

EMERGENCY VHF RADIO PROTOCOLS	
MAYDAY	PAN-PAN
<p>Use "May Day" when imminent danger threatens life or property and immediate assistance is required.</p> <p>An example could be a paddler in the water, unable to get back into his kayak, serious injury or illness or a group in serious peril owing to the prevailing conditions.</p>	<p>Use Pan-Pan ("Pahn Pahn") when the safety of a person or vessel is in jeopardy, but the danger is not life threatening.</p> <p>An example could be an injured paddler on shore, with no immediate danger of the situation worsening.</p>
<p>Check the radio is on - Transmit at high power on Channel 16. Most radios will default to high power for Ch 16.</p>	<p>Check the radio is on - Transmit at high power on Channel 16. Most radios will default to high power for Ch 16.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">"MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THIS IS (craft name x 3)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MAYDAY (craft name)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MY POSITION IS (lat and long OR grid ref AND/OR distance and true bearing <u>from</u> a known location)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nature of Distress</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nature of Assistance required</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Number of people</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Any other relevant information</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OVER (remove finger from transmit button)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Listen for response. Repeat if necessary.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">"PAN-PAN, PAN-PAN, PAN-PAN"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All-ships x 3 OR (name of) Coastguard x 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THIS IS (craft name x 3)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MY POSITION IS (lat and long OR grid ref AND/OR distance and true bearing <u>from</u> a known location)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nature of Distress</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nature of Assistance required</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Number of people</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Any other relevant information</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OVER (remove finger from transmit button)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Listen for response. Repeat if necessary.</p>

Example May Day transmission from the sea-kayak group Eskimo, one of whose members has had a suspected heart attack - the group is to the west of the Corryvreckan between Jura and Scarba.



"MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY"

This is the sea-kayak group Eskimo, Eskimo, Eskimo

MAYDAY - sea-kayak group Eskimo

Our position is 3kms, 270 degrees from SW end of Scarba

We have one paddler with suspected heart attack

Request immediate assistance

5 people in the group, in 5 kayaks,

5 kayaks / 2 with red decks, white hulls / 3 with yellow decks, white hulls / all paddlers still in their kayaks / all wearing yellow cags. Ebb starting and in danger of being drawn into the Corryvreckan.

OVER

(remove finger from transmit button)

Listen for response. Repeat if necessary.

Other Signals

Red flare. Orange smoke. Continuous sounding of a fog horn.

A mobile telephone call to the emergency services may be useful on inland waters but is not recommended for use at sea. It is not monitored by other vessels or the rescue services and offshore reception is unreliable.

Morse code SOS (3 dots, 3 dash, 3 dots) sent by any means may still be recognised.

~ The UK Rivers Guidebook and UK Sea Kayak Guidebook Websites, the home of UK paddling on the Net ~

PHONETIC ALPHABET					
Letter	Phonetic	Pronounced	Letter	Phonetic	Pronounced
A	ALFA	AL FAH	N	NOVEMBER	NO VEM BER
B	BRAVO	BRAH VOH	O	OSCAR	OSS CAH
C	CHARLIE	CHAR LEE	P	PAPA	PAH PAH
D	DELTA	DELL TAH	Q	QUEBEC	KEH BECK
E	ECHO	ECK OH	R	ROMEO	ROW ME OH
F	FOXTROT	FOKS TROT	S	SIERRA	SEE AIR RAH
G	GOLF	GOLF	T	TANGO	TANG GO
H	HOTEL	HOH TELL	U	UNIFORM	YOU NEE FORM
I	INDIA	IN DEE AH	V	VICTOR	VIK TAH
J	JULIET	JEW LEE ETT	W	WHISKEY	WISS KEY
K	KILO	KEY LOH	X	X-RAY	ECKS RAY
L	LIMA	LEE MAH	Y	YANKEE	YANG KEY
M	MIKE	MIKE	Z	ZULU	ZOO LOO
Number	Phonetic	Pronounced	Number	Phonetic	Pronounced
1	ONE	WUN	6	SIX	SIX
2	TWO	TOO	7	SEVEN	SEVEN
3	THREE	TREE	8	EIGHT	AIT
4	FOUR	FOWER	9	NINE	NINER
5	FIVE	FIVE	0	ZERO	ZERO