

# The 1989 Frequency Check List

L2-1-3

All times are in **EASTERN LOCAL TIME**, except checks with underlined times. In those cases, the check is run on standard time throughout the year. Information was gathered from the pages of "DX Monitor" and "DX News"

## FIRST MONDAY

0020-0030 WCNC 1240 NC T  
 0115-0125 @\*KILE 1400 TX T  
 0200-0215 \*KFGQ 1260 IA T  
 0300-0600 \*WHFB 1060 MI Ta

a - tests between these times  
 with 5000 watts

## SECOND MONDAY

0030-0040 \*WHHO 1440 NY Ta  
 0110-0120 @\*KQNK 1530 KS T  
 0130-0145 \*KSDN 930 SD Tc  
 0200-0210 @KNEB 960 NE T  
 0210-0220 @KVOW 1450 WY T  
 0220-0225 @KTOQ 1340 SD T  
 0230-0235 @KCLV 1240 NM T  
 0245-0300 WFHG 980 VA T  
 0300-0415 @KAPE 1550 MO Td  
 0310-0325 WCDT 1340 TN t  
 0405-0410 @KEZO 1490 NE T  
 0435-0450 @WSWV 1570 VA Tb  
 0515-0530 @WNBS 1340 KY Tb  
 @WNWJ 1560 IN Tbe  
 0640-0645 @KSCB 1270 KS T  
 @KPOW 1260 WY T  
 0720-0730 @KWOR 1340 WY T  
 0745-0750 @KMKR 1450 CO T  
 0750-0800 @KPAG 1400 CO T

a - Monday in same week as 15th  
 b - Monday after 2nd Sunday  
 c - 5 min check this period  
 d - time not specified  
 e - 15 min before local s/on,  
 or 0630 if earlier

## THIRD MONDAY

0000-0020 @\*WCBG 1590 PA T  
 0001-0010 @WCON 1450 GA T  
 0030-0040 @\*WCHE 1520 PA MT  
 \*WHHO 1440 NY Ta  
 0045-0100 @\*WPTH 1590 VA M  
 0050-0100 @WVFC 1530 PA T  
 0100-0115 \*KGTO 1050 OK T  
 0110-0130 @WCMS 1050 VA T  
 0115-0120 @WFBG 1290 PA T  
 0125-0130 @WOND 1400 NJ T  
 0135-0145 @WMBT 1530 PA T  
 0145-0200 @\*WBCB 1490 PA T  
 0205-0215 @KPOK 1340 ND T  
 0215-0225 @KYCN 1340 WY T  
 0415-0425 @WILK 980 PA T  
 0430-0440 @WJMA 1340 VA T  
 0435-0450 @WSWV 1570 VA T  
 0515-0530 @WNBS 1340 KY T  
 0530-0540 @WNNT 690 VA T  
 -0545 @WSHP 1480 PA T  
 0545-0600 @WNWJ 1560 IN Tbc  
 WHOL 1600 PA Td

a - same week as 15th  
 b - Monday after 2nd Sunday  
 c - 15 min before local s/on,  
 or 0630 if earlier  
 d - Monday after 3rd Sunday

## FOURTH MONDAY

0100-0115 \*KCJB 910 ND T  
 0105-0120 \*KROX 1260 MN T  
 0545-0600 WHOL 1600 PA Ta  
 0615-0620 \*KGFY 1060 SD

a - Monday after 3rd Sunday

## FIRST TUESDAY

0445-0500 @WSFC 1240 KY T  
 0500-0515 @WHLN 1410 KY T  
 0515-0530 @WKCB 1340 KY T  
 0530-0545 @WEZJ 1440 KY T  
 @WKLK 1290 KY T  
 0545-0600 @WBGH 1340 KY T  
 @WBDX 1030 TN T  
 WNVA 1350 VA T  
 0615-0625 @KVMC 1490 TX T  
 0630-0640 @KKIK 1270 TX T  
 0640-0650 @KDDB 1410 LA T  
 0645-0700 @KRME 1460 TX T  
 0730-0740 @KMIK 810 NM Ta  
 0750-0800 @KGLN 980 CO Ta

a - 1st or 2nd Tuesday

## SECOND TUESDAY

0005-0020 @\*WSNJ 1240 NJ Tb  
 0020-0030 @WRAR 1000 VA Tb  
 0100-0110 @KFLA 1310 KS T  
 0130-0135 KSIB 1520 IA T  
 0135-0145 @WNWZ 1450 VA Tb  
 0200-0215 KTYN 1430 ND T  
 0545-0600 KDRL 1240 ND T  
 0645-0655 @KVLF 1240 TX T  
 0730-0740 @KMIK 810 NM Ta  
 0750-0800 @KGLN 980 CO Ta

a - 1st or 2nd Tuesday

b - Tuesday after 2nd Monday

## THIRD TUESDAY

0000-0010 @\*WKEN 1600 DE Tc  
 0005-0020 @\*WSNJ 1240 NJ Ta  
 0015-0030 @\*WJUN 1220 PA Tb  
 @\*WAHT 1510 PA Tb  
 0020-0030 @WRAR 1000 VA Ta  
 0100-0110 \*KOLY 1300 SD T  
 0120-0140 KBRX 1350 NE T  
 0135-0140 @WNWZ 1450 VA Ta

a - Tuesday after 2nd Monday  
 b - Tuesday after 3rd Monday  
 c - 1 minute check

