

GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS:

UHF CB radio use and etiquette

- UHF (Ultra High Frequency) radio is still a very common form of public communication in the Outback. The system is used by emergency services, the police and pastoralists – the latter for important daily station management and stock mustering tasks.
- Channels 1 to 8 and 31 to 38 are repeater or duplex channels used for essential communications. Travellers and visitors should use them in emergency situations only. They communicate over greater distances using the repeaters on this map and if you have to use them you will be talking over a much greater distance than you think. In emergency situations only identify who you are, where you are and what is wrong. Remember you can be heard by others: keep it short, succinct and CLEAN.
- **Visitors and travellers should use the general use channels 11 to 30 only when talking from car to car.**

GME Electraphone TX3220



UHF Radio Channel Allocation

Below you will find a list of UHF Radio channel allocations. There are many channels that have been established by law including the Emergency channel 5 and the data transmission channels 22 and 23.

- 1 to 8 - These channels, which are established by law, can be used when sending a signal to a repeater which will help increase the communication distance
- 5 - This channel, which is established by law, can be used by anyone but only in an emergency situation
- 9 - Used for conversations
- 10 - Used by 4WD enthusiasts, clubs, convoys and in national parks
- 11 - Calling channel. This channel, which is established by law, is used to call or locate another station. Parties will then switch to another channel to continue with their conversation
- 12 to 17 - Used for conversations
- 18 - Holiday maker's communication channel (e.g. when in a convoy/caravanners etc)
- 19 to 21 - Used for conversations
- 22 and 23 - These two channels are used for data transmissions and is established by law. Voice transmissions are not allowed on these two channels. Some UHF sets come with these 2 channels barred out.
- 24 to 30 - Used for conversations
- 29 - Highway Communications which are mainly used by truck drivers and other highway users
- 31 to 38 - These channels, which are established by law, are received by a repeater and re-transmitted on channels 1 to 8 to help increase the communication distance
- 35 - Can be used in case of Emergencies also
- 39 - Used for conversations
- * 40 - Highway Communications which are mainly used by truck drivers and other highway users

CB Etiquette

It can be very impolite to carry on a long-winded discussion that is non-urgent on Ch 10, 40 or 18 if other strangers are likely to be listening to the same channel for safety reasons (such as on the [Simpson Desert](#) or [Canning Stock Route](#)). In these instances, you should move to another channel for general chit-chat but continue to scan the main channel for safety reasons.

These days there is only a very loosely applied code of speech and you can basically talk normally without any formalities or code words. Some people still use "Roger" or "Copy" to confirm they have received the message. "Over" is still in general travel use to indicate the end of transmission, but not by regular users that know one-another well such as between station operators or when reception is very clear for both parties. It is however very impolite to play music, swear or use a channel already in use by another party.