

Re: wireless internet radio

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/PocketPC/microsoft.public.pocketpc/2006-04/msg00243.html>

- *From:* "Tony A." <tony72atgmail.removethis.com>
 - *Date:* Wed, 5 Apr 2006 14:26:52 +0100
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seank wrote:

[...]

Simple to use? Quick initial boot up? FM quality sound?

Any thoughts gratefully recieved

I use my PPC as a portable internet radio, although when I want the sound via speakers I usually use a full PC hooked up to my hifi with a wireless audio sender. However based on what you've said you want to us it for, I'd say a Pocket PC may not be your best option.

The BBC stations mainly use RealPlayer format – some of the live stations are available in Windows Media format also, but not for example Radio 4. I believe all the "Listen Again" links are RealPlayer. Unfortunately RealPlayer for Pocket PC sucks, on my device it simply will not play streams at all, only downloaded content. Although it seems to work for some people, many have reported similar problems, so bear that in mind. Check the archives of this group for more – <http://tinyurl.com/n6nk4>.

As far as ease of use, there are issues there with the size of the screen and compatibility of Pocket PC web browsers – stations which use a player control embedded in a web page typically will not work directly. Link sites like radio4pda.com can help with that, but don't assume it will be as straightforward as on a big PC.

On the plus side, these devices are instant-on, and sound quality is as good as the stream provides – typical 128kbps streams are basically FM radio quality if not better. I listen to a lot of Shoutcast and Windows Media streams, works well. Plus you can play audio files stored on your main PCs over the wifi network.