## FOURTH TUESDAY

0000-0015 @\*WPED 810 VA Tb  
 0015-0030 @WAYB 1490 VA Tb  
 @\*WAHT 1510 PA Ta  
 @\*WJUN 1220 PA Ta  
 0045-0055 @WCVA 1490 VA Tb

a - Tuesday after 3rd Monday  
 b - Tuesday after 4th Monday

## FIRST WEDNESDAY

0101-0110 @KGBC 1540 TX T  
 0115-0125 @KSNY 1450 TX T  
0200-0215 @KINO 1230 AZ T  
 0500-0515 @WSWV 1570 VA T  
 0545-0600 @WSLK 1600 KY T  
 0547-0555 @WEKY 1340 KY T  
 0600-0615 @WMTL 1580 KY T

## SECOND WEDNESDAY

0110-0120 @\*KEAN 1280 TX T  
 0145-0200 \*WHUB 1400 TN T  
 0205-0215 @KOPY 1070 TX TQ1

## THIRD WEDNESDAY

0050-0100 WRKQ 1250 TN  
 0230-0245 KKIT 1340 NM Ta

a - possibly off the air!

## FOURTH WEDNESDAY

0100-0110 WSMI 1540 IL T  
 0200-0215 \*WLSM 1270 MS T

## FIRST THURSDAY

0025-0040 \*WMCT 1390 TN T  
 0100-0110 \*WCPM 1280 KY T  
 0110-0120 @KVSH 940 NE T  
 0120-0125 @KKOB 770 NM T  
 0125-0130 @KZSS 610 NM T  
 0130-0135 @KBCC 1020 NM T  
 0200-0210 @KTYE 1260 CO Ta  
 0210-0220 @KOJM 610 MT Ta  
 0220-0230 @KDRG 1400 MT Ta  
 0545-0600 @WRVK 1460 KY T  
 @KIBL 1490 TX T  
 0610-0620 @KLEV 1410 TX T  
 \* \* \* @WRLV 1140 KY T  
 \* \* \* @WIRV 1550 KY T  
 \* \* \* @WLNT 1140 KY T  
 \* \* \* @WFJT 1590 KY T

a - 1st or 2nd Thursday, but  
 not before 5th of month  
 \* \* \* - 15 minutes before  
 local sign-on

## SECOND THURSDAY

0110-0120 KTGO 1090 ND T  
 @\*KAMI 1580 NE T  
 0145-0200 \*KMAV 1520 ND T  
 0200-0210 @KTYE 1260 CO Ta  
 0210-0220 @KOJM 610 MT Ta  
 0220-0230 @KDRG 1400 MT Ta  
 0645-0655 @KPSO 1260 TX T  
 0650-0700 @KKSL 1560 TX T

a - 1st or 2nd Thursday, but  
 not before 5th of month

## THIRD THURSDAY

0210-0225 WHII 1570 MS T  
 0230-0240 @KIMM 1150 SD Ta

a - 3rd Thursday or 2nd Sat,  
 0230-0240 @KIMM 1150 SD Ta

## FOURTH THURSDAY

(none)

## FIRST FRIDAY

0445-0500 @WMOR 1330 KY T  
 @WSVL 1520 IN Tw  
 0540-0555 @WHIC 1520 KY T  
 @WKAY 1490 KY T  
 0545-0600 @WSVL 1520 IN Ts  
 0630-0640 @KWRD 1470 TX T  
 0650-0700 @KFHM 1160 TX Ta

w - winter  
 s - summer  
 a - may not be valid since  
 frequency change from 1150

## SECOND FRIDAY

0000-0015 @\*WHBG 1360 VA Ta  
 0015-0030 @WRTA 1240 PA Ta  
 0040-0050 @WRWA 1340 PA Ta  
 0115-0125 \*KSCJ 1360 IA T

a - Friday after 2nd Thursday

**THIRD FRIDAY**

0000-0015 @\*WHBG 1360 VA Ta  
 0015-0030 @WRTA 1240 PA Ta  
 0025-0035 @WIVE 1430 VA Tb  
 0040-0050 @WRWA 1340 PA Ta  
           @WKBO 1230 PA Tb  
 0059-0101 @WKAV 1400 VA Tb  
 0145-0150 @WHGB 1400 PA Tb  
 0200-0215 \*KGAK 1330 NM T  
           -0220 KRTN 1490 NM T  
 0207-0215 @WFTR 1450 VA Tb

a - Friday after 2nd Thursday  
 b - Friday after 3rd Thursday

**FOURTH FRIDAY**

0025-0035 @WIVE 1430 VA Ta  
 0040-0050 @WKBO 1230 PA Ta  
 0059-0101 @WKAV 1400 VA Ta  
 0100-0115 KTLQ 1350 OK T  
 0145-0150 @WHGB 1400 PA Ta  
           -0200 \*KSIW 1450 OK T  
 0207-0215 @WFTR 1450 VA Ta  
 0645-0655 \*WRMS 790 IL T

a - Friday after 3rd Thursday

**FIRST SATURDAY**

0110-0120 @KBRB 1400 NE Ta  
 0200-0210 @KRBN 1450 MT Ta  
           -0215 @\*KLPZ 1380 AZ T  
 0210-0220 @KLMX 1450 NM Ta  
           -0225 @\*KYCA 1490 AZ T  
 0530-0545 WDDY 1420 VA T  
 0545-0600 @WVKY 1270 KY T  
           @WDOC 1310 KY T

a - 1st or 2nd Saturday

**SECOND SATURDAY**

0110-0120 @KBRB 1400 NE Ta  
 0200-0210 @KWIV 1470 WY T  
           @KRBN 1450 MT Ta  
 0210-0220 @KLMX 1450 NM Ta  
 0230-0240 @KRDD 1320 NM T  
           @KIMM 1150 SD Tc  
 0300-0415 @WMIX 940 IL Tb  
 0330-0500 @WPAD 1560 KY Tb

a - 1st or 2nd Saturday  
 b - time not specified  
 c - 3rd Thursday or 2nd Sat,  
     months 1 and 7 only

**THIRD AND FOURTH SATURDAYS**

(none)

**FIRST SUNDAY**

0200-0210 @KWIV 1470 WY T  
 0210-0220 @KRDD 1320 NM T  
 0220-0230 @KRSY 1230 NM T

**SECOND SUNDAY**

0530-0545 @WLCK 1250 KY T  
           @WSFC 1240 KY T  
 0545-0600 @\*WMOV 1360 WV T

**THIRD AND FOURTH SUNDAYS**

(none)

**ANNUAL CHECK**

0230-0231 @KROE 930 WY Ta

a - unknown date

Key to symbols throughout the list:

- @ - regular check per monitoring company
- \* - regular check per station and/or consistent reception
- T - station tests with tone
- t - station tests with dial tone
- M - station tests with music and/or tone
- C - station ID's with Morse Code

Other symbols defined in list.

Updates to this list should be sent to:

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L2-3-3

For a beginning DXer, the reference to "f/c" (frequency check) may be a little confusing. But, as he'll soon learn, this type of test program will give him a chance to log many new stations.

It is required by FCC rules that a station be on frequency. In the U.S. a station is allowed to drift only +20 to -20 Hertz from its assigned frequency. I understand that Canadian requirements are even stricter. Even so, most stations attain a plus or minus 5 Hertz stability, while some run even closer. Seldom will a station be more than 10 Hertz off frequency. This is, of course, done by the use of precision-cut crystals in either temperature controlled ovens or vacuum containers. The latter is becoming the more frequent in new equipment as crystal production methods are constantly being improved. The FCC requires checks of the exact frequency at regular intervals. The station's engineer decides how often they are needed within the maximum allowable interval in the rules.

The test often consists of a tone (usually 1000 Hertz, more or less), used for the convenience of determining the station's carrier among the many on the frequency. However, the type of modulation, or the complete absence of modulation, is not important in making the test. Certain types of transmitters do not react well to continuous tone modulation; some overheat the final stages and draw too heavily on the power supplies. Music may well be substituted for tones. Modulation does not change the carrier frequency of an AM station, so anything or nothing may be used on a frequency check.

Monitoring stations may be at any distance from the monitored broadcast station, limited only by the ability of the monitoring company to hear the station. Odd transmission quirks sometimes cause odd arrangements to be necessary. For example, a certain station in Grand Junction, Colorado (on the Colorado - Utah border) cannot be monitored in Denver because of the intervening Rocky Mountains and interference from a Denver NSP station. However, still farther east near Kansas City is a company that can monitor the station well enough to check frequency because of the first-skip characteristics.

When reporting f/c's to a station, you are pretty well up a creek. Some stations are checked during their regular broadcast periods, so no special check is needed. Those using tone modulation may often use a tape which has been made up complete with tone and IDs and which is played by whoever is unfortunate enough to be called in for the special test period. In reporting this type of test, all details should be reported, including the exact time of tune-in, the exact time of IDs heard, and the exact time of the end of the test.

The use of a 1000 Hertz tone often causes some problems for monitors, if more than one station happens to be testing at once on the same frequency. A monitoring laboratory in Detroit, in fact, has asked stations testing for them to use tones between 200 and 500 Hertz rather than 1000 Hertz just to avoid possible confusion. They also point out that voice IDs are often unreliable, and they request that the modulating tone be run up and down in frequency during the test as a special ID. This tone-variation is used not as a substitute for the FCC-required station announcements, but as an additional aid in monitoring.

The most useful aid to "f/c DXing" is the IRCA/NRC Frequency Check List (above) compiled from tips from members and information from some monitoring companies. This annual list contains the times and dates of over 1000 frequency checks. Keep it near your radio during the early morning hours, since tone tests will be after midnight in the station's local time. But, as with all other loggings, be sure to identify the station you hear. Don't send tentative reports to stations you hear with tones only, even if the frequency and time agree with the list! Be sure to ID before you write.