
30, 2435000, 6
31, 2441000, 6
32, 2447000, 6
33, 421000, 2
34, 423000, 2
35, 425000, 2
36, 427000, 2
37, 429000, 2
38, 431000, 2
39, 433000, 2
40, 435000, 2
41, 437000, 2
42, 439000, 2
43, 441000, 2
44, 443000, 2
45, 445000, 2
46, 447000, 2
47, 903000, 2
48, 905000, 2
49, 907000, 2
50, 909000, 2
51, 911000, 2
52, 913000, 2
53, 915000, 2
54, 917000, 2
55, 919000, 2
56, 921000, 2
57, 423000, 6
58, 429000, 6
59, 435000, 6
60, 441000, 6
61, 447000, 6
62, 923000, 2
63, 925000, 2
64, 927000, 2
65, 1241000, 2
66, 1243000, 2
67, 1245000, 2
68, 1247000, 2
69, 1249000, 2
70, 1251000, 2
71, 1253000, 2
72, 1259000, 2
73, 1261000, 2
74, 1263000, 2
75, 1265000, 2
76, 1267000, 2
77, 1269000, 2
78, 1271000, 2
79, 1273000, 2
80, 1275000, 2
81, 1277000, 2
82, 1279000, 2

83, 1281000, 2
84, 1283000, 2
85, 1285000, 2
86, 1287000, 2
87, 1289000, 2
88, 1291000, 2
89, 1293000, 2
90, 1297000, 2
91, 2391000, 2
92, 2393000, 2
93, 2395000, 2
94, 2397000, 2
95, 423000, 6
96, 423000, 6
97, 423000, 6
98, 423000, 6
99, 423000, 6