Radio milestones



Radio milestones

1864	Scottish physicist James Clerk-Maxwell develops theory of electromagnetic waves.
1888	Maxwell's theory given practical confirmation in the laboratory by German physicist
1005	Heinrich Hertz.
1895	Guglielmo Marconi, an Italian electrical engineer, invents the first practical radio-
1001	signalling system.
1901	Marconi transmits the first transatlantic wireless signal from Cornwall, England, to Newfoundland, Canada.
1922	Radio broadcasts start from 2MT at Writtle, Chelmsford on AM.
1922	Formation of the British Broadcasting Company is agreed by the Post Office and radio manufacturers.
1922	Daily broadcasts start from London station 2LO.
1923	BBC London radio's operation moves to Savoy Hill from Marconi Magnet House.
1923	First valve wireless goes on sale, replacing crystal sets.
1923	First edition of Radio Times.
1927	British Broadcasting Company becomes British Broadcasting Corporation with the granting of the Royal Charter.
1928	Battery eliminator that allows radios to be installed in cars invented by an American
	Paul Galvin.
1932	First BBC broadcast from Broadcasting House: Henry Hall and the BBC Dance Orchestra.
1938	BBC's Arabic service launches – the first foreign language service from the BBC.
1939	BBC's Home Service launches.
1940	A bomb drops on Broadcasting House, killing seven people.
1945	BBC's Light Programme launches.
1946	BBC's Third Programme launches.
1955	First BBC FM broadcasts from Wrotham transmitter in Kent.
1956	First transistor radios appear in the UK, making radios portable.
1957	A combined licence costs £4; a radio licence is £1.
1967	BBC Radio One launches; the other BBC radio networks renamed Radios 2, 3 and 4.
1971	Radio licence is abolished.
1973	Capital Radio launched.
1979	Conservative Government elected with commitment to expanding commercial radio
1989	Government relaxes restrictions on commercial radio.
1990	First BBC DAB (Digital Audio Broadcasting) trial from Crystal Palace.
1990	BBC Radio 5 launches.
1992	Radio Luxembourg closes down.
1994	Radio 5 renamed Radio Five Live.
1995	First BBC DAB broadcasts – Radios I-Five Live.
1996	
1998	Broadcasting Act sets out plans for launch of digital broadcasting including radio.
1770	First commercially available digital radio tuner, made by Arcam, demonstrated in Scotland.
1998	
	Digital One is awarded a national digital licence.
2001	First digital portable digital radios go on sale.
2002	BBC launches five new digital radio networks — IXtra, Five Live Sports Extra, 6 Music, BBC 7, Asian Network.

